Welcome to the rich tradition of University Chapel at Baylor University! Chapel has been a consistent part of a Baylor education from the very beginnings of our school. Here you will be invited to engage with your community in programs that can inspire, enrich, nurture, and transform your life. University Chapel is an opportunity to remember and give thanks, to pray for one another and the world, to confess and commit to the faith that binds us, to receive again or perhaps for the first time, the grace of God.

All students are welcome to attend chapel even if they are not in need of academic credit. Many students have found this practice helpful throughout their years at Baylor. Our hope is that you will find a communion with God and with your peers during this experience that will set a precedent for your spiritual growth throughout your time at Baylor.

Office Hours:

Chapel Staff can be contacted by visiting the Bobo Spiritual Life Center, by calling our office at 254.710.3517, or by emailing Baylor_Chapel@baylor.edu.

Class times:
Monday & Wednesday
Waco Hall
9:05, 10:10 & 11:15 (Please ensure that you attend the time for which you are registered)

Class Description:
University Chapel at Baylor is the largest weekly, ongoing gathering of the Baylor community and, as a part of the educational core of our institution, is a class where we all can encounter the worship, work, witness, and wisdom of the Church.

Course Requirements / Attendance Policy:

A requirement of this course is that you be fully present. This means several things. 1) Be present to what is happening on the stage. Many individuals have prepared and traveled to Waco Hall to speak to you; therefore, Baylor students are expected to listen charitably. 2) Be present to your fellow students. When you are distracted, you are more likely to distract others. Caring for your peers means ensuring that they are able to fully participate in the program free from disturbance. 3) Be present to yourself and your own spiritual life. God is with us, God is with you. Chapel policy requires that to earn credit in this course, you must attend at least 75% of all chapel sessions. There are NO excused absences in Chapel under any circumstances. All absences from chapel are treated the same whether they be for an illness, an out-of-town trip, or simply oversleeping. Students are strongly encouraged to be present for all chapels in the event that illness or an emergency causes excessive absences later in the semester. We do not notify you of excessive absences. YOU are responsible for checking your own attendance via Bearweb to ensure you will receive credit!

Due to the nature of chapel, you cannot be counted present if you are late. The auditorium doors will be closed 3 minutes after the start of chapel. Any student coming into Waco Hall after the auditorium doors have been shut will not be allowed to receive credit for that day. Due to the large number of students enrolled in chapel, students MUST attend the service in which they are officially enrolled to receive credit.
Important Chapel Guidelines, Procedures, and Policies:

Conduct: We are a unique group of adults embarking on a spiritual journey together. We are all expected to be respectful of the hour and behave appropriately. Courtesy toward your peers, the chaplains, and chapel staff is expected. Baylor's Classroom Policy for Student Conduct states:

"Students are expected to conduct themselves in a mature manner that does not distract from or disrupt the educational pursuits of others. Should a professor determine that a student's conduct is being distracting or disruptive, the professor may impose the student's immediate removal from the classroom until the student can conduct himself or herself in an appropriate manner. If the professor is unable to obtain the cooperation of the student, the student may be referred for disciplinary action."
Retrieved from https://www.baylor.edu/student_policies/index.php?id=22213

Electronics: Headphones or earbuds should never be worn inside of Waco Hall. Unless medically necessary, please turn off and put away all electronic devices prior to entering Waco Hall and be prepared to take an active role in the program. In order to maintain presence and in caring for your peers, **cell phones, laptops, e-readers or any other types of electronic devices should not be used during the chapel program** unless you are invited to do so from the stage.

Attendance: Students are required to slide a **working** Baylor ID card at the completion of the chapel service and then check to see if the card was accepted (look for the green light). Problems with attendance being incorrectly recorded must be dealt with **within two weeks of the chapel service in question**. This means you must check your attendance often via Bearweb. It is the student’s responsibility to deal with attendance problems in a timely manner. You may not dispute an absence after the two-week disputation period.

VOUCHERS & Your Baylor ID: Students without a working ID may ask the chapel staff **before leaving the hall** for a voucher. Students may only use **3 vouchers** during a semester. The voucher system is a **backup** system of attendance and is NOT intended to be a substitute system for card scanning. **It is the student’s responsibility to have a working ID card.** Honor Code: Any attempt to get credit for chapel through dishonest or deceitful means could result in failure for the semester. Any student found cheating will be referred to the Office of Academic Integrity. Retrieved from https://www.baylor.edu/student_policies/

Pastoral Care:

If you would like to speak to a Chaplain for any reason, please visit The Chapel Table in the lobby of Waco Hall during chapel. You can also call (254.710.3517) or e-mail, Baylor_Chapel@baylor.edu. Baylor Chaplains meet with students for a variety of reasons every week and would welcome an opportunity to meet with you.
**Students Needing Accommodations**

Any student who needs academic accommodations related to a documented disability should inform the chapel office immediately at the beginning of the semester by emailing Baylor_Chapel@baylor.edu. You are required to obtain appropriate documentation and information regarding accommodations from the Office of Access and Learning Accommodation (OALA). Contact Information: (254) 710-3605 - Paul L. Foster Success Center, 1st floor on the East Wing of Sid Richardson.

**University-Sponsored Absences:**

If you are absent due to a university-sponsored conflict, you may watch the missed chapel online and write a 500-word response to the service. That paper must be accompanied by a verification email from a faculty/staff member. Both the verification email and the paper must be submitted within 2 weeks of the chapel you are making up. Examples of university-sponsored absences include being away due to a team event (i.e. debate team, athletic team, music ensemble, choir, band, etc.) or being away due to military service, jury duty, or other governmentally-mandated reason. Unfortunately, there are no "excused" absences in chapel. Therefore, the make-up policy is ONLY for university-sponsored events.

**Military Student Advisory**

Veterans and active duty military personnel are welcomed and encouraged to communicate, in advance if possible, any special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disability accommodations). You are also encouraged to visit the VETS Program Office with any questions at (254) 710-7264.

**Title IX Office**

Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment and Interpersonal Violence Policy
Baylor University does not discriminate on the basis of sex or gender in any of its education or employment programs and activities, and it does not tolerate discrimination or harassment on the basis of sex or gender. This policy prohibits sexual and gender-based harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, intimate partner violence, and retaliation (collectively referred to as prohibited conduct). For more information on how to report, or to learn more about our policy and process, please visit www.baylor.edu/titleix. You may also contact the Title IX office directly by phone, (254) 710-8454, or email, TitleIX_Coordinator@baylor.edu.

The Title IX office understands the sensitive nature of these situations and can provide information about available on- and off-campus resources, such as counseling and psychological services, medical treatment, academic support, university housing, and other forms of assistance that may be available. Staff members at the office can also explain your rights and procedural options if you contact the Title IX Office. You will not be required to share your experience. If you or someone you know feels unsafe or may be in imminent danger, please call the Baylor Police Department (254-710-2222) or Waco Police Department (9-1-1) immediately.