Syllabus for Practicum 364.1 -- Hymnody II
MU364.1 -- Fall, 2008

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Course description:  Review of history of hymnody from Hymnody I, creating chronological chart of new trends and influences over the last 2000 years.  Selected hymns will be studied in detail, tracing their evolving use over time in various denominations.  Hymns from different traditions will be compared.  Students will create the text for a new hymn, compose an original tune and provide underlying harmony.  The practical use of hymns in worship will be emphasized.

         Grindel, Gracia.  Lessons in Hymnwriting (Boston:  The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada, 2000).  Grindel
         Knouse, Nola, ed.  The Music of the Moravian Church in America (Rochester: University of Rochester Press, 2008).  Knouse
         Wilson, John.  Looking at Hymn Tunes:  The Objective Factors (The Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland).  Wilson

Grading:     Attendance and weekly assignments     40%
              Chronology of hymns                              10%
              Original hymn text and tune                        30%
              Hymn tune quizzes                                  20%

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Classes:
Week 1     Introduction; Review of hymn chronology; Review of hymn analysis details

Week 2     Hymn texts and poetic devices

                Read SWU - chap. 1
                Write out literary devices in hymn "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Week 3     Biblical scripture and hymns

                Read SWU - chap. 3
                Choose 3 hymns for a service about the biblical David, and explain why
Week 4  The theology of hymns

Read SWU - chap. 4
What are problems in the theology of the hymn "I Come to the Garden Alone"?
Select a hymn with good theology and explain why

Week 5  Hymns as proclamation and their use in ministry

Read SWU - chap. 10 + 13
Choose 3 hymns that minister to the poor, and explain why
Hymn tune quiz

Fall Break

Week 6  Writing hymn texts

Read Grindel pp. 2-7
Choose a psalm, and write out a paraphrase of the text

Week 7  Hymn texts:  Form and Meter

Read Grindel pp. 8-17
Write out 2 hymn verses from your psalm paraphrase

Week 8  Poetic conventions, rhyme and rhetorical schemes

Read Grindel pp. 18-25
Add poetic devices to your hymn verses

Week 9  Metaphor and religious language; Cultural diversity of hymns

Read SWU - chap. 9; Grindel pp. 26-37
Hymn tune quiz

Week 10  Hymn tunes - Melody:  range, contour, conjunct/disjunct motion

Read SWU - chap. 2:  pp. 29-31, 38-48;  Wilson pp. 123-130
Write out a melody line for your hymn

Week 11  Hymn tunes - Bass line, harmony, texture

Read SWU - chap. 2:  pp. 31-34, 35-36;  Wilson pp. 136-141
Write out bass line and harmony for your hymn

Week 12  Hymn tunes - Rhythm and form
Read SWU - chap. 2: pp. 34-35, 36-37; Wilson pp. 131-136, 141-152
Set your hymn tune to a specific meter and notate it rhythmically

Thanksgiving break

Week 13  Modern trends in hymnody

Read SWU - chap. 14
Final hymn text, tune and harmonization due