

**Preaching Lab III / Section A (2PT532A)**  
**Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando Florida**  
**Spring 2008 - Thursdays, 2-4:55 PM**

**Course Syllabus**

Instructor: Rev. Larry Kirk  
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**Course description**

This preaching lab course will focus on developing the practical skills and values needed for effective, Christ-centered, biblical preaching.

**Course objectives**

**Knowing**

- To understand the biblical and theological principles of homiletics
- To understand basic sermon components and their functions
- To understand the fundamentals of sermon preparation and delivery
- To understand the priority and practice of Christ-centered preaching
- To understand the specific challenges of preaching in the present culture

**Being**

- Increased confidence in preparing and delivering Christ-centered expository sermons
- Deepening commitment to and experience of Christ-centered life and ministry
- Clear conviction of the power and importance of Christ-centered preaching
- Increased sensitivity to cultural issues as they relate to the task of preaching

**Doing**

- Increased competence in public speaking in general and sermon delivery in particular.
- Increased ability to construct and deliver biblically sound, culturally relevant Christ-centered sermons.

**Course Assignments**

**1. Speaking and Preaching Assignments**

- a) All assignments will be based on the same Scripture text. This means you will study one passage of Scripture but present multiple speaking/preaching assignments based on that text.
- b) All texts will be assigned by the instructor. You may ask permission to adjust the verse selection of your assigned text by adding or deleting a few verses but any adjustments must receive prior approval.
- c) In the first half of the semester each student will present one sermon expounding the text you have been assigned and reflecting the sermon criteria outlined below.
- d) After speaking/preaching each time in class you will receive critical feedback from the instructor and your fellow students. You will then receive direction from the instructor

to help you formulate a strategy for improving a selected portion of the sermon or preaching component. There will be multiple brief assignments throughout the second half of the semester as you work on various sermon components and skills.

- e) For all assignments you will submit a complete manuscript to the instructor unless otherwise directed.

### **Sermon Criteria:**

- 1.) The sermon will be an expository sermon.
- 2.) The sermon will begin with an introduction that creates interest, identifies a need and leads into the text and topic.
- 3.) The sermon will contain a main idea, thought or proposition that can be clearly stated in a single sentence. (This must be identified in the manuscript)
- 4.) The sermon must contain a clear outline that includes main points expressed in complete sentence statements.
- 5.) Each main point must be clearly demonstrated as derived from the text and must be clearly developed in the exposition.
- 6.) Each main point must be developed, illustrated and applied. The exposition must display thoughtful study of the Scripture that is faithful to the text.
- 7.) The illustrations must be well chosen and appropriate.
- 8.) The application must be biblical, clear, culturally relevant, and Christ-centered.
- 9.) The conclusion of the sermon must be crafted to bring the sermon to a purposeful ending.
- 10.) The sermon delivery must demonstrate good delivery values and skills, such as dependence on the Holy Spirit, heartfelt passion, and the ability to engage with the listeners in a meaningful way.

Note: After preaching one sermon according to the above criteria the students will be encouraged and allowed to experiment with different and more creative approaches to sermon preparation and preaching at the professor's discretion. Examples might include but not be limited to narrative preaching, first person preaching and inductive preaching as well as diverse approaches to sermon construction and delivery..

### **3. Critical Interactions And Discussions**

As part of the class you may be required to listen to, critique and discuss sermons from outside preachers. This will be done during class time. You will also be required to interact critically but constructively with each student's preaching.

#### **4. Other Assignments**

Depending on the size and needs of the class, students may also be given other assignments designed to improve their speaking ability. The professor will determine these assignments during the course. There is no advance reading required for this course.

## Course Grading

Class attendance and participation	20%
Sermon component assignments	40%
Final Sermon	<u>40%</u>
Total	100%

## Class Schedule

February 7,	Introduction to Class
February 14,	Student Assignments
February 21,	Student Assignments
February 28,	Student Assignments
March 6,	Student Assignments
March 13,	Student Assignments
March 20,	Student Assignments
<i>Spring Break March 24-28</i>	
April 3,	Student Assignments
April 10,	Student Assignments
April 17,	Student Assignments
April 24,	Student Assignments
May 1	Student Assignments
May 8	Student Assignments