Course Syllabus

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Phone Number (386) 238-1956

Course description

This course helps serve the core values of a mind for truth, a heart for God, and a commitment to servant leadership in the context of a communications lab course. This particular course will focus on developing and deepening 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 must be approved or 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) After speaking/preaching each time in class you will receive 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 first half of the semester as you work on various sermon components and skills. There may also be opportunity to explore other approaches to preaching.

d) For all assignments you will submit a complete manuscript to the instructor unless otherwise instructed.

**Sermon Criteria For The Sermon:**

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.

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 may be done during class time or outside of class. 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class attendance and participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Sermon</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Speaking Assignments</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Class Schedule

- **August 27,** Class 1, Introduction to Class
- **September 3,** Class 2, Student Assignments
- **September 10,** Class 3, Student Assignments
- **September 17,** Class 4, Student Assignments
- **September 24,** Class 5, Student Assignments
- **October 1,** Class 6, Student Assignments
- **October 8,** Class 7, Student Assignments
- **Reading Week October 12-16**
- **October 22,** Class 8, Student Assignments
- **October 29,** Class 9, Student Assignments
- **November 5,** Class 10, Student Assignments
- **November 12,** Class 11, Student Assignments
- **November 19,** Class 12, Student Assignments
- **Thanksgiving Holiday**
- **December 3,** Class 13, Student Assignments
## Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: 2PT510A Preaching Lab I  
Professor: Larry Kirk  
Campus: Orlando  
Date: Fall 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation</strong> (oral &amp; written)</td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
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</table>
| **Scripture** | Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.) | Strong | 1. The nature and focus of class assignments.  
2. Feedback and critique related to these issues in class assignments. |
| **Reformed Theology** | Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards. | Minimal | Feedback and critique related to these issues in class assignments. |
| **Sanctification** | Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification. | Moderate | Emphasis on the preacher's ethos and personal sanctification is integrated into the overall approach as crucial to effective preaching. This is frequent theme in discussion of student assignments. |
| **Desire for Worldview** | Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. | Minimal | Feedback and critique related to these issues in class assignments |
| **Winsomely Reformed** | Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.) | Moderate | Feedback and critique related to these issues in class assignments |
| **Preach** | Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm. | Strong | 1. This is the primary focus of all assignments.  
2. Multiple oral and written assignments with feedback from instructor and classmates. |
<p>| <strong>Worship</strong> | Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service. | Minimal | This often comes up in class discussion especially since I'm serving in full time pastoral |</p>
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| In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes. *As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus. | Rubric:  
- Strong  
- Moderate  
- Minimal  
- None | ministry. |
| **Shepherd** | **Shepherd** Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide. | Moderate | Issues related to pastoral life and ministry come up often in class discussion and lectures. My 30+ years as a solo or senior pastor serves as a natural recourse for Q & A and real-life examples relating to pastoral ministry. |
| **Church/World** | **Church/World** Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | Minimal | Occasionally these topics are touched on in class discussion and sometimes they surface in relationship to specific assignments. |