Course Syllabus

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Course description

This communications 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. Preaching Assignments

   a) Student will be required to preach at least two expository sermons.
   b) One text may be chosen by the student but at least one 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) After speaking/preaching each time in class the student will receive critical feedback from the instructor and your fellow students. This feedback will help the student develop a plan for improving both sermon preparation and delivery.
   d) For all assignments you will submit a complete manuscript to the instructor unless otherwise instructed.

   **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.

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

<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 assignment</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Sermon assignment</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Assignments*</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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Notes: If additional assignments are not given each sermon will count for 40% of the final grade.

Class Schedule

February 4, Class 1, Introduction to Class
February 11, Class 2, Student Assignments
February 8, Class 3, Student Assignments
February 28, Class 4, Student Assignments
March 4, Class 5, Student Assignments
March 11, Class 6, Student Assignments
March 18, Class 7, Student Assignments
March 25 Spring Break
April 1, Class 8, Student Assignments
April 8, Class 9, Student Assignments
April 15, Class 10, Student Assignments
April 22, Class 11, Student Assignments
April 29, Class 12, Student Assignments
May 6, Class 13, Student Assignments