PT 524 HOMILETICS/PREACHING
LAB IIA
SYLLABUS

REFORMED THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY
CHARLOTTE

SPRING 2011

Rod Culbertson, Jr.
Adjunct Professor of Practical Theology

RCULBERTSON@RTS.EDU
COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course provides actual preaching opportunities for the senior seminary student. Experience will be provided in the following areas: Expository preaching from a narrative portion of Scripture, an Evangelistic sermon and a Wedding homily.

Prerequisites: Introduction to Preaching, Communication I, Preaching Lab I, Communication II.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

COGNITIVE (KNOW/UNDERSTAND)
1. The student will learn how to apply previous instruction on preaching to actual practice.
2. The student will learn how to preach from the Old Testament narratives.
3. The student will discover his or her strengths and weakness in preaching and delivering sermons.

AFFECTIVE (FEEL/MOTIVATION)
1. The student will gain a greater conviction for the delivery of expository sermons as a means of grace for God’s people.
2. The student will grow in his or her motivation to preach biblical sermons from the text.
3. The student will grow in his or her desire to preach passionate and verdict-oriented evangelism sermons.
4. The student will gain an appreciation for the preaching of a brief wedding homily which is personal and Christ-centered.

VOLITIONAL (DO/COMPETENCIES)
1. The student will preach an expository sermon from an assigned text two different times, striving for improvement in all observable aspects of deliver.
2. The student will preach an evangelistic sermon for the purpose of experience and critique.
3. The student will preach a wedding homily for the purpose of experience and critique.
# Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

**Course:** PT 524 Preaching Lab  
**Professor:** Dr. Rod Culbertson  
**Campus:** Charlotte  
**Date:** Spring 2011

## MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Will integrate hermeneutics, theology, biblical understanding, using verbal communication skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimal</td>
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<td>None</td>
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</table>

### Articulation (oral & written)

Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.

**Rubric:** Strong

**Mini-Justification:** Will integrate hermeneutics, theology, biblical understanding, using verbal communication skills

### 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.)

**Rubric:** Strong

**Mini-Justification:** Will integrate biblical study, theological and cultural understanding into a text and will apply to the specific preaching context

### Reformed Theology

Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.

**Rubric:** Minimal

**Mini-Justification:** Sermons should demonstrate that Reformed theology is a foundation principle in preparation, delivery and application

### Sanctification

Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.

**Rubric:** Minimal

**Mini-Justification:** Preaching before a live audience always sanctifies the preacher who is sensitive to God’s will

### Desire for Worldview

Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.

**Rubric:** Minimal

**Mini-Justification:** Application of preached Word from text to audience

### 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.)

**Rubric:** Minimal

**Mini-Justification:** Emphasizes winsome approach to preaching the Word of God

### Preach

Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.

**Rubric:** Strong

**Mini-Justification:** Student will be tutored in the ability to preach God’s word in clarity and with passion

### Worship

Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.

**Rubric:** Moderate

**Mini-Justification:** Laboratory experience will involve preaching and reading Scripture in a “contrived” worship atmosphere

### Shepherd

Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in...

**Rubric:** Application of the preached Word
spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.

|spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide. | Moderate | to listener’s lives should be a specific and explicit form of shepherding the flock and engaging the church with the world |

Church/World | Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | Minimal | Application of the preached Word should cause the student to help others engage in life in the contemporary world |

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:


REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

I. Class attendance and discussion

You will be expected to attend every class in order to participate in your classmates’ sermon experience and evaluation. Unexcused absences will adversely affect and/or jeopardize your final grade. (5 points)

II. Sermons

A. Narrative Exposition: The student will be assigned a specific narrative passage (which tells one story only) from the Old Testament and will develop and preach this passage before his or her fellow students. The student will preach this narrative exposition sermon two times during the course of the semester. The second sermon presentation will be based upon improving weaknesses of the first presentation, based upon previous critiques of the professor and the students’ classmates. At the beginning of the second sermon, the student will be expected to tell the class three (3) particular weaknesses which he or she is attempting to improve upon (based on the first sermon’s critiques). The student will be expected to explain the text in an expository fashion. **Do not simply retell the story of the narrative!** Time allotted for this sermon will be a maximum of 20 minutes per individual sermon. (40 points)

B. Evangelism Sermon: The student will preach an evangelistic sermon which will be comprised of two major elements: 1. The need for the gospel (explanation) 2. How to respond to the gospel presentation (resolution). The student must demonstrate that he or she has treated the two elements in a reasonably equal and balanced fashion. The student can choose his or her own text for this sermon. Exposition is not required. Time allotted for this sermon will be a maximum of 15 minutes. (25 points)

C. Wedding homily: The student will preach a sermon appropriate for a marriage ceremony, explaining the significance of a Christian marriage or a marriage based on Christ and/or Biblical principles. A brief word clarifying the nature of the gospel can be included, but is not required. This is a homily, not an actual sermon, so it must be brief. Use a few words to express a clear idea and make one main point. Time allotted for this sermon will be a maximum of 4 (four) minutes. (15 points).

Method of delivery: The student has the freedom to preach these three sermons with or without a
manuscript or notes. However, a Bible must be used in the Narrative exposition.

Appropriate Attire: The student will be expected to wear a coat and tie or a suit and tie (flexibility may be negotiated in this requirement for the Evangelistic Sermon, with the permission of the professor).

Evaluation: The student will be evaluated through a sermon critique form provided by the professor. This critique form will cover the following elements expected to be present in the preached sermon: Introduction, Outline, Transitions, Explanation, Illustrations, Application, Conclusion, Movement/Progression.

This evaluation will be provided by two sources:

A. Professor’s evaluation (50%)
B. Peer student preacher evaluations (combined) (50%)

III. Sermon Review: The student is required to review both of the DVDs of his two Expository sermon deliveries in their entirety. These reviews must be done after the respective sermon. The student will give an account of his sermon review. (5 points)

III. Oral Scripture Reading

The student will be assigned one Old Testament text to read aloud (Public Reading). This Oral Scripture Reading will occur at the beginning of each class session. Evaluation of the Public Reading will be brief and in oral form from the professor. No actual grade will be assigned but an obviously poor job will potentially adversely affect the student’s final grade.

IV. Manuscript

Besides preaching the text, the student will be required to turn in a manuscript demonstrating the actual preparation for delivery of the sermon. This can be done through a couple of methods (student’s choice):

1. A fully written out manuscript of the sermon.
2. A Homiletical Outline: loose notes or a bullet point outline demonstrating the student’s work and thoughts in preparation.
3. Also, provide a summary of your work on the Hebrew, including how the Hebrew helped you understand the text better. It is not expected that the student will do a full exegesis of the Hebrew, but key verses or key words should be examined.

The manuscript must have the cover page (provided below) attached to it. (5 points)

V. Reading

The reading of Ralph Davis’ book, The Word Became Fresh (How to Preach From Old Testament Narratives), in its entirety will be required. This reading will be evaluated on the honor system, requiring a statement of material read and the student’s signature. (5 points)

Suggested Reading:

1. Bewes, Speaking in Public Effectively
2. Hughes, Jack, *Expository Preaching With Word Pictures*

3. Johnson, Dennis, *Him We Proclaim*

4. Larsen, David, *Telling the Old, Old Story*

5. Liftin, Duane, *Public Speaking*

6. Perkins, *The Art of Prophesying*

### Preaching Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Sermon</th>
<th>Preacher 1</th>
<th>Preacher 2</th>
<th>Preacher 3</th>
<th>Preacher 4</th>
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<tr>
<td>2/02</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td></td>
<td>NA</td>
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<td>3/02</td>
<td>Expository #2</td>
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<td><strong>NO CLASS: SPRING READING WEEK</strong></td>
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<td>3/23</td>
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<td>Wedding</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>4/20</td>
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<td>5/11</td>
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</table>
COVER SHEET FOR SERMON MANUSCRIPT
(Turn in with Narrative Sermon Manuscript or Notes)

Name_____________________________________

Date Preached______________________________

Scripture (Narrative) Passage____________________________________________

The Author’s Intent:___________________________________________________

Plot Motif___________________________________________________________

The Subject of the Sermon____________________________________________

The Objective of the Sermon____________________________________________

Exegetical Proposition_________________________________________________

Theological Proposition_______________________________________________

Homiletical Proposition_______________________________________________
**Expository Sermon Critique Form**

**Preacher_________________________Evaluator_______________________________**

Text_________________________Date_______________________________

Rating Scale: 5 = Excellent; 4 = Good; 3 = Average; 2 = Fair; 1 = Poor (Use whole #'s only).

THE SERMON

____ I. Introduction

____ II. Outline: Major Points 1.

2.

3.

____ III. Transitions

____ IV. Explanation

____ V. Illustrations

____ VI. Application

____ VII. Conclusion

____ VIII. Movement/Progression

Composite scoring: 40 (5.0), 39 (4.9), 38 (4.8), 37 (4.6), 36 (4.5), 35 (4.4), 34 (4.3), 33 (4.1), 32 (4.0), 31 (3.9) 30 (3.8), 29 (3.5), 28 (3.5), 27 (3.4), 26 (3.2), 25 (3.1), 24 (3.0), 23 (2.9), 22 (2.8), 21 (2.6), 20 (2.5).

Composite Score______ Average (______)

THE SPEAKER

____ I. Stance

____ II. Voice

____ III. Diction/Enunciation/Pronunciation

____ IV. Gestures and/or Mannerisms

Composite Scoring: 20 (5), 19 (4.9), 18 (4.5) 17 (4.3), 16 (4), 15 (3.8), 14 (3.5) 13 (3.3), 12 (3), 11 (2.8), 10 (2), 9 (2.5), 8 (2)

Composite Score______ Average (______)

Total Score (Sermon/Speaker – Combined Averages): _______
EVANGELISTIC SERMON CRITIQUE FORM

PREACHER ____________________________ EVALUATOR ____________________________

Text _____________________________ Date _____________________________
Rating Scale: 5 = Excellent; 4 = Good; 3 = Average; 2 = Fair; 1 = Poor (Use whole #'s only).

THE SERMON

I. Introduction

II. Gospel Outline: Major Points (Systematic or Historical/Redemptive)

III. Transitions/Connectedness

IV. Explanation/Content (Need/Lost-ness and Answer in Christ)

V. Illustrations (Use, Quantity, Appropriateness and Effectiveness)

VI. Use of Scripture(s)

VII. Conclusion/Response/Appeal

VIII. Movement/Progression/Made Sense

Composite scoring: 40 (5.0), 39 (4.9), 38 (4.8), 37 (4.6), 36 (4.5), 35 (4.4), 34 (4.3), 33 (4.1), 32 (4.0), 31 (3.9) 30 (3.8), 29 (3.5), 28 (3.5), 27 (3.4), 26 (3.2), 25 (3.1), 24 (3.0), 23 (2.9), 22 (2.8), 21 (2.6), 20 (2.5).

Composite Score_______ Average _______

THE SPEAKER

I. Stance

II. Voice/Sincerity/Persuasiveness

III. Diction/Enunciation/Pronunciation

IV. Gestures and/or Mannerisms

Composite Scoring: 20 (5), 19 (4.9), 18 (4.5) 17 (4.3), 16 (4), 15 (3.8), 14 (3.5) 13 (3.3), 12 (3), 11 (2.8), 10 (2), 9 (2.5), 8 (2)

Composite Score_______ Average _______

Total Score (Sermon/Speaker – Combined Averages): _______
WEDDING HOMILY CRITIQUE FORM

PREACHER __________________________ EVALUATOR __________________________

Text __________________________________ Date ______________________________

Rating Scale: 5 = Excellent; 4 = Good; 3 = Average; 2 = Fair; 1 = Poor (Use whole #'s only).

THE SERMON

_____ I. Introduction

_____ II. Focused: One Major Point/Theme Was Expressed

_____ III. Brevity (4 minutes)

_____ IV. Explanation: Clarity (Understandable)

_____ V. Use of Scripture (Biblical)

_____ VI. Christ-centered (Gospel included)

_____ VII. Conclusion

_____ VIII. Movement/Progression

Composite scoring: 40 (5.0), 39 (4.9), 38 (4.8), 37 (4.6), 36 (4.5), 35 (4.4), 34 (4.3), 33 (4.1), 32 (4.0), 31 (3.9) 30 (3.8), 29 (3.5), 28 (3.5), 27 (3.4), 26 (3.2), 25 (3.1), 24 (3.0), 23 (2.9), 22 (2.8), 21 (2.6), 20 (2.5).

Composite Score______  Average _______

THE SPEAKER

_____ I. Stance

_____ II. Voice

_____ III. Diction/Enunciation/Pronunciation

_____ IV. Gestures and/or Mannerisms

Composite Scoring:  20 (5), 19 (4.9), 18 (4.5 ), 17 (4.3), 16 (4), 15 (3.8), 14 (3.5) 13 (3.3), 12 (3), 11 (2.8), 10 (2.), 9 (2.5), 8 (2.)

Composite Score______ Average _______

Total Score (Sermon/Speaker – Combined Averages): _______
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Passage</th>
<th>Narrative</th>
<th>Preacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Genesis 28:10-22</td>
<td>Jacob’s Dream</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genesis 39</td>
<td>Joseph and Potiphar’s Wife</td>
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<td>Exodus 3</td>
<td>Moses and the Burning Bush</td>
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<td>Exodus 4:1-17</td>
<td>Signs for Moses</td>
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<td>Exodus 19</td>
<td>Israel At Mount Sinai</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua 1</td>
<td>The Lord Commands Joshua</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua 7</td>
<td>Achan’s Sin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Numbers 12</td>
<td>Miriam and Aaron Attack Moses</td>
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**Public Reading Texts**

| 1.   | Isaiah 40  |
| 2.   | Isaiah 41  |
| 3.   | Isaiah 42  |
| 4.   | Isaiah 43  |
| 5.   | Isaiah 44  |
| 6.   | Isaiah 45  |
| 7.   | Isaiah 46  |
| 8.   | Isaiah 48  |