

# **RTS Atlanta: Preaching Lab I**

**Instructor: Rev. Dr. Jon D. Payne**

*Spring 2012*

## **Purpose**

To learn the discipline and practice of sermon preparation and delivery.

## **Goals / Objectives**

1. Cultivate a Biblical / Reformed vision for preaching God's Word.
2. Learn to *prepare* and *deliver* an expository sermon from Old and New Testament texts (structure, content, delivery, etc.).
3. Gain the foundational tools for a lifetime of faithful preaching / teaching.

## **Required Reading**

*Feed My Sheep: A Passionate Plea for Preaching* - edited by Don Kistler

*Between Two Worlds: The Challenge of Preaching Today* by John Stott

*A Better Way: Rediscovering the Drama of God-Centered Worship* by Michael Horton (only pages 1-90; 211-241)

*Galatians* in *The Lectio Continua Expository Commentary on the New Testament Series* by J.V. Fesko (forthcoming in mid-late February)

## **Grading Scale**

25%	Required Reading / Seminar Assignment
60%	Three Sermons: Manuscript / Delivery
15%	Four Sermon Reviews

## **Extension Policy**

All assignments and exams are to be completed by the deadlines announced in this syllabus or in class.

Extensions for assignments and exams due within the normal duration of the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. Extensions of two weeks or less beyond the date of the

last deadline for the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. A grade penalty may be assessed.

Extensions of greater than two weeks but not more than six weeks beyond the last deadline for the course may be granted in extenuating circumstances (i.e. illness, family emergency). For an extension of more than two weeks the student must request an Extension Request Form from the Student Services Office. The request must be approved by the Professor and the Academic Dean. A grade penalty may be assessed. (RTS Catalog p. 42 and RTS Atlanta Student Handbook p. 14)

Any incompletes not cleared six weeks after the last published due date for course work will be converted to a failing grade. Professors may have the failing grade changed to a passing grade by request. (RTS Catalog p. 42)



**Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: Preaching Lab I

Professor: Jon D. Payne

Campus: Atlanta

Date: 1-18-12

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></b>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b>	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></b>
<p>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.</p> <p>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Strong</li> <li>➤ Moderate</li> <li>➤ Minimal</li> <li>➤ None</li> </ul>	
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Strong	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Each student will participate in an oral seminar, discussing key texts on preaching.</li> <li>2. Each student will write an essay focusing upon important theological, historical, and cultural aspects of preaching.</li> <li>3. Each student will preach at least 2 full length sermons.</li> </ol>
<b>Scripture</b>	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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss biblical foundation of preaching as a means of grace.</li> <li>2. Discuss biblical hermeneutics / interpretation and exegesis.</li> </ol>

<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Strong	1. Discuss what is a Reformed and confessional theology of preaching.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	1. Learn how preaching is a means of growth and maturity in Christ.
<b>Desire for Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Minimal	1. Explore how preaching cultivates a biblical mindset and approach to life, family and vocation. 2. Large focus on application.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	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.)	Strong	1. Discuss the importance of love and humility in preaching and teaching the Bible.
<b>Preach</b>	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	1. Discuss Lloyd-Jones' idea that preaching should be logic on fire (mind and heart).
<b>Worship</b>	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Strong	1. Learn how preaching in public worship is the central jewel of the liturgy.
<b>Shepherd</b>	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.	Minimal	1. Explore the theme of preaching and discipleship.
<b>Church/World</b>	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	1. Encourage application that is mindful of current contexts.