

Syllabus
PREACHING LAB II (04PT524)
Fall 2013

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Course Description

This course is designed to provide actual preaching opportunities for each student in order to continue to develop each student's exegetical and preaching skills. Students will be required to prepare and preach 2 expository sermons (one an evangelistic sermon and the other a funeral homily) using both OT and NT texts and will read aloud Bible passages assigned by the professor.

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

Meeting Dates

Our class meets on the RTS Atlanta campus three times: October 25-26; November 8-9; November 22-23. Friday classes: 6.30-8.30pm. Saturday classes: 8.30am-4.00pm

Course objectives

1. To improve the student's preparation and preaching skills through preparing and presenting two preached messages, one evangelistic and one for a funeral.
2. To strengthen the use of original languages in sermon preparation.
3. To demonstrate how the Bible's message is relevant to this generation.
4. To practice preaching the gospel in an evangelistic sermon.
5. To present an order of service including a funeral message as though in an actual funeral service.
6. To demonstrate good public English Bible reading skills.
7. To understand and demonstrate the baptism of an infant and an adult.
8. To demonstrate improved pulpit presence and delivery.

Required texts:

Holmes, Robert Leslie, *Seven Bridges to More Powerful Preaching*. Unpublished manuscript of upcoming Crossway book (will be gifted to students by professor at first class)

Martin, Albert N., *Preaching in the Holy Spirit*. Grand Rapids: Reformation Heritage Books, 2011. (ISBN 9781601781192)

Smith, Robert, *Doctrine that Dances: Bringing Doctrinal Preaching and Teaching to Life*. Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2008. (ISBN 9780805446845)

In addition, there will be certain selected articles from current publications that the professor deems helpful to students. These will be distributed in class.

Assignments

1. Class attendance and participation is very important. Absences that are unexcused or excessive will negatively impact the student's final grade.
2. Each student will preach two sermons before the class. A sermon outline plus a complete manuscript will be delivered to the professor in advance. These shall follow the methodology laid out in the course. While an in-depth exegesis of the original languages is not required, nonetheless the student can aid his final grade by demonstrating that he has seriously studied key words in the text in their original setting. The first sermon will be an evangelistic sermon on a passage chosen by the student. The second will be a funeral order of service including a preached message for a well-known personality outside the world of theology (i.e., no theologians, preachers, cult figures, etc.). It may be someone dead or alive from the worlds of politics, business, entertainment, sports, etc. The purpose of this presentation is to allow the student to show that he knows how to use Scripture effectively and do whatever research would be necessary to conduct a funeral service for someone he does not know personally.
3. Students will critique the in-class preaching of their fellow students (negatively and positively) using a form provided by the professor. The purpose of this exercise is to help students to think homiletically.
4. Students will read assigned passages of Scripture before the class to demonstrate that they understand the importance of presenting God's word audibly and effectively with sincerity, inflection, enunciation, pronunciation, and effectiveness.
5. Using a baby doll, students will perform an infant baptism. Students who do not practice paedobaptism may demonstrate a baptism that shows their understanding of their usual mode of baptism.
6. There will be a written book review for each of the assigned books (Martin and Smith). Each book review should be 2-3 pages in length.

Grades:

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|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Written/preached Sermons | 50% total |
| 2. Class assigned Bible readings | 15% total |
| 2. Book reviews | 15% total |
| 3. Class sermon reviews | 10% total |
| 4. Attendance/class participation/ | 10% total |

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 II (PT 524)
 Professor: Robert Leslie Holmes
 Campus: Atlanta
 Date: Fall 2013

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u>		<u>Rubric</u>	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
<p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None 	
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.	Strong	Students will integrate hermeneutics, biblical exposition, theological themes, historical information and verbal skills in communicating the message of Scripture
Scripture	A working knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture and developing skills to research further into Scripture's original meaning so as to be able to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances.	Strong	The importance of Scripture's original meaning as a basis for its modern application in preaching is emphasized. Student must understand the relevance of Scripture to today's world
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	The vital theology and hermeneutics of preaching must be communicated effectively to God's people
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Minimal	Properly understood, the preparation and delivery of the preached message is in itself a sanctifying process that should remind the student of his utter dependence upon God
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Minimal	The goal of preaching is to help people do this and should therefore also be a burning desire of the messenger who preaches
Winsomely Reformed	Embraces an ethos of preaching that is winsomely Reformed, including an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, and a God-honoring manner toward non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in every relationship.	Minimal	Respect for other preaching methods and traditions is encouraged whilst at the same time presenting a winsomely Reformed demonstration of the gospel to those who hold a different viewpoint
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the Gospel to both the heart and mind of both believers and unbelievers with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	The heart of this course is to preach God's word to the heart and mind of every listener
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Moderate	The course includes an opportunity to construct a worship experience with special emphasis on the student's ability to publicly read and proclaim what God says
Shepherd	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual growth; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians.	Moderate	A working knowledge of the role of the "pastor-teacher" (Eph. 4:11-12) as it relates to preaching is emphasized in this course
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	The application of the preached message is designed to engage the church and the world in God's Kingdom work