I. **Course description:** This course will focus on refining the practical skills and values needed for effective, Christ-centered, biblical preaching.

II. **Course Objectives**

   A. **A Mind for Truth: Transforming Your Understanding.**
      1. To understand the biblical and theological principles of homiletics
      2. To understand basic sermon components and their functions
      3. To understand the fundamentals of sermon preparation and delivery
      4. To understand the priority and practice of Christ-centered preaching
      5. To understand the specific challenges of preaching in the present culture

   B. **A Heart for God: Transforming Your Affections.**
      1. Increased confidence in preparing and delivering Christ-centered expository sermons
      2. Deepening commitment to and experience of Christ-centered life and ministry
      3. Clear conviction of the power and importance of Christ-centered preaching
      4. Increased sensitivity to cultural issues as they relate to the task of preaching

   C. **A Life for Ministry: Transforming Your Behavior**
      1. Increased competence in public speaking in general and sermon delivery in particular.
      2. Increased ability to construct and deliver biblically sound, culturally relevant Christ-centered sermons.

III. **Course Assignments**

   A. **Preaching Assignments**
      1. The student will be required to preach at least two expository sermons.
         a. One Sermon must be from the Psalms
         b. One Sermon must be from the Epistles.
      2. The student will chose the text, however it must be approved by the instructor.
3. After preaching each time in class the student will:
   a. Receive critical feedback from the instructor and fellow students. This feedback will help the student develop a plan for improving both sermon preparation and delivery.
   b. Give them self a grade for each sermon.
4. For all assignments the student will submit a complete manuscript to the instructor unless otherwise instructed.

B. 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.

C. 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.

IV. Grading

A. Grading Scale
   Grades will be assigned according to the RTS grading system: 100-97=A, 96-94=A-, 93-91=B+, 90-88=B, 87-86=B-, 85-83=C+, 82-80=C, 79-78=C-, 77-75=D+, 74-72=D, 71-70=D-, below 70=F.

B. Late Assignments Policy
   Please do not ask me for permission to turn in an assignment late. All late assignments will automatically be penalized. If you have truly been providentially hindered from completing an assignment on time (such as a death in the immediate family) please turn in a written request.

C. Grading Percentages:
   - Class Attendance Participation 20%
   - First Sermon assignment 30%
   - Second Sermon assignment 30%
   - Other Assignments 20%
V. Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Class One  
*February 7*th* | Introduction      |
| Class Two  
*February 14*th* | Student Assignments |
| Class Three  
*February 21*st* | Student Assignments |
| Class Four  
*February 28*th* | Student Assignments |
| Class Five  
*March 6*th* | Student Assignments |
| Class Six  
*March 13*th* | Student Assignments |
| No Class  
*March 20*th* | Student Assignments |
| Class Seven  
*March 27*th* | Spring Break      |
| Class Eight  
*April 3*rd* | Student Assignments |
| Class Nine  
*April 10*th* | Student Assignments |
| Class Ten  
*April 17*th* | Student Assignments |
| Class Eleven  
*April 24*th* | Student Assignments |
| Class Twelve  
*May 1*st* | Student Assignments |
| Class Thirteen  
*May 8*th* | Student Assignments |
| Class Fourteen  
*May 15*th* | Student Assignments |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Student will write and preach at least two expository sermons, presenting essential biblical, theological, historical and culturally relevant material.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Sermons will be rooted in sound exegesis, exhibiting careful study of the original meaning of Scripture. Heavy emphasis will be made on how the student applies the truths of Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances and contexts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Sermons will be partially evaluated through the grid of Reformed Theology and Practice. Minimal emphasis will be placed on the Westminster Standards.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>By God’s grace and through interaction with the Scripture and hearing other student’s sermons, the student will die more to self, and deepen their affection for the Triune God, the Church, and their neighbor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Student will gain a deep understanding of the Mission of God, particularly how the proclamation of Scripture is used by God to conform all of life to the World of God.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Student will be evaluated on whether their sermons present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians and a truth-in-love attitude in dealing with areas of disagreement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Preach</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Students will be evaluated on their ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Worship</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Student will gain understanding on the role of the preacher in worship and the centrality of the proclamation of the Word of God to worship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shepherd</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>The student will grow in their understanding of the place of preaching in shepherding the church.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Church/World</strong></td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>The student will gain an understanding on how to preach within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church and with significant public issues.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Personal Student Information
Please fill this out and turn it in during the first class.

Name: ____________________________

Spouse name: ____________________________

Children, name(s) and age(s):
1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________
4. ____________________________
5. ____________________________
6. ____________________________

RTS degree program/emphasis: ____________________________

__________________________

Years at RTS Orlando: ____________________________

Church presently attending: ____________________________

Denomination background (Southern Baptist, PCA, etc.): ____________________________

I have preached in an actual church worship service approximately _____ times.

I have taught or spoken in a public setting _____ times.

As of today:

☐ I have a strong call to a preaching/teaching ministry.
☐ I do not believe preaching/teaching will be the primary focus of my ministry.
☐ I am still seeking what role God has for me in His Kingdom.
Desired future ministry role (pastor, church planter, missionary, counselor, etc.): ____________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

What role do you believe Preaching/teaching will play in this ministry? ____________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

What is the hardest part of preaching for you? ________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

What are your expectations of the course? What would you like to learn? _________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

What is one subject/topic that you will like to discuss in class this semester? ______________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

What is a specific, personal prayer request you would like the professor to be remembering in
prayer for you this semester? _____________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________