

Methodist Theological School in Ohio
3081 Columbus Pike
Delaware, OH 43015

Introduction to Homiletics (HM 600)

Syllabus

Instructor: Rev. Mark Kelly Tyler, Ph.D.
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Office Hours by Appointment
(Best means of contact is email or cell phone)

Term: Fall, 2013

Dates and Times: Thursdays, 8:30 am to 11:20 am

Location: G-140

Catalog Course Description

An exploration of the why, what, how and to whom of preaching in light of its history and tradition, content and context. Attention will be paid not only to the preparation and delivery of sermons, but also to the development of the capacity to evaluate one's own preaching as well as that of others. Prerequisites: CT-149, HB-110 and NT-110. 3 credit hours.

Course Goal

This course will seek to make students comfortable with the idea of preaching and the how of preaching. By the completion of this course, students should:

- Be familiar with the major concerns of preaching
- Have an appreciation for multiple types of sermon creation and delivery
- Understand the role of the sermon in the act of worship
- Have an expanded set of resources for sermon development
- Understand the importance of integrity/unity in the sermon
- Be a more effective communicator of the Good News

Required Textbooks

Allen, Ronald J., ed. *Patterns of Preaching: A Sermon Sampler*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 1998.

Craddock, Fred. *Preaching: 25th Anniversary Edition*. Nashville: Abington Press, 2010.

Elliot, Mark Barger. *Creative Styles of Preaching*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2000.

Recommended Reading Resources

LaRue, Cleophus J. *Power in the Pulpit: How America's Most Effective Black Preachers Prepare Their Sermons*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002.

Long, Thomas G. *The Witness of Preaching*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1989.

McClure, John S., ed. *Best Advice for Preaching*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1998.

Mitchell, Henry. *Celebration and Experience in Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1990.

Wilson, Paul S. *The Four Pages of the Sermon*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1999.

Grading and Student Evaluation

Attendance & Class Participation *	20%
Preaching Exercises	40%
Final Sermon	40%

*Students who arrive to class on time for each meeting, refrain from taking unexcused absences, demonstrate evidence of reading assigned material, and contribute to the class discussion will have no problem receiving the total 20% available for this portion of the grade. Students that are habitually tardy will see an automatic drop in their letter grade. Students with 2 or more unexcused absences will automatically drop a letter grade. In short, be in class on time each week prepared to contribute and you will do very well in this course.

Preaching Exercises

Each student will preach three short preaching exercises during the course of the semester. The topics will be assigned beforehand by the instructor. More details will be provided in class and the assignment will be given in writing.

Final Sermon

Each student will preach a final sermon. The topic for the final sermon will be left to each student to decide, however it must be approved by the professor. The sermon:

- Will be 12 to 15 minutes in length
- May be delivered with or without a manuscript, but a manuscript must be presented to the professor before preaching the sermon (if you preach using your manuscript, bring an extra copy for yourself)
- The manuscript should contain a cover page
- Should demonstrate growth in the student from initial preaching exercise
- The deadline for having your text, theme, and title approved is November 7th

Teaching Methods

- Lectures
- Class discussions
- Student sermons
- Studying the sermons of notable preachers

Course Schedule and Reading Assignments

August 29

- Introductions
- Syllabus Overview
- Initial Lecture

September 5

- In class reading of Craddock's "Preaching"

September 12

- Have completed the reading of Craddock's "Preaching"
- Discussion on Craddock

September 19

- Have read "Patterns" through Chapter 5
- Preaching Exercise #1 (Group A)

September 26

- Have read “Patterns” through Chapter 9
- Preaching Exercise #1 (Group B)

October 3

- Have read “Patterns” through Chapter 15
- Preaching Exercise #1 (Group C)

October 10

- Have read “Patterns” through Chapter 21
- Preaching Exercise #2 (Group A)

October 17 (reading week)

October 24

- Have read “Patterns” through Chapter 29
- Preaching Exercise #2 (Group B)

October 31

- Have read “Patterns” through Chapter 34
- Preaching Exercise #2 (Group C)

November 7

- Have read “Creative”: Introduction, Chapter 2, and Chapter 3
- Preaching Exercise #3 (Group A)

November 14

- Have read “Creative” Chapters 7, 8, and 9
- Preaching Exercise #3 (Group B)

November 21

- Final thoughts on the course.
- Preaching Exercise #3 (Group C)

December 5 and 12

- Final Sermons

Group A:

1. Denzer, Pamela
2. Gardner, Rachel
3. Gordon, Brittany
4. Hendrickson, Sharon
5. McKnight, Rachel
6. Seward, Skylar
7. Stonecypher, Jessica
8. Throckmorton, Alexander

Group B:

1. Anderson, Aimee
2. Carr, Brian
3. Clark, Elizabeth
4. Cook, Casey
5. Henson, Daniel
6. Kerns, Mary
7. Schoon, Kenneth
8. Shere, Rina

Group C:

1. Brown, Lorraine
2. Curtis, Adriane
3. Exantus, Pierre
4. Pickens, Nicole
5. Salak, Abigail
6. Smith, Carolyn
7. St. Aubin, David
8. Welch, Heidi