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PR 610 Servant as Proclaimer

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This beginning course in preaching will examine the context of preaching and present a methodology for expository, topical and narrative preaching. In addition to lectures and material from the required texts, it will examine the preaching via video tapes of nine (9) preachers of ten (10) who were recognized in 1996 by a Baylor University survey to be the best contemporary preachers in the English-speaking world. The purpose of these sermons is to observe critically as these preachers deliver their sermon(s), to note specifically what makes them excellent, to incorporate form their messages helpful guidance for one’s preaching and to deliver three (3) sermons that reflect what they have learned. Additionally, students will critically evaluate a recognized preacher in the area by a personal visit. Other taped sermons will be made available for out-of-class listening.

RATIONALE

This course will introduce three (3) major kinds of preaching through lectures and textbook reading. It is also committed to the belief that preaching is best learned through practice under the evaluation of professor and fellow students.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To introduce the ingredients of narrative, topical and expository preaching.
2. To provide guidance in the preparation and delivery of sermons.
3. To increase awareness of the elements of good preaching.
4. To expose students to the world’s best English-speaking preachers and to inspire them to set high standards for their preaching.
5. To introduce preaching from various traditions for broader understanding and appreciation.
6. To incorporate student’s study of the original languages and hermeneutics to insure that sermons are faithful to the text.
7. To experience the life of a church in the Lexington area and to hear at least one (1) preacher of excellence in his setting.
8. To give opportunity for students to preach in class, incorporating what they have learned and to gain evaluation of their sermons.
COURSE REQUIRED READING followed by RECOMMENDED READING:


Note: You will be asked at the December interview if you have read these books.


COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Three-credit course

A. Attendance at all classes
B. Reading of two (2) texts by October 12 (preferably earlier)
C. One page description of person, place, and thing for September 26
D. Oral messages, writing and interview

1. Ten minute narrative message from a Biblical story.
2. Twelve to Fifteen minute topical message (visual support recommended).
3. Twelve to Fifteen minute expository message (visual support recommended).
4. Thirty minute interview with professor, December 11-14. (visual support recommended).
5. Sermon Presentations:

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<td>Nov. 2</td>
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(Also, note group date responsibility for video showing.)

6. Attend Southland Christian Church and give a one to two page critique of the service and sermon by Pastor Mike Breaux.
CLASS SCHEDULE

September 5

A. Getting acquainted. Review of syllabus
B. Completing questionnaire about personal goals for preaching
C. My journey in preaching

September 7

Lecture: A Conversation about Preaching

September 12

A. Introducing Expository Preaching
B. H. Robinson’s: Subject/Complement
C. The Sermon Title and Introduction

September 14

A. Lecture on Preparation of Sermon
B. Discussion

September 19

Group One will show John Stott’s sermon as illustrative of an expository followed by evaluation.

September 21

A. Group Two will present Barbara Brown Taylor’s modified expository sermon. Comment on word descriptions.

B. Evaluation of Taylor’s sermon. What warrants her selection as “one of the best preachers in the English-speaking world”?

B. Prepare a one-page description of a person, place or event to be presented in the September 26 class and submitted to the professor.

September 26

A. Presentation of one-page descriptions.

B. Lecture: The Case for a Narrative Sermon.
September 28

A. Group 3 will present Haddon Robinson’s Best Preacher Sermon noting:
   The Big Idea  Subject/Complement  Use of allowable imagination

B. Evaluation of Robinson’s sermon.

October 3

A. Introduction and evaluation of topical sermon.

B. Group One will present William Willamon’s topical sermon.

October 5

A. Group Two will present Gardner Taylor’s topical sermon.

B. Evaluation of Taylor’s sermon with recognition of the gift of the African-American pulpit to the art of preaching.

TRANSITION TO STUDENT PREACHING

October 10

Group One will present a 12 minute narrative sermon from a biblical story.
Incorporate insights from Robinson’s sermon.

Sermon evaluations by students/professor.

October 12

Group Two will present a 12 minute narrative sermon from a biblical story.
Incorporate insights from Robinson’s sermon.

October 17

Group Three will present a 12 minute narrative sermon.

Sermon evaluations by students/professor.

October 19

Group Four will present a 12 minute narrative sermon from a biblical story
(as with above groups).
October 24

Group Five will present the final set of 12 minute narrative sermons.

October 26

The class will see and evaluate messages from the Great Preacher series by Tom Long (preaching form a difficult text), and Fred Craddock.

TOPICAL SERMONS

October 31

Group Two will present their 12-15 minute topical sermons followed by student/professor evaluation.

November 2

Group Three will present their 12-15 minute topical sermons followed by student/professor evaluation.

November 7

Group Four will preach a topical sermon followed by evaluation.

November 9

Group Five will preach a topical message (as above).

November 14

Group One will present as above groups.

November 16

A. The class will evaluate James Forbes message from the Great Preacher Series.
B. Effective Scripture reading by Max McLean.

November 19-23 READING WEEK
EXPOSITORY SERMONS

For this final series of preaching, students are urged to utilized visual support. (Power Point, Outline, Visual Objects)

November 28

Group Three will preach a 15 minute message illustrating the expository method of preaching followed by student/professor evaluation.

November 30

Group Four will preach an expository sermon followed by student/professor evaluation.

December 5

Group Five will preach an expository sermon followed by evaluation.

December 7

Group Two will preach an expository sermon followed by evaluation.

December 12

Group One will preach an expository sermon followed by evaluation.

December 14

Guest lecturer or thirty (30) minute interviews.

December 11-14

Each student will meet for 30 minutes during the week with the professor for personal evaluation and guidance. Each student is responsible for scheduling this meeting in Beeson 140. Final date to complete reading.