

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

HOM 633 Preaching Lab

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Spring 2002

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course focuses on the development of the verbal and nonverbal communication skills for effective preaching and oral reading of Scripture. The basic principles of voice quality and tone, expressions and gestures, and overall platform manners are examined. The student's communication skills are evaluated through delivery critique forms and videotapes.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

To satisfactorily complete this course, the student will achieve these objectives:

1. Deepen understanding of the essential principles and factors in sermon preparation and delivery.
2. Develop the practice of collecting illustrations, outlines, and sermonic content.
3. Develop a file of topics and titles for pastoral and evangelistic messages.
4. Gain experience and increased competence in using the voice for public communication.
5. Gain experience and increased competence in preaching.
6. Develop the ability to critique messages, so as to maximize the factors for effective communication and to minimize ineffective ones in preaching.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Miller, Calvin. *The Empowered Communicator—7 Keys to Unlocking an Audience*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1994.

Galli, Mark and Craig Brian Larson. *Preaching That Connects*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1994.

SUGGESTED TEXTBOOK

Turpie, Bill, editor. *Ten Great Preachers: Messages and Interviews*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2000.

BASIC OUTLINE

While deepening in the understanding of homiletics, students will primarily *apply* what they have learned. (Material to be emphasized is indicated in **bold**)

- I. Theology of Preaching
- II. Contemporary Perspectives on Preaching
- III. Foundations for Preaching
 1. Grow spiritually
 2. Understand the Bible and **the relevance of the Gospel**
 3. Understand people, life, and world
 4. Understand the factors for effective preaching
 5. **Develop resources**
 6. **Develop voice**
 7. **Develop ability to evaluate preaching (your own and others')**
- IV. Preparing to Preach
 1. Discover God's message
 2. Grasp the biblical truth
 3. Connect message and people
 4. Compose the message
- V. **Delivering the Sermon**
 1. Connect with God's Spirit
 2. Connect with the people
 3. **Effectively use your voice**
 4. **Apply the factors of effective preaching**

METHODOLOGY

The primary method will be the students' presentation of sermons and subsequent critiques by peers, professor, and the speaker after review of the videotaped message. Students will also participate in discussion and small groups, including the evaluation of the sermons of great preachers on video and audiotape and in print. In developing the voice they will do readings from Scripture and speeches. Lectures will review principles and introduce new material.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attend and participate in class sessions.

2. Read and prepare a two page typed critique of each required textbook. Evaluate its overall value to you, citing benefits and limitations. State the concepts that were helpful to you. Due dates: **January 23** for *Preaching That Connects* and **February 6** for *The Empowered Communicator*. The class will discuss these books on these dates.
3. Each week during January, February, and March record one usable sermon outline per week (from messages you hear in person, on tape, or on television). Collect five usable illustrations per week. (These may come from your personal experience. Limit to 20% the number from collections—books, magazines, on-line sources.) Submit monthly in a 9” x 11” envelope: **February 6, March 6 (13), and April 3.**
4. Practice eight minutes a day for five days a week during the month of January and February. Reports shall be submitted monthly on **February 6 and March 6 (13).**
5. Prepare and preach four to five sermons (depends on number of students. These will be a maximum of 25 minutes and a minimum of 20 minutes in length. Further instructions and a schedule will be provided.
 - a. Submit *sermon information (creative title, topic, intended audience, purpose, essential point—stated in a short, simple sentence), need addressed, and solution offered)* and a *detailed outline of the message (plus manuscript, if available)* to the professor one class session prior to preaching.
 - b. Provide *sermon information* and a *message outline* for each student in the class on the day of presentation.
 - c. Submit a *one page typed critique* to the professor within one week after the preaching date.
 - d. Sermons will include an expository message, a narrative message, and a seeker message. A 7 to 10 minute wedding message combined with a 7 to 10 minute funeral message will count as one message. If a fifth sermon is scheduled, the choice of message will be up to each student.

GRADING PROCEDURE

1. Analysis of Textbooks	7%
2. Class participation, including critiques	7%
3. Assignments	18%
Outlines (of sermons you heard)	6%
Illustrations	6%
Voice practice	6%

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| 4. Test on voice (using materials from practice) | 8% |
| 5. Sermons preached, including self-critiques | 60% |
| 1 st | 12% or 15% |
| 2 nd | 12% or 15% |
| 3 rd | 12% or 15% |
| 4 th | 12% or 15% |
| 5 th | 12% |

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

This will be distributed in class.

SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus revised by Stephen Lim, December 5, 2001