



TYNDALE

• SEMINARY •

Course Syllabus

Fall 2012

INTRODUCTION TO PREACHING
PAST 0641

MONDAYS 1:00 – 3:50 PM

INSTRUCTOR: DR. KEVIN LIVINGSTON
Telephone number: 416 226 6620 ext. 2207
Email: klivingston@tyndale.ca
Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-4 PM or by appointment

To access your course material, please go to <http://mytyndale.ca>

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to give a general introduction to the theology of preaching and to the art and craft of sermon design and delivery. The nature of preaching, the person of the preacher, and the principles of sermon construction will be discussed. Two sermons are preached in class.

PREREQUISITES: Biblical Interpretation (BIBL 0501)

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The overall goal of this course is to help learners become faithful preachers of God's Word. More specifically, learners will

- grow in their *conviction* that the biblical text is the proper foundation for preaching, as God speaks by the power of the Holy Spirit through the words of Scripture and through the sermon.
- grow in *confidence* that God is mysteriously and dynamically present in the preaching event.
- grow in their *ability* to exegete, interpret and unfold the biblical text and frame the content of their sermons in ways that are coherent, attractive and persuasive to hearers.
- improve their *delivery skills* in public speaking and Scripture reading.
- acquire a *variety of sermon assessment tools* to help them assess their own preaching, as well as to offer constructive feedback to peers.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED TEXTS

Stott, John. *Between Two Worlds: The Challenge of Preaching Today*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982. ISBN 978-0802806277

Long, Thomas. *The Witness Of Preaching*. 2nd ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2005. ISBN 978-0664229436

B. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

- 1. Required Reading and Class Participation.** Blessed is the student who invests the necessary time to read the assigned texts in advance of class! As you read, jot down your questions and observations, which will become a part of our weekly conversation. Each week I will

some students to share one of their questions/observations from the assigned readings for the day. I will also expect students to be prepared to share their observations on the assigned sermons. Reading and class participation is worth **10%** of your final grade

2. Written Review of Assigned Sermon and Reading Questions. During the term, you will be watching/hearing seven preachers from a wide variety of denominational backgrounds and preaching styles. After listening to the assigned sermon, write a brief response (1 page maximum) based on the model of sermon evaluation presented in week 1 of class. Also, write two questions that arise from your reading, along with the page numbers from the places in the reading that generated your questions. These seven sermon reviews and reading questions are worth **20%** of final grade.

3. Exegesis assignments. You will submit a 2-3 page exegetical summary of each of the texts you are preaching based on the exegetical model presented in class. Identify and make use of at least two scholarly commentaries, a list of which will be provided to students. The exegesis and theme sentence assignments are worth **20%** of your final grade (2 x 10%)

4. Two Sermons preached and evaluated. You will prepare and preach two sermons including one from a Pauline epistle and another from the gospels. (See Appendix A for a list of texts for preaching). The length will be no more than 15 minutes. On the days you preach, please submit full sermon manuscripts. Point form is not acceptable. You will receive written feedback from your fellow students but sermons will be graded by the professor. One week after you preach, submit a 1-page evaluation of your sermon, taking into account the comments of your colleagues as well as your own appraisal. Sermons written, preached and evaluated are worth **50%** of final grade (2 x 25%).

C. ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES

Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5, 19

Assigned Sermon Review and Reading Questions

Oct. 15 Exegesis and theme sentence assignment for sermon 1

Nov. 12 Preach sermon 1 and turn in manuscript

Nov. 19 Submit sermon evaluation forms as well as your self-evaluation

Nov. 19 Exegesis and theme sentence assignment for sermon 2

Nov. 26, Dec. 3 or Dec. 10

Preach sermon 2 and turn in manuscript, and submit sermon evaluation forms and self-evaluation within 7 days.

D. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University College & Seminary takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

Documentation Style: In all assigned work, proper style guidelines (normally Chicago/Turabian) will be used and followed exactly. Consult the [Chicago-Style Quick Guide](#) (Tyndale e-resource) or the full edition of the [Chicago Manual of Style Online](#), especially [ch. 14](#). For citing scripture texts, refer to sections 10.46 to 10.51 and 14.253 to 14.254.

Students should also consult the current *Academic Calendar* for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System. The Academic Calendar is posted at <http://www.tyndale.ca/registrar/calendar>.

E. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

Required reading and class participation	10%
Two exegesis assignments (2 x 10)	20%
Two sermons preached, manuscripts and self-evaluation (2 x 25)	50%
Sermon reviews and reading questions	20%
Total Grade	100%

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

Other than preaching days, classes will consist of **lectures** devoted to some aspect of the theology and practice of preaching, a weekly **review of an assigned sermon**, and frequent **practicums** devoted to enhancing communication skills.

Sept. 10 Orientation

Readings	Long, <i>Witness</i> , chapter 1; Stott, <i>Between Two Worlds</i> , chapter 1
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Orientation and syllabus review

Practicum: improving our self-confidence through story-telling

What makes an excellent sermon?

Sept. 17 Theological Foundations for Preaching

Readings	Long, chapter 2; Stott, <i>Between Two Worlds</i> , chapter 3 Pitt-Watson, <i>A Primer for Preachers</i> , chapter 1, "What Comes First."
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Preaching from Below: Self-Knowledge and Bearing Witness

Preaching from Above: Participating in *God's* work

The Priority of Grace: indicatives before imperatives

Practicum: speaking for audibility, clarity and emphasis

Assigned Sermon Review and Reading Questions Due

Sept. 24 NO CLASS

Oct 1 Listening... What does this text say?

Readings	Long, <i>Witness</i> , chapter 3; Stott, <i>Between Two Worlds</i> , chapter 5 Achtemeier, "The Artful Dialogue: Some Thoughts on the Relation of Biblical Studies and Homiletics"
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Lectio Divina and getting immersed in the text

Practicum: *Lectio Divina* exercise

Exegesis for preaching

Choosing a text for sermon 1 (see appendix A)

Assigned Sermon Review and Reading Questions Due

Oct. 8 NO CLASS Thanksgiving

Oct. 15 Interpreting... What does this text mean?

Readings	Stott, <i>Between Two Worlds</i> , chapters 2 & 4; Willimon, "Preaching as Missionary Encounter with North American Paganism."
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Preaching as the hermeneutical task of bridge-building

The exegesis of life: congregation, self, and culture

What one thing needs to be heard from this text for this congregation as it lives out the mission of God?

Practicum: exegeting your congregation and neighbourhood

Exegesis for Sermon 1 Due

Assigned Sermon Review and Reading Questions Due

Oct. 22 Discernment and Design: Sermon focus, function and form

Readings	Long, <i>Witness</i> , chapters 4, 5 & 6 Newbigin, "Preaching Christ Today"
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Right brain and left brain work

The focus and function of the sermon

What's the big idea? How does this text preach Christ?

Structuring the sermon to serve the text and the audience

Assigned Sermon Review and Reading Questions Due

Oct. 29 Connections and Illustrations

Readings	Long, <i>Witness</i> , chapters 7 & 8
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Beginnings and endings

Implications and applications

The use (and abuse) of stories

Practicum: how to tell a story well

Assigned Sermon Review and Reading Questions Due

Nov. 5 Refining... How will I say it?

Readings	Stott, <i>Between Two Worlds</i> , chapter 6; Long, <i>Witness</i> , chapter 9
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Writing and Orality: preaching for the ear as well as the eye

Persuasion: preaching to the heart and will as well as the mind

Rehearsal and Revision: practice makes perfect

Unction: preaching in Spirit's power

Choosing a text for sermon 2 (see appendix A)

Assigned Sermon Review and Reading Questions Due

Nov. 12 "Performing" and Evaluating the Sermon

Readings	Hoezee, "How was the Sermon?" and Hulst, "Not at the Door."
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How shall we evaluate?

Offering gracious feedback – strategies to speak the truth in love

Student Sermon 1 (15 minutes maximum; preached in small groups)

Nov. 19 Sustaining the Preaching Life

Readings	Stott, <i>Between Two Worlds</i> , chapters 7 & 8; Long, <i>Witness</i> , chapter 10; Ooms, "Planning Ahead."
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Preaching Virtues

Sermon Planning

Self Care Habits for Preachers

Assigned Sermon Review and Reading Questions Due

Exegesis for sermon 2 due

Nov. 26 **Student Sermon 2** (15 minutes maximum; preached in class)

Dec. 3 **Student Sermon 2** (15 minutes maximum; preached in class)

Dec. 10 **Student Sermon 2** (15 minutes maximum; preached in class)

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Adam, Peter. *Speaking God's Words: A Practical Theology of Expository Preaching*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1996.

Buechner, Frederick. *Telling the Truth: the Gospel as Tragedy, Comedy and Fairy Tale*. New York: HarperCollins, 1977.

Capon, Robert Farrar. [*The Foolishness of Preaching*](#). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

Chapell, Bryan. *Christ-centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.

Childers, Jana. [*Birthing the Sermon-Women Preachers on the Creative Process*](#). St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2001.

Craddock, Fred B. *Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1985.

English, Donald. *An Evangelical Theology of Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1996.

Farris, Stephen. [Preaching That Matters](#). Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1998.

Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.

Griedanus, Sidney. *The Modern Preacher and the Ancient Text*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989.

_____. *Preaching Christ from the Old Testament: A Contemporary Hermeneutical Method*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.

Henderson, David. *Culture Shift: Communicating God's Truth to Our Changing World*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.

Johnson, Darrell. *The Glory of Preaching*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2009.

LaRue, Cleophus J. [Power in the Pulpit](#). Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2002.

Lischer, Richard, ed. [The Company of Preachers: Wisdom on Preaching, Augustine to the Present](#). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002.

_____. [The End of Words: The Language of Reconciliation in a Culture of Violence](#). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005.

Long, Thomas G. [The Witness of Preaching, Second Edition](#). . Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2005.

_____. [Preaching from Memory to Hope](#). Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2009.

Mathews, Alice. *Preaching that Speaks to Women*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2003.

Miller, Calvin. *Preaching: The Art of Narrative Exposition*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2006.

Nieman, James, and Thomas Rogers. [Preaching to Every Pew](#). Philadelphia: Fortress, 2001.

Pasquarello, Michael. *We Speak Because We Have First Been Spoken: a grammar of the preaching life*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009.

Pitt-Watson, Ian. *A Primer for Preachers*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1986.

Quicke, Michael J. *360-Degree Preaching: Hearing, Speaking, and Living the Word*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2003.

- Reid, Robert. *The Four Voices of Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Brazos, 2006.
- Robinson, Haddon. *Biblical Preaching*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001.
- _____ and Craig Larson. *The Art & Craft of Biblical Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.
- Rutledge, Fleming. [*The Bible and the New York Times*](#). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.
- Spurgeon, Charles. [*Lectures to My Students*](#). Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.
- Stewart, James. *Heralds of God*. Vancouver: Regent College Publishing, 1946.
- _____. *A Faith to Proclaim*. Vancouver: Regent College Publishing, 1953.
- Stott, John. *Between Two World: The Challenge of Preaching Today*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994.
- Taylor, Barbara Brown. *The Preaching Life*. Lanham, Md.: Cowley Publications, 1993.
- Tisdale, Leonora Tubbs. [*Preaching As Local Theology and Folk Art*](#). Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 1997.
- Van Harn, Roger E. [*Preacher, Can You Hear Us Listening?*](#) Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005.
- Willimon, William. [*The Intrusive Word: Preaching to the Unbaptized*](#). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994.
- _____. [*Peculiar Speech: Preaching to the Baptized*](#). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992.
- Wilson, Paul Scott. *The Four Pages of a Sermon: A Guide to Biblical Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1999.
- _____. *The Practice of Preaching: Revised Edition*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2007.

Appendix A: Preaching Texts for PAST 0641

Sermon 1

Philippians 1.3-11

Philippians 1.12-26

Philippians 2.1-13

Philippians 3.1-13

Philippians 4.1-9

Sermon 2

Choose any Gospel text from the Revised Common Lectionary, Year B

For a listing of those texts, consult <http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>

See also the following lectionary commentaries:

Bartlett, David and Barbara Brown Taylor, eds. *Feasting on the Word, Year B* (4 vols). Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2010.

Brueggemann, Walter, et al. *Texts for Preaching: A Lectionary Commentary Based on the NRSV, Vol. 2: Year B*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1993.

Craddock, Fred, et al. *Preaching Through the Christian Year: Year B: A Comprehensive Commentary on the Lectionary*. San Antonio: Trinity Press International, 1993.

Van Harn, Roger. *The Lectionary Commentary: Theological Exegesis for Sunday's Texts, The Third Readings: The Gospels*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005.