



Course Syllabus Fall 2011

PREACHING IN A POST-MODERN CONTEXT PAST 0739

**September 12, 2011 to December 9, 2011
Mondays: 6:30 to 9:20 PM**

Instructor: Rev. Dr. Frederick W. Penney

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Office Hours: Appointments can be made, preferably on Mondays

To access your course materials at the start of the course, please go to
<https://www.mytyndale.ca>

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will examine the ministry of preaching in the context of the emerging post-modern worldview. It will examine the challenges post-modernism presents to biblical preaching. We will examine the theology and methodology of expository and expository- narrative preaching.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, the student should be able to:

- Consider the character, personality and needs of one's audience—local and national.
- Know the literature resources for post-modern preaching
- See the post-modern culture as an opportunity as well as a challenge.
- Know how to preach biblical texts such as the parables of Jesus and effectively communicate their relevance in a post-modern context.
- Be able to identify biblical meta-narrative texts and construct a creative and succinct personal theological meta-narrative.
- Be inspired to continue a journey of lifelong learning in the ministry of preaching.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED TEXTS:

Dave Henderson. *Culture Shift: Communicating God's Word to our Changing World*. ISBN: 0-8010-9059-8

Graham Johnston. *Preaching to a Post Modern World*. ISBN: 0801063671

Thomas Long. *The Witness of Preaching*. ISBN-13: 978-0-664-22943-6.

B. ASSIGNMENTS

1. Read the Thomas Long text and complete a book report, **5-7 pages in length**. Include the major ideas of the book, some theological reflection and analysis.
Due date: December 5th
Grade Value: 20 %
2. Write a 2-3 page summary of the Christian meta-narrative
Due Date: October 31.
Grade Value: 10 %
3. Exegesis assignment must be completed for each of your preaching texts and submitted with your sermon outline. **Grade Value: 10% x 2= 20%**
4. Sermon outlines:
You must write 2 sermon outlines on biblical texts that address the needs of the post modern mind. Consult your professor on the text selection.
Due dates: (1) October 17th
(2) November 14th
Grade value: 2 X 10 = 20%
5. Preach two sermons in class , based on your sermon outlines and submit a full sermon manuscript.
Due date: No. 1: October 31 and November 7
No. 2: November 28 and December 5.
Grade Value: 2 x 15= 30 %

C. COURSE OUTLINE

1. Biblical And Theological Foundations

- a. Theology Of Preaching
- b. History of Preaching
- c. Has Preaching lost its way in a Post-Modern world?
- d. Jesus preaching paradigm: Luke 4

2. Methodology: Listening to the Text

- a. Exegesis Workshop On Biblical Texts
- b. Why Value the Exposition of a text
- c. Gospel Storytelling
- d. Appreciating Biblical Genre.
- e. The Gospel Meta-Narrative: From the country to the City (Revelation 21)
- f. Preaching, Pneumatology and Post-modernism

3. Exegeting The Post-Modern Culture

- a. Understanding Post Modernism
- b. Discerning culture trends and fads.
- c. Cultural Meta-narratives.
- d. Case Study: Paul in Athens (Acts 17)
- e. Technology and preaching
- f. Skills For Cultural Exegesis
- g. Listening and Discerning
- h. Movies, Fashion, Music
- i. Poverty, economics and politics

4. Jesus Parables and Building Bridges To Post Modernism

- a. The Power and Staying Power of Story.
- b. Characteristics of a compelling story
- c. Characteristics of Jesus Parables
- d. Article: How Long the Bridge to Post-Moderns
- e. Case Study: Rob Bell

5. The Power of Preaching Jesus Parables

- a. Gospel preaching without being preachy
- b. Authenticity and Authority
- c. Religion, Spirituality and Christianity
- d. Preaching The Uniqueness of Christ in a culture of Pluralism
- e. Parables of Hope (Eschatology)
 - i. Ten Virgins
- f. Parables of Love and Loneliness
 - i. Prodigal Sons
 - ii. Good Samaritan

6. The Power of Jesus Parables Continued.

- a. Parables of Faith and Belief:
 1. Persistent Widow
 2. Rich man and Lazarus
- ii. Parables of Money and Power:
 1. The Rich Fool
 2. Rich Young Ruler

7. Preaching in class

8. Preaching in Class

9. Preaching Opportunities With Post Moderns

- a. Is there a Post Modern Jesus?
- b. Further Biblical Genres For Connecting With Post-Moderns
- c. Preaching from the Psalms and Prophets
- d. Crafting Gospel Meta-Narratives
- e. People are people are people

10. Communication In A Post Modern Context

- a. Person, Word And Image: Presentation Principles In A Post-Modern Culture
- b. Book: Made to Stick
- c. Guest: _____ (TBA)
- d. Preaching Amid Post-Modern Spirituality
Christian spirituality in a post modern world.
- e. Preaching Hell in a Post-Modern Culture
- f. Case study: Mark Driscoll
- g. Preaching Morality in a Post-Modern Culture
- h. Suggested texts: Exodus 20
- i. Rhetorical strategy
- j. Article: Tim Keller

11. Preaching in Class

12. Preaching in Class

D. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Please Note:

- a. All assignments must be submitted on deadline. Late papers will be penalized, at the rate of 1/3 of a letter grade per week or part thereof (e.g. from B to B-).
- b. Faculty may NOT grant an extension on assignments beyond the last day of class for the semester. Students who have not submitted an assignment by

this date will receive a grade of F for the assignment, unless official permission has been obtained from the Registrar due to extreme and extenuating circumstances (see *Academic Calendar*).

Students should 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://tyndale.ca/registrar/calendar>.

E. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

Book Report	20 %
Exegesis Assignments (2x10%)	20 %
Sermon Outlines (2x10%)	20 %
Preaching (2x15%)	30%
Christian Meta-Narrative	10%
Total Grade	100 %

IV. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES

1. Links to Preaching Websites

- www.ehomiletics.com – *Evangelical Homiletics Society* site
- www.preaching.org – Kenton Anderson's site. It features a blog, book reviews, articles, etc.
- www.preaching.com – *Preaching* magazine site
- www.preachingtoday.com – It is subscription based and offers sermons, illustrations on preaching
- www.proctrust.org.uk – An organization based in the UK that trains and equips preachers
- www.homileticonline.com – *Homiletics* magazine, subscription based
- www.homiletics.org – *Academy of Homiletics* site
- www.passionforpreaching.com – A European community of biblical preachers
- www.christianitytoday.com/leaders/features/preaching.html – Preaching articles from *Leadership Journal*
- www.beginningwithmoses.org – Offers articles on preaching and biblical theology
- www.postmodernpreaching.net – A series of articles on preaching in a postmodern times
- www.9marks.com – Offers articles, audio resources on preaching and ministry by Mark Dever
- biblicalpreaching.wordpress.com – Blog of Peter Mead about Biblical Preaching
- www.theocentricpreaching.com – Blog of Darryl Dash about biblical preaching
- blog.preachingtoday.com – Blog from *Preaching Today*

2. Links to Reference Material

- home.comcast.net/~rciampa/ – Resources for New Testament Exegesis
- home.comcast.net/~rciampa/PreachingResources.htm – Resources for Biblical Preaching
- www.ccel.org/fathers2 – Early Church Fathers in English
- www.sbl-site.org/Resources/Resources_BiblicalFonts.aspx – Biblical fonts from the Society of Biblical Literature
- www.zhubert.com – Greek New Testament browser
- www.followtherabbi.com – Information on the background and culture of the Bible
- www.quotationspage.com – Database of over 26,000 quotes.

- www.oneplace.com – Listen to current and past messages from many preachers and radio Bible teachers

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