



COURSE SYLLABUS

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SECTION 1: COURSE INFORMATION

Format: Eight weeks.

Course ID: PMIN 3133

Course Title: Homiletics I

College: College of Unrestricted Education - Department of Ministry and Theology

Prerequisites: DCOM 1433 and BIBL 2623

Credit Hours: 3

Instructor: See the online course in MyFIRE for instructor contact information and availability.

Course Description

This course is designed to prepare students with sermon construction, engaging the significance of preaching, the use of Scripture, intention, sermon structure, logical movement of main ideas, illustrations, introductions, conclusion, picturesque language, variety, and types of sermons. The overall approach uses expository methods for narrative passages and topics. This course requires careful study of and reflection upon the appropriate biblical texts.

Course Overview

The purpose of the course is to pass on to the student the ability to develop messages which are: true to the text, clear and well-organized, interesting to listen to, specifically relevant to the listener's needs, with particular attention given to clarity and relevancy.

Course Workload

Time spent on course assignments will vary by student depending on familiarity with course content, reading rate of speed, writing rate of speed, and other individual factors. Based on averages for most students, it is estimated that the course workload estimate for this course is 64.88 (8.11 hours per week).

Course Materials

1. Biblical Preaching (3rd edition) by H. Robinson
2. Preaching by Timothy Keller
3. Communicating for Change by Andy Stanley and Lane Jones

Required and optional textbooks are accessed and ordered through [SEU's bookstore](#).

Disclaimer: The resources utilized in this course provide information, thoughts and insights that should encourage critical thinking on the part of the student. Please note as well that as an Assembly of God institution, Southeastern University does not necessarily endorse specific personal, religious, philosophical, or political positions found in these resources.

Course Topics

The purpose of this course is to introduce, reinforce, and measure learning on the following topics:

- The Importance of Preaching
- Preaching empowered by the Holy Spirit
- The character of the preacher
- Methods of exegesis and hermeneutics for preaching
- Sermon construction
- Resources for biblical study and preparing sermons
- Engaging illustrations
- Compelling and clear delivery
- Expository preaching
- Know how to clarify the main idea
- Reflect on and analyze other approaches to preaching
- Evaluating and learning from other preachers
- Understand the elements of good and effective preaching
- Learn how to preach to unchurched people

Intended Learning Outcomes

As a result of reading, study, and assessments in this course, the student should be able to:

1. Understand the significance of biblical preaching in our modern times.
2. Comprehend the importance of working with the Holy Spirit and the authoritative Word of God in the sermon preparation and delivery.
3. Develop resources for future sermon development by means of class

lectures, discussions, note taking, reading and observation.

4. Apply the principles of hermeneutics to a biblical text as part of sermon preparation.
5. Develop an expository sermon.
6. Determine the specific applications of a biblical passage.
7. Understand how to aid listeners in following the flow of a sermon.

Late Work

No late work accepted.

Extra Credit

No extra credit accepted.

SECTION 2: SOUTHEASTERN POLICIES

Academic Policies

View this link to see Southeastern's Policies regarding SEU's Mission and Vision Statements, Title IX Statement, Student Services, Class Participation, Official Email, MyFIRE Use, Technical Difficulties, Technical Support, Disability Statement, Academic Honesty, Course Evaluation, Official Withdrawal, Grading Scale, and Netiquette.

SECTION 3: COURSE SCHEDULE

The **Course Schedule** provides a listing of your work in this course. The assessments are listed by Module and include the due dates and point values.

Note: Assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. EST on the due date, unless otherwise noted.

AIM, LEARN, AND APPLY DESCRIPTIONS

Aim



When you see the Aim icon, you will be introduced to topics and ideas that will be covered throughout this module. The AIM will also provide you with a glimpse into your learning objectives and an introduction to this module.

Learn



When you see the Learn icon, all of your reading assignments will be listed and may include additional resources that your instructor is providing to help you complete the activities and assessments for the module.

Apply



When you see the Apply Icon, it will be time to demonstrate your learning for the module. The items here are those in which you'll be graded and may include discussions, activities, assignments, quizzes, exams, and projects.

MODULE 1

XX/XX/XX – XX/XX/XX



- Understand why preaching is important for life change.
- Identify what good and effective preaching involves.
- Define and describe why expository preaching is so important and necessary.
- Recognize the key differences between expository preaching and other styles of preaching.
- Discuss insights learned from Walter Liefeld's notes about effective expository preaching.
- Observe and evaluate an online video recording of a selected preacher.



- Read Biblical Preaching (Robinson): Intro and Chapter 1
- Read Preaching (Keller): Intro, Prologue, and Chapter 1
- Read the document titled, "The Importance of Expository Preaching", by Walter Liefeld.
- Read Exegetical and Hermeneutical Outline: A Guide for Studying
- View Course Introduction video by the course developer, Steve Saccone
- View and evaluate one of the provided sermons/messages, or another sermon/message from the specified preachers



- Module 1 Discussion Forum
 - Due: Saturday, Tuesday

- Points: 25
- Module 1 Sermon Evaluation
 - Due: Tuesday
 - Points: 100
- Module 1 Reflection
 - Due: Tuesday
 - Points: 100

**MODULE 2:
XX/XX/XX – XX/XX/XX**



- Identify how to place the gospel at the center of all preaching, no matter what text is being preached.
- Gain a deeper understanding of the concept of exegesis and begin learning how to exegete a passage from Scripture.
- Recognize the significance of the “big idea,” sermon unity, and theme sentences.
- Observe and evaluate an online video recording of a selected preacher.



- Read Biblical Preaching (Robinson): Chapters 2–3
- Read Preaching (Keller): Chapters 2–3
- Read Communicating for Change (Stanley): Chapters 1–10 (These are short chapters, in a narrative style, that set up the rest of the book.)
- View Face Your Sermon Fears video by the course developer, Steve Saccone
- View and evaluate the provided sermon



- Module 2 Discussion Forum
 - Due: Saturday, Tuesday
 - Points: 25
- Module 2 Sermon Evaluation
 - Due: Tuesday

- Points: 100
- Module 2 Reflection
 - Due: Tuesday
 - Points: 100

**MODULE 3:
XX/XX/XX – XX/XX/XX**



- Articulate the process of writing a sermon, including knowing how to develop an introduction, arrange a message outline, and deliver an effective conclusion.
- Recognize the importance of clarity in sermon preparation and delivery.
- Understand the necessity of cutting out non-critical content in an effort to bring clarity and have greater impact in preaching.
- Observe and evaluate an online video recording of a selected preacher.



- Read Biblical Preaching (Robinson): Chapters 4–6 and Chapter 8
- Read Communicating for Change (Stanley): Chapters 11–13
- View The Art of Organizing Your Sermon video by the course developer, Steve Saccone
- View and evaluate one of the provided sermons/messages, or another sermon/message from the specified preachers



- Module 3 Discussion Forum
 - Due: Saturday, Tuesday
 - Points: 25
- Module 3 Sermon Evaluation
 - Due: Tuesday

- Points: 100

**MODULE 4:
XX/XX/XX – XX/XX/XX**



- Identify how to organize a sermon in a way that engages the audience and makes a deep impact.
- Determine a homiletic idea (theological principle) from a text that can serve as the main idea of a sermon.
- Discuss questions that you find most critical in Rick Warren’s notes on “Preaching to Change Lives.”
- Observe and evaluate an online video recording of a selected preacher.
- Articulate the role of the Holy Spirit in preaching.



- Read the document titled, "Preaching to Change Lives" by Rick Warren
- The following two resources are reading that provides the student with insights into the preaching of Jesus Christ, as well insights about the importance of application in sermon delivery:
 - Read the document, "Christ, The Great Communicator", by John Maxwell.
 - Read the document, "Application - Behavioral Change", by J. Daniel Baumann.
 - Read the document titled “The Person of the Preacher” (Baumann)
 - Read the document titled “The Role of the Holy Spirit in Preaching” (Baumann)
 - View Sir Winston Method video by the course developer, Steve Saccone
 - View and evaluate one of the provided sermons/messages, or another sermon/message from the specified preachers



- Discussion Module 4 Discussion Forum
 - Due: Saturday, Tuesday
 - Points: 25

- Module 4 Sermon Evaluation

- Due: Tuesday

- Points: 100

**MODULE 5:
XX/XX/XX – XX/XX/XX**



- Recognize how to internalize the sermon before you preach it publicly.
- Improve your ability to engage the audience and connect to the cultural context in which you're preaching.
- Prepare and deliver a 15-20 minute expository sermon that includes an introduction and conclusion, at least one illustration, a clear outline, at least one moment of humor, and a thorough unpacking of a biblical text that engages the intended audience.
- Identify the need to lead your audience toward application.



- Read Communicating for Change (Stanley): Chapters 14–15
- Read Preaching (Keller): Chapters 4–5
- Read Biblical Preaching (Robinson): Chapters 7 and 9
- Read the document titled "Ten Preaching Tips"
- View Simplicity and Clarity in Sermon Delivery video by the course developer, Steve Saccone
- View video: Me. We. God. You. Me.



- Module 5 Discussion Forum
 - Due: Saturday, Tuesday
 - Points: 25
- Sermon #1 Presentation
 - Due: Tuesday
 - Points: 100

MODULE 6:
XX/XX/XX – XX/XX/XX



- Recognize how to preach so that others will listen.
- Evaluate the preaching of your peers.
- Complete a self-evaluation of your own preaching.
- Improve your sermon preparation habits to enhance your preaching effectiveness.
- Complete a book critique of the Stanley and Jones text *Communicating for Change*.



- Read *Biblical Preaching* (Robinson): Chapter 10
- Read *Communicating for Change* (Stanley): Chapters 16–17
- Listen to this podcast interview with Steve Carter as he shares insights related to preaching and sermon preparation. Steve is a fantastic preacher and significant influencer, particularly of young and emerging preachers.



- Module 6 Discussion Forum
 - Due: Saturday, Tuesday
 - Points: 25
- Sermon #1 Peer Evaluations
 - Due: Tuesday
 - Points: 100
- Sermon #1 Self-Evaluation
 - Due: Tuesday

- Points: 25
- Book Critique: Communicating for Change
 - Due: Tuesday
 - Points: 100

**MODULE 7:
XX/XX/XX – XX/XX/XX**



- Prepare and deliver your second expository sermon (15–20 minutes), including introduction and conclusion, at least one illustration, a clear outline, at least one moment of humor, and a thorough unpacking of a biblical text that engages the intended audience.
- Recognize what needs to change in your approach to preaching in order to effectively reach people who aren't believers, or who are not religious.
- Improve your ability to arrange and organize your sermon outline or manuscript based off the feedback you've received.



- Read "Reaching Skeptics with the Gospel" (an Interview with Tim Keller)
- Watch and listen to the interview and interaction with Andy Stanley and Robert Moore as they dialogue about leadership, preaching, and cultural engagement
- View video: Me. We. God. You. Me.



- Module 7 Discussion Forum
 - Due: Saturday, Tuesday
 - Points: 25
- Sermon #2 Presentation
 - Due: Tuesday
 - Points: 100

MODULE 8:
XX/XX/XX – XX/XX/XX



- Identify essential elements of a preacher's character and attitude.
- Discuss the role you see preaching, teaching, or other forms of communication playing out in your future.
- Further evaluate the preaching of your peers.
- Complete another self-evaluation of your own preaching.
- Complete a book critique of the Timothy Keller text, Preaching.



- Read Preaching (Keller): Chapters 6–7
- Read Communicating for Change (Stanley): Conclusion and the Q & A appendix
- Listen to this podcast as Carey Nieuwhof interviews Craig Groeschel about preaching



- Module 8 Discussion Forum
 - Due: Saturday, Tuesday
 - Points: 25
- Sermon #2 Peer Evaluations
 - Due: Tuesday
 - Points: 100

- Sermon #2 Self-Evaluation
 - Due: Tuesday
 - Points: 25
- Book Critique: Preaching
 - Due: Tuesday
 - Points: 100

SECTION 4: ASSESSMENTS

Discussion Forums

Description

Discussion forum participation will be required throughout the course.

- Your initial posts should be no more than 300 words, and should not be less than 150 words. Initial posts are due by Saturday, 11:59 PM EST.
- Your peer response posts should not exceed 150 words. Two response posts are due by Tuesday, 11:59 PM EST.

Total Possible Points

200

Online Sermon Evaluations

Description

You'll observe and evaluate online video recordings of a selected sermons/messages.

Total Possible Points

400

SECTION 4: ASSESSMENTS

Reflections

Description

You'll write or record reflections in Modules 1-2. A written paper or video option is provided.

Total Possible Points

200

Book Critiques

Description

Two book critiques will be required, which consist of the following:

1. A summary of the book's thesis and major concepts
2. A critical interaction identifying a few areas of agreement and disagreement (or limitations of the work) with the author including the rational basis for agreement and disagreement with each point (Use footnotes to cite your reference using the Turabian format.)

Total Possible Points

200

Sermon 1

Description

Prepare and deliver a 15 minute expository sermon that includes a thoughtful, engaging introduction and conclusion with application (i.e. what do you want the audience to do in light of your sermon); the sermon needs at least one illustration or metaphor, a clear structure/outline, at least one moment of humor, and an accurate and appropriate teaching of one core biblical text that engages the intended audience in a way that relates to their life.

The following assignments are in this category:

- Sermon #1 Presentation
- Sermon #1 Peer Evaluations
- Sermon #1 Self-Evaluation

Total Possible Points

225

Sermon 2

Description

Prepare and deliver a 15 minute expository sermon that includes a thoughtful, engaging introduction and conclusion with application (i.e. what do you want the audience to do in light of your sermon); the sermon needs at least one illustration or metaphor, a clear structure/outline, at least one moment of humor, and an accurate and appropriate teaching of one core biblical text that engages the intended audience in a way that relates to their life.

The following assignments are in this category:

- Sermon #2 Presentation
- Sermon #2 Peer Evaluations
- Sermon #2 Self-Evaluation

Total Possible Points

225