

Syllabus for Preaching (EP 154)

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This course is designed to acquaint students with basic preaching skills. While various methodologies will be discussed, students will spend most of their time and energy on sermon preparation and delivery. Preaching to peers with an active, engaged feedback loop stands at the heart of the teaching methodology of this class.

Student Learning Objectives

During this class students will be expected to:

1. Acquire specific skills in developing both the function and focus statements of a homily.
2. Practice using exegetical skills in the development of a eucharistic homily.
3. Develop skills in proclaiming the Gospel through both the liturgical proclamation of the Gospel and developing skills for homiletical commentary on the Gospel of the day.
4. Write at least 8 (eight to twelve minute) homilies, and preach at least six either during chapel, during class, and if at all possible, one in their home congregation in the diocese.
5. Articulate the differences between diaconal and priestly preaching in the assembly.
6. Develop their own methodology for preaching preparation working off one of the models presented in the texts or optional readings

Evaluation

1. Function and focus statements assignment 5 points each
2. Each of two exegetical assignments 5 points each
3. Each preached homily 10 points each
4. Not preached homily 5 points
5. Methodology assignment: 5 points
6. Attendance one point per class session

Required Texts

Boyle, Gregory. *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*. New York: Free Press, 2010.

Thomas, Frank A. *How to Preach a Dangerous Sermon*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2018.

Duck, Ruth. *Finding Words For Worship*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1995.

Monschau, Michael (ed). *Preaching the Double Feast: Homiletics for Eucharistic Worship*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2006.

Highly Recommended But Not Required Texts

8/18/18

Brueggemann, Walter. *The Prophetic Imagination*, 2nd ed. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2001.

Clader, Linda. *Voicing the Vision: Imagination and Prophetic Preaching*. Harrisburg: Morehouse Publishing, 2003.

Davis, Kenneth G. and Jorge L Presmanes. *Preaching and Culture in Latino Congregations*. Chicago: Liturgical Training Publications, 2000.

Taylor, Barbara Brown. *The Preaching Life*. Cambridge: Cowley Publications, 1993.

Pre Week One Read *Tattoos on the Heart*: Pay attention to the ways in which Greg Boyle uses a vivid visual story to communicate about a theological truth.

Week One August 18

Read *Preaching at the Double Feast* Monschau chapter by Aug. 25

Topics for Class: Proclaiming the Gospel, Knowing Your Congregation, and Writing Function and Focus Statements

Week Two August 25

Assignment to be turned in on the 25th: Function and Focus Statement Assignment 1

Finish *Preaching at the Double Feast*

Prepare Focus and Function Statement Assignment 2

Topics for Class: Prophetic/Moral Imagination, Methodologies for Homily Preparation, Exegeting for Preaching, Using a Microphone

Week Three September 8

Assignments Due for Class on the 8th: Exegetical Practice One, Homily One, Focus and Function Statement 2

Reading Assignment Read *How to Preach a Dangerous Sermon* by September 22

Topic for Class: Preaching Homily One (a full text homily)

Week Four September 22

Assignment Due for Class on the 22nd: Exegetical Assignment Two and Homily Two

Read the first five chapters of *Finding Words for Worship* by September 29

Topic for Class: More Methodology and Preaching Homily Two (a full text homily)

Week Five September 29th

Assignment Due for Class on the 29th: Homily Three (a full text homily)

Finish *Finding Words for Worship* by March 24

Topics for Class: Preaching Homily Three

Week Six October 13

Assignment Due for Class on the 13th: Homily Four (a full text homily)

Topics for Class: Preaching Homily Four

Week Seven October 27

Assignment Due for the 27th: Homily Five (an outline homily)

Topics for Class: Preaching Homily Five

Week Eight November 10

Assignment Due for November 10th: Homily Six (an outline homily)

Topics for Class: Preaching Homily Six

Week Nine November 17

Assignment Due for November 17th: Homily Seven (a no notes homily)

Topics for Class: Preaching Homily Seven

Week Ten December 8

**Assignment Due for December 8th: Homily Eight (preacher's choice) and Methodology
Assignment**