



PR 601

Interpreting Scripture for Teaching and Preaching

Semester: Fall, 2014

Days: Tuesday – 1pm – 3:45pm

Room: A – 1085 - 1

Number of credits: 3

Prerequisite:

PR 501 or OT 501 or Equivalent

Instructor: Terry Young

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Office By appointment
hours:

Course Description:

This course seeks to train students in the methods of exegesis of the various genres of the Bible for the purpose of preaching and teaching. Students will develop an intimacy with the core concepts of interpretation and test their skills in the preparation of portions of scripture for these purposes.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

- To learn how to do practical exegesis with excellence
- To provide concepts and skills that will form the basis for future courses in preaching and teaching
- To master the core concepts related to the sound interpretation of scripture
- To practice a process of preparation focusing on three biblical genres using a template that will guide future teaching and preaching practice
- To emerge from this course with greater confidence in rightly handling the word of God
- To emerge with greater humility regarding the task of interpreting scripture
- To so immerse yourself in three specific texts of scripture that your heart and mind are altered, changed, transformed. This is the objective of learning to preach the gospel to ourselves before we ever preach to others!

Important Dates:

First day of classes: September 3, 2014

Registration revision period: September 14, 2014

Last day to request revised examination: October 27, 2014

Last day to withdraw from course: November 12, 2014

Last day to apply for time extension for coursework: November 24, 2014

Last day of classes: December 9, 2014

Final Exam:
December 9 – 2:30pm
Location: A 1085 - 1

Texts and Reading

Students will read and come to class prepared to discuss this text:

Greidanus, Sydney (1988). *The modern preaching and the ancient text: Interpreting and preaching biblical literature*. Grand Rapids: MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing.

Students will also interact with preaching in an audio and manuscript form throughout this course – with discussion and analysis during class sessions.

A Reader will also be provided with a selection of key articles on the work and art of interpreting scripture as it relates to preaching and teaching.

Course Requirements

Students will complete three papers (following an interpretive template) on the following:

Interpreting a Biblical Epistle –	Due October 7 , 2014	25%
Interpreting a Biblical Gospel –	Due October 28 , 2014	25%
Interpreting a Biblical Narrative –	Due December 2 , 2014	25%
ALSO		
Concept Mastery Exam** –	Due December 9 , 2014	15%
Reading & Class Interaction -	Due December 9 , 2014	10%

* Interpretive Template will be provided on the first day of class and on Moodle

** Concept Mastery Exam – A full overview of concepts to be mastered will be provided during the introductory weeks of the course

Submission Requirements

All work must be submitted in 12 point word-processed form, double spaced between lines. Graphics or embellishments are not acceptable unless the syllabus instructions call for creative formatting. Cover sheets featuring the student's name, the name of the paper, date of submission, course name and number and the instructor's name are required. Footnotes must be used wherever and as often as any secondary sources are used. Wherever footnotes are used they must conform to seminary academic requirements. Students may choose to include handwritten work along with and in addition to final word-processed work if they so desire.

All assignments are to be turned into the professor via Moodle on the due date. Submission of hard copy work is also permitted but must be turned in class at the due date. Papers will be returned via Moodle or email or through on campus mail if a mail box number is included in the right hand corner of the cover page of the paper.

Attendance Policy

The nature of the class is such that attendance is mandatory at all classes. Students will interact with the instructor, the material, and with fellow class-mates regularly – and this interaction is crucial to the design of this course.

Academic Guidelines

Add / Drop Policy

Students wishing to add a course should refer to the current academic calendar for the last day to officially enter the class. Students intending to withdraw from a course must complete the relevant Registration Revision form. The dates by which students may voluntarily withdraw from a course without penalty are contained in the Calendar of Events in the academic calendar.

Late Submission of Work

All papers and assignments have set due dates. **If work is submitted past the due date there will be a late submission penalty of one point for every two days that pass beyond the due date. So a paper worth 20 points of your final grade will lose one point every two days that go by beyond the due date. If you score an 18/20 on your paper and you are six days late, your score will be reduced by six points to 15/20. Don't be late!!**

Students may not turn in coursework after the date of the scheduled final examination for the course unless they have received permission for a "Course Extension." Alternative times for final examinations cannot be scheduled without prior approval. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office two weeks prior to examination week (noted as the "Last Day for Alternative Exam or Course Extension Requests" on the academic calendar). Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Plagiarism*

Ambrose maintains a zero tolerance policy on plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from Ambrose. Even unintentional plagiarism is to be avoided at all costs. Students are expected to be familiar with the policy statements in the current academic calendar and the student handbook that deal with plagiarism, academic dishonesty (cheating), and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the appropriate Dean.

* A new means of "originality" testing is now in place at Ambrose and all papers will pass through this system so cite carefully all quoted materials. Papers will be granted one pass through this system in order for the student to ensure originality is honoured in their work.

Grading

Instructors are responsible to grade all course assignments and submit a final grade for each student taking the course for credit by the date assigned by the Registrar. The grading scales for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Grade Points</u>
A+	Excellent	4.00
A		4.00
A-		3.70
B+	Good	3.30
B		3.00
B-		2.70
C+	Satisfactory	2.30
C		2.00
C-		1.70
D+	Poor	1.30
D	Minimal Pass	1.00
F	Failure	0.00
AE	Aegrotat	No grade points
AU	Audit	No grade points
P	Pass	No grade points
W	Withdrawal	No grade points
FR	Failed, Repeated	No grade points
R	Passed, Repeated	No grade points
TX	Time Extension Given	Temporary grade

Percentage Equivalent Table:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>% Equivalent</u>
A+		97-100
A	Excellent	94-96
A-		90-93
B+	Good	87-89
B		84-86
B-		80-83
C+	Satisfactory	77-79
C		74-76
C-		70-73
D+	Poor	67-69
D	Minimal Pass	60-66
F	Failure	0-59

Policies:

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (Cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, it is highly recommended that they forward all messages from the Ambrose account to the other account.

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may to enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty. These courses will not appear on the student's transcript. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a Request to Withdraw from a Course by the **Withdrawal Deadline**, please consult the List of Important Dates. Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. A grade of "W" will appear on the student's transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a **Revised Examination** Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to engage in electronically-enabled activities unrelated to the class during a class session. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Please do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "**Course Extension**" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control".

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar in writing within 30 days of

receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal to review final grades. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

Other

Any added features in the syllabus are optional. You may or may not wish to include elements such as a bibliography, reading list, schedule of lectures/topics, or reporting form.

References & Resources

Interpreting Scripture for Teaching and Preaching

- Edwards, J. K. (2009). *Deep preaching: Creating sermons that go beyond the superficial*. Nashville, TN: B & H Publishing Group.
- Fee, G. & Stuart, D. (2003). *How to read the bible for all its worth*. (3rd Ed.). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing.
- Greidanus, S. (1988). *The modern preacher and the ancient text: Interpreting and preaching biblical literature*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans.
- Kaiser, Walter C. (1981). *Toward an exegetical theology: Biblical exegesis for preaching and teaching*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.
- Liefeld, W. (1984). *New testament exposition: From text to sermon*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing.
- Osborne, G. (2006). *The hermeneutical spiral: A comprehensive introduction to biblical interpretation*. (2nd Ed.). Intersity Press.
- Porter, S. E. & Stovell, B. Eds. (2012). *Biblical hermeneutics: Five views*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP.
- Quicke, M. J. (2003). *360 degree preaching: Hearing, speaking, and living the word*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.
- Robinson, H. (2002). *Biblical preaching: The development and delivery of expository messages*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House.
- Stott, J. (1982). *Between two worlds: The art of preaching in the twentieth century*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans.
- Thistleton, A. C. (1980). *The two horizons: New testament hermeneutics and philosophical description*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans.
- Ward, T. (2009). *Words of life: Scripture as the living and active word of God*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP.

This is a sampling of texts that address the interpretation process – by no means exhaustive. The course on Advanced Hermeneutics deals with the classic works on the art and science of interpretation.