

PR 701 Expository Preaching
Canadian Theological Seminary
Winter 2005
Instructor: Peter Ralph, D.Min.

SYLLABUS

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course teaches the basic principles of “bridging” from biblical exegesis to expository preaching, as well as the practical steps by which to develop the constituent parts of a sermon’s content. Consideration is also given to the basic principles which guide the effective delivery of the sermon. Opportunities are provided for each student to practice the principles and skills taught. This course assumes that the student already has the exegetical and hermeneutical skills which are taught in Interpreting Scripture for Preaching and Teaching (PR601).

2. COURSE OBJECTIVES

* Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

Describe and practice a step-by-step procedure for the construction of an expository message.

Give evidence of the development of practical skills in the preparation and delivery of an expository sermon.

Sympathetically and constructively evaluate the expository preaching of other persons, as well as his/her own efforts.

3. COURSE OUTLINE

The Skills Necessary for Expository Preaching

* Lectures and Tutorials

1 Introduction to Expository Preaching

2 The Exegetical Foundations for an Expository Message

3 The Homiletical Development of an Expository Message

4 The Oral Delivery of an Expository Message

The Practice of Expository Preaching

* Preaching practicum

1 Student’s First Message

2 Student’s Second Message

4. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attend the lectures (mandatory) and the preaching practicum, (mandatory) and participate in the discussions and evaluative process. (mandatory)

Written Work:

Prepare two expository messages, following the exegetical and expository method taught in the class.

- The first message is to be from a passage from the New Testament epistles (Romans to Jude) which the student has neither studied extensively nor preached before.
- The second message is to be taken from the Gospels, (Matthew to John.)
- * The written material to be submitted is due on the day each student preaches.
- * Written material must be submitted in typewritten form.
- * The written material must include the following four separate sections (please note: submit these as separate and distinct units):

A. A complete set of exegetical notes on the passage (not to exceed ten pages), which must include:

- A complete record of your *own work* using each of the exegetical steps taught previously in Interpreting Scripture for Preaching and Teaching (PR601) and reviewed in this class. These notes will include (1) notes taken from at least three of the highest caliber commentaries on the passage
(2) new or changed understandings of the chosen text based on the exegetical work done
(3) The reasons why you've come to a particular conclusion on debated yet central exegetical issues, if and when they occur in your text and are relevant to the message you are crafting.
(4) A summary, in one brief paragraph, of the meaning of the text you have chosen.

- B. A complete set of bridging notes on the passage which must include:
- (1) The rough draft (i.e., the sheets of scratch paper or rough word-processed work) working through of the exegetical big idea, the homiletical big idea, and the main points of the message.
 - (2) The final form of the exegetical big idea, the homiletical big idea, and the main points; and a defense, if needed, of why these final forms are the best statements out of the earlier ideas developed in the rough draft process.
 - (3) A statement of the purpose and desired response to the message, and a statement of the strategy used in the message to accomplish this purpose.

** Note: The message will be addressed to fellow students in seminary; this is the audience on which you are to focus your messages, not a hypothetical audience.*

- (4) An analysis of a contemporary issue, need, question, etc., to which in the student's judgment, this passage speaks, and a brief rationale for this connection. (one paragraph total) This is a more reflective and subjective section.

- C. A complete message outline for the passage which must be typed and follow the format and style presented in class
- (1) A message title.
 - (2) A word-for-word text for the introduction of the message. Include in it where you state the homiletical big idea, identified with the letters HBI.
 - (3) A detailed outline for the message, including points, sub-points, explanations, illustrations, and major transition statements.
 - (4) A word-for-word text for the conclusion of the message.

Preaching:

Preach the previously prepared expository messages in no more than 20 minutes to the rest of the class.

- * A preaching schedule will be developed during the first part of the course.

Evaluation: Contribute to and receive the written and oral evaluation of the expository messages preached by yourself and other class members.

- * Evaluation sheets will be provided for this purpose.

Submit a written evaluation of your own message after being viewed on videotape by yourself outside of class time.

- * Evaluation sheets will be provided for this purpose

- * The student is responsible to provide a blank VHS videotape at the beginning of the class in which he/she is preaching. Each student will be videotaped for their own review after the class.
- * While not given a separate mark, failure to complete this written evaluation will result in the lowering of a student's final grade or an "incomplete" for the final grade

Reading:

Read and digest 600 pages from recommended texts and submit a three page statement of the impact of the reading on the student.

COURSE EVALUATION

The division of marks is as follows:

Participation and reading	10%
First message's written material	30%
First message's oral delivery	15%
Second message's written material	30%
Second message's oral delivery	15%

The marks assigned will be based on the clarity, rigor, and completeness with which the course requirements are met.

The letter grades given are explained in the *Canadian Theological Seminary Catalogue*.

Students should understand that both objective achievement *and* improvement of skill will be taken into account in assigning marks.

Unless a calculating error has been made in a mark, students who request that a mark be reconsidered must realize that this involves a re-evaluation of the work, and so may also result in lowering or confirming a mark instead of raising it.

- * See the *Canadian Theological Seminary Catalogue* for an explanation of the procedures in such a case.

5. COURSE POLICIES

Late assignments:

All assignments are due the *beginning* of the class period on the date due. All Written work is due at the beginning of the class in which the student preaches.

Any alterations in preaching schedule will be arranged between individual students, and the instructor notified one week in advance. The instructor will not arrange such alterations.

Format for all written material:

All written material must be submitted in word-processed form.

If any written piece of work does not conform to any of the guidelines in this syllabus, it will be returned to the student to be redone.

- * The grade of a piece of work returned to the student will be dropped in conformity with late-paper regulations.
- * There will be a limited period of time allowed for resubmission of the written assignment.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

The following are recommended texts:

New Revised Standard Version, 1989.

Duduit, Michael, *Handbook of Contemporary Preaching*. Broadman, 1992.

Robinson, Haddon W. *Biblical Preaching: The Development and Delivery of Expository Messages*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1980.

The following are some supplementary texts on expository preaching:

Greidanus, Sidney. *The Preacher and the Ancient Text: Interpreting and Preaching Biblical Literature*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.

Piper, John. *The Supremacy of God in Preaching*.

Richards, Ramesh. *Scripture Sculpture*. Baker, 1995.

Stott, John R.W. *Between Two Worlds: The Art of Preaching in the Twentieth Century*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982.

If the student's weakness is in oral delivery skills, we recommend:

Adams, Jay. *Pulpit Speech*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1976, 110-48.

Litfin, A. Dwayne. *Public Speaking: A Handbook for Christians*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981, esp. 306-25.

If the student's weakness is in exegetical skills, we recommend:

Fee, G. *New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1983.

Fee, G. and D. Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for all Its Worth*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1982.

Kaiser Jr., Walter C. *Toward and Exegetical Theology: Biblical Exegesis for Preaching and Teaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981.

McKnight, S., ed. *Introducing New Testament Interpretation*. Guides to New Testament Exegesis 1. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989.

Osborne, Grant R. *The Hermeneutical Spiral: A Comprehensive Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1991.

Schreiner, Thomas R. *Interpreting the Pauline Epistles*. Guides to New Testament Exegesis 5. Grand Rapids: Baker

Academic Policies Relating to this Course

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to the academic policies of CTS as are stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar and Catalogue.

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.

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." 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 and Academic Dishonesty Policy.

The seminary is committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breeches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the seminary. 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, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean.