From the catalogue: 2 Prerequisite: PT506. This course addresses total communication for pastors with an emphasis on preaching philosophy and style, textual exposition, and sermon structure. Written and oral, verbal and non-verbal communications are included. Aspects of oral communication include preaching, extemporaneous speaking, story telling, vocabulary development, elocution, and elements of drama.

Course meeting dates and times: March 22-23, April 26-27, May 3-4 Friday meetings from 6.30 – 8.30pm. Saturday meetings from 8.30am – 4.30pm. RTS Atlanta campus

Course purpose: This course is designed to assist students in learning theory and practicing communication methods that will make them effective communicators of God’s word in a Biblical/Reformed way.

Course Goals:

1. To enhance the student’s understanding of oral communication skills
2. To foster confidence in God’s word for preaching to the people of God with the intent of seeing them saved, sanctified, comforted, and encouraged in their walk with Christ.
3. To enable students to experience and evaluate various preachers including one another so as to decide which preaching method best suits a given passage and/or personality.
4. To further understand just what is meant when we speak of “being called to preach God’s word.”
5. To introduce through an overview the rich history of preaching through the ages beginning with Moses and the prophets.

Course Materials:

Required books:
Brian Chapell. Christ Centered Preaching (Grand Rapids, Baker Academic, 2005)

Recommended but not required:
Albert Martin, Preaching and the Holy Spirit (Grand Rapids, Reformation Heritage Books, 2011)

In addition, the professor will distribute various articles and play certain videos that are deemed through their good and bad examples to be of value in learning how to become an effective communicator.
Course requirements:

1. Consistent and punctual attendance at all class sessions is expected. Absences must be approved in advance by the professor and will require makeup work.
2. A book report on each of the required books is required. Each book report will outline the book and state which part of the book the student found most helpful and why.
3. Students will write a one-page analytical report on videos/articles used in class.
4. Students will make regular class presentations of all aspects of church communication.
5. A final examination will be given. Students who have a grade of A or B at the end of the semester may choose to be exempt from taking the final.

Course outline:

Introduction to the course
What communication really is
How communication really works
When communication does not work
The Call to Preach Christ: Internal, External, Ecclesiastical
Building Trust is the First Key to Successful Communication: How do I do that?
The Credibility Crisis in Modern Preaching
Reading the Beatitudes: What Jesus Teaches Us About Effective Communication
The Speech Communication Process
Methods of Speaking
Inviting Dr. Aristotle into Your Life
Six Principles for Effective Verbal Communication
Acts 2: Was Peter An Effective Communicator?
Body Language: Using Your Body to Communicate
Voice and Voice Care Issues
Eat This Book!
Become a Compassionate Communicator
The 100 Most Frequently Mispronounced English Words
Reading Holy Scripture in Public Worship: Principles and Practice
Public Prayers: Let’s Eat Some Catpie!
Beginnings and Endings
Crossing the Application Bridge
Types of Sermons
Finding Your Natural Type
Preaching the Book: Using the Lectio Continua Approach in Sermon Planning
The Place of Prayer in Preparation
Getting the Text in Focus: Seeing What Really Is There
The Bridge from the Text to the Sermon
Creating Sermon Divisions
Illustrations
**Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: 4PT508 Communication I  
Professor: Leslie Holmes  
Campus: Atlanta

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em><em>MDiv</em> Student Learning Outcomes</em>*</th>
<th><strong>Rubric</strong></th>
<th><strong>Mini-Justification</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>By its nature, this course in communications will call for students to articulate, both orally and in writing, important aspects of communicating the Gospel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Students will learn how to read audibly and with effectiveness as well as how to communicate the truth that is found fully in the Scriptures of the OT and NT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The driving force behind much of the class will be to understand the uniqueness of Reformed theology for communicating the Gospel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Learning how to understand, evaluate, and communicate the Gospel is an important means of the student’s growth in Christ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>To the extent that students bring a background of, or express an interest in, the influence of preaching at home and abroad this class will facilitate growth for students in this area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Focus will be given to learning how to winsomely communicate God’s eternal truth in this class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Preach</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Learning to communicate so that their preaching will be more effective is a key component of this class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Worship</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>We will give time to learning how worship and preaching go hand-in-hand in a Reformed setting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shepherd</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Consideration of how preaching and pastoral care intersect will be part of the course.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.*
and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.

| Church/World | Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | Minimal | Some consideration of how preaching impacts various cultures will be part of this course. |

Date: Spring 2013