COURSE SYLLABUS – PT506
Reformed Theological Seminary
5422 Clinton Boulevard
Jackson, MS 39209
601-923-1600

Spring 2016
Introduction to Preaching
Cell: 256-509-9284
Professor: Charles M. Wingard, D. Min.
E-mail: cwingard@rts.edu
Teaching Assistant: Adam Parker
E-mail: aparker@rts.edu
Time: Tuesday 3-5
Class Hours: 2
Syllabus Revision Date: October 29, 2015

COURSE PURPOSE

An introduction to the preparation and delivery of sermons.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Formation of the minister’s character.
2. Cultivation of the minister’s preaching gifts.
3. Establishing life-long devotional habits.
4. Memorizing scriptures concerning the minister and his work.

COURSE TEXTS

Required Texts:

The Bible.


Readings in Preaching and Pastoral Theology:


**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. **ATTENDANCE** — Class attendance is mandatory. If a student anticipates an unavoidable absence, he should notify the instructor in advance. Each hour of unexcused absence subjects the student to reduction of his final grade by one-half of a letter grade. Students missing one or more session (for any reason other than sickness) may either submit an additional, compensatory assignment [determined by the instructor] or choose to receive a half letter grade reduction of their final grade for each hour missed. In the event of a planned absence, written work and memory verses must be submitted to the teaching assistant electronically by the start time of the class missed. In the event of absence due to sickness, arrangements must still be made with the TA to turn in those assignments that are due on the day that they are due.

2. **READING ASSIGNMENTS AND QUIZZES** — Textbook assignments must be read prior to class. Each week when a reading assignment is due, a *reading quiz will be given at the beginning* of that class and include Bible memory verses.

3. **PAPER FORMATTING** — All papers must be typed double-spaced using 12 pt. Times New Roman font and include page numbers.

   Each assignment must included the following:
   
   a. Name(s)
   b. Course
   c. Date
   
   d. Assignment (e.g., Book Review 1)

   Improperly formatted work will result in a full letter grade reduction for the assignment. See the bottom of the next page for an example of what this formatting is to look like.

4. **EXAMINATIONS** — A. First/ Mid-term Examination, March 1

   B. Second/ Final Examination, TBD

   Examinations will include Bible Memory Verses randomly selected from the course outline below.

5. **GRADES** –

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bible Memory Verses and Reading Quizzes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Reviews and Reading Report</td>
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<td>Examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sermon Exercises</td>
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Sermon Manuscript (Draft and Final) and Preaching Lab Sermon 30%

You will submit two (3) Book Reviews for this course. Each review must be three (3) pages (no more, no less) and properly formatted.

Bible Memory Verses and Reading Quizzes will be administered together promptly at 3:00. If you are late for class, you will receive a zero. If you plan to be absent and your absence is excused, you must arrange with the TA to take your reading quiz and Bible Memory in advance. If you are absent because of sickness you must e-mail your Memory verse to the TA before class and take the reading quiz at the earliest date possible.

You will find your Reading Report at the end of this syllabus. Your report is due May 2.
6. GRADING SCALE -

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<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
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7. READING WEEK - There will be no class on Tuesday, March 8.

8. DEADLINES - All course materials must be submitted at the beginning of class on the date due. Hard copies only; only submit work electronically to the teaching assistant on dates when you will be absent from class. Late work will be penalized a full letter grade each day thereafter.

9. ETIQUETTE – Gentlemen may not wear caps or hats in the classroom.

10. ELECTRONIC DEVICES - Computers and tablets are not permitted in the classroom. Cell phones should be turned off and put away. Voice recorders are not permitted in class.

11. DISCLAIMER - The instructor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus during the semester. Students are expected to keep up with syllabus revisions, which are posted online. Late work because an out of date syllabus was consulted will not be excused.

12. OFFICE HOURS – Monday through Thursday, by appointment or whenever the door is open.

COURSE OUTLINE

January 26: Preparing to Preach and Explaining the Text
   A. Charles, 9-67, 108-156
   B. Reading Quiz and Bible Memory Verse: 2 Timothy 2:24-26
   C. Sermon Text: On your reading quiz, you will identify your preaching text for the semester (e.g., Romans 5:1-5). Think carefully about your selection prior to class.

February 2: The Sermon Proposition and Homiletical Outline
   A. Charles, 68-77, 95-105
B. Work Due: Sermon Exercise 1 – In a four page paper (no more, no less), identify the fallen condition focus of your passage, and explain your text by careful exegesis. Any references to the original languages must be translated. Your paper should be accessible to the members of your congregation because your exposition of the text is the foundation of your sermon, and all other components of the sermon serve it. Identify at least three commentaries you will consult as you prepare your sermon, one of which must be a technical commentary.

C. Reading Quiz and Bible Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 4:12-13

February 9: Applications, Illustrations, and Appealing to the Conscience
   A. Charles, 86-90
   B. Work Due: Sermon Exercise 2
      (1) Submit a homiletical outline for your preaching text. Your outline must not exceed 150 words, and will include your (a) Fallen Condition Focus, (b) main proposition, (c) main points, and (d) subpoints. At the end your outline include your word count.
      (2) Add the components of your outline to your exposition and submit your developing sermon manuscript.
   C. Reading Quiz and Bible Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 4:14-16

February 16: Transitions, Introductions, and Conclusions
   A. Charles, 78-85, 91-94
   B. Work Due: Sermon Exercise 3 – Resubmit your sermon manuscript and add one application and illustration for each main point.
   D. Reading Quiz and Bible Memory: 2 Corinthians 4:2

February 23: Draft Sermon Manuscript
   A. Work Due: Draft Sermon Manuscript – Submit you draft sermon manuscript, which now includes transitions, introduction, and conclusion
   B. Reading Quiz and Bible Memory: 2 Timothy 3:16-17

March 1: MID-TERM EXAM

March 8: NO CLASS

March 15: Lecture and Book Discussion

March 22: Preaching Lab

Preaching Lab Instructions:

1. Preaching Lab meets in the chapel.
2. Sermons must not exceed 20 minutes.
3. You must wear suit and tie when you preach.
4. You may not bring your manuscript in the pulpit. A 150 word homiletical outline is permitted. You will submit a copy of your homiletical outline to me before you enter the pulpit. At the end of your outline, note your word count.

March 29: Preaching Lab

April 5: Preaching Lab  
Work Due: Book Review 2 - Three page review of *Why Johnny Can’t Preach*

April 12: Preaching Lab

April 19: Preaching Lab

April 26: Lecture and Book Discussion  
Work Due: Book Review 3 - Three page review of *The Faithful Preacher*

May 2: SUBMIT YOUR FINAL MANUSCRIPT, HOMILETIC OUTLINE, AND READING REPORT.  
(Include with your sermon manuscript your graded draft manuscript and your graded Preaching Lab Feedback Sheet).

May 3-5: Final Examination (TBA)
READING REPORT
(Submit on May 2.)

Name (Print): ________________________________

I have read On Preaching in its entirety. Yes ____ No ____

I have read The Priority of Preaching in its entirety. Yes ____ No ____

I have read The Faithful Preacher in its entirety. Yes ____ No ____

I have read Why Johnny Can’t Preach in its entirety. Yes ____ No ____

(No percentages; no partial credit.)

Signature: ________________________________

Date: ________________________________