PT 5175 Syllabus

Spring 2020

Reformed Theological Seminary

**Preaching Lab IIB**

**Meeting Information**

Meeting Time: Thursdays, 1:00PM–5:00 PM (February 4 – May 6, though we will likely finish before this date)

Meeting Place:

**Contact Information**

Prof.: D. Blair Smith (office: lower level in E building)

Office Phone: 704-366-5066 (x4223)

Email: [bsmith@rts.edu](mailto:bsmith@rts.edu)

Hours: Tuesdays 1:00 PM–3:00 PM and by appointment

**Course Description**

This course provides preaching opportunities in order to continue to develop exegetical and preaching skills. The student will be required to preach expository sermons from both an OT and NT narrative text, a baptism sermon, and a wedding homily.

Prerequisites: Introduction to Preaching, Communication I, Preaching Lab I, Communication II.

**Course Objectives**

1. To get further practice in expository preaching through the preaching of two narrative texts.
2. To strengthen the use of the original languages in sermon preparation.
3. To reinforce how the message of the Bible is relevant to people's lives as a significant part of preaching.
4. To be able to present a wedding homily as if in a wedding standing before the couple.
5. To be able to draw out the meaning and significance of baptism in a sermon.
6. To reinforce good pulpit presence and delivery.
7. To practice reading a large portion of Scripture with good diction.

**Required Textbook**

Students are required to read Ralph Davis, *The Word Became Fresh* (Christian Focus, 2006) in its entirety. On the last day of class, you will communicate the number of pages you have read.

**Requirements and Evaluation**

1. Class attendance and discussion

You will be expected to attend every class in order to participate in your classmates’ sermon experience and evaluation. Unexcused absences will adversely affect your final grade. Please be on time.

1. Sermons
2. Narrative Exposition (OT): The student will be *assigned* a specific narrative passage from the Old Testament to preach an expository sermon of 20-25 minutes. Besides preaching the text the student will turn in the following:

A full typed manuscript, though he is free to preach from just notes.

If you have taken Hebrew, a paragraph summary of your work on the Hebrew, including how the Hebrew helped you understand the text better. It is not expected that the student will do a full exegesis of the Hebrew, but key verses or key words should be examined.

1. Narrative Exposition (NT): The second sermon will be from an assigned text from a Gospel. It will be an expository sermon of 20-25 minutes. Besides preaching the text the student will turn in the following:

* An outline consisting of the main points and transitional statements, though he is free to preach from an outline or manuscript.

1. Baptism sermon: Choosing his own text, the student will preach a sermon that draws out the meaning and significance of baptism. Time allotted for this sermon is 5-7 minutes.
2. Wedding homily: The student will preach a homily appropriate for a marriage ceremony, explaining the significance of a Christian marriage or a marriage based on Christ and/or Biblical principles. A brief word clarifying the nature of the Gospel can be included, but is not required. The homily will not be delivered behind the pulpit. Time allotted for this sermon will be 7-10 minutes.
3. Evaluation of sermons
   1. The student will be evaluated by the professor and by fellow students through the use of an evaluation form.
   2. The student will watch the video of the Old Testament sermon and write a short paragraph of what he learned from watching the video. Any observation can be included but the focus should be on sermon delivery.
4. Oral Scripture Reading

Since students are preaching from narrative texts, part of the sermon will be to read the narrative text, and this will provide practice in the oral reading of Scripture. No actual grade will be assigned but an obviously poor job will potentially adversely affect the student’s final grade.

1. Grades

OT Sermon 25%

NT Sermon 30%

Baptism Sermon 15%

Wedding Homily 15%

Student Evaluations 10%

Reading/OT video 5%



**Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes**

**With Mini-Justification**

Course: PT5175

Professor: D. Blair Smith

Campus: Charlotte

Date: Spring 2021

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| **MDiv Student Learning Outcomes** | | **Rubric**   * Strong * Moderate * Minimal * None | **Mini-Justification** |
| **Articulation**  **(oral & written)** | Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. | Strong | Student must integrate hermeneutics, biblical exposition, theological themes, historical information, cultural familiarity, and verbal skills in communicating the message of Scripture. |
| **Scripture** | Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.) | Strong | Student must understand the original meaning of Scripture through the use of the original language and be able to apply it in preaching the text. |
| **Reformed Theology** | Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards. | Moderate | Texts have theological messages that must be communicated to God's people. |
| **Sanctification** | Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification. | Moderate | Preaching itself is a sanctifying process that should remind the student of complete dependence on God. |
| **Worldview** | Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | Minimal | Communicating a biblical worldview is a goal of preaching and so should be a desire of the preacher. |
| **Winsomely Reformed** | Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.) | Moderate | Emphasizes a winsome approach to preaching, including the presentation of the truth of the gospel and the word of God to those who may not agree. |
| **Pastoral Ministry** | Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both churched and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians. | Strong | There are specific opportunities to preach the meaning of Scripture to heart and mind. |