Communication for Women (PT6105)

Dr. Richard P. Belcher, Jr.

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**Course Description:**

This course is a combination of lectures and lab, which is why it is scheduled on Tuesdays from 1 PM – 5 PM. There will be lectures on how to prepare a Bible Study and a Major Address to assist women to be better teachers and speakers. There will be opportunity in class to present a Bible study and a Major Address. The class will only meet until 5 PM when time is needed for the presentations of the Bible Studies or the Major Addresses.

There are no prerequisites for this class.

**Special Lecturer Sarah Ivill**

Sarah Ivill (ThM, Dallas Theological Seminary) has been leading, teaching, or writing women’s Bible studies since she was eighteen.  She has served at the Howard G. Hendricks Center for Christian Leadership, in Bible Study Fellowship, and as Director of Women’s Ministry in the local church, among other leadership positions. Sarah is the author of *Hebrews: His Hope, An Anchor for Our Souls*; *Revelation: Let the One Who Is Thirsty Come*; *Judges & Ruth: There Is a Redeemer; 1 Peter, 2 Peter and Jude: Steadfast in the Faith; Ezra and Nehemiah: The Good Hand of Our God is Upon Us; The Covenantal Life: Appreciating the Beauty of Theology and Community; Never Enough: Confronting Lies About Appearance and Achievement with Gospel Hope; Romans: The Gospel of God for Obedience to the Faith; Broken Cisterns: Thirsting for the Creator Instead of the Created;* ​and*Isaiah: The Holy One of Israel.* She is also a contributing blogger for enCourage (a blog of the PCA Women's Ministries), and has a regular blog, *The* *Haven*, with the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals. Sarah continues writing and teaching Reformed Bible studies for women, and speaking at women's retreats and conferences.  A member of Christ Covenant Church (PCA), Sarah lives with her husband and four children in Matthews, North Carolina.

Sarah will lecture on doing a Bible Study, February 1 and 8, probably until 3:30 PM.

**Course Objectives**

1) To present the significance of the teacher: calling, posture, and purpose

2) To review principles for how to put together a Bible study

3) To analyze the different elements of an address in order to foster the unity of the address

4) To give the student opportunity to present in class a Bible Study and an Address

**Assignments**

1) There will be some weekly assignments based on the lectures.

2) The student will present a Bible Study for a Sunday School class

3) The student will present a Major Address based on a passage of Scripture that will be assigned for a women’s conference

3) Reading

a) Sarah Ivill, *Ezra and Nehemiah: The Good Hand of our God Upon Us* (Reformation Heritage Books, 2019)

b) Kathleen Nielson, *Bible Study: Following the Ways of the Word* (P&R Publishing, 2011)

**Grades**

Sunday School Class 30%

Major Address 40%

Student Evaluations 10%

Class Participation 10%

Reading 10%

**RTS Charlotte Classroom Technology Usage**

RTS Charlotte recognizes how essential it is for students to have reliable, campus-wide access to the internet. For that reason, we have made Wi-Fi available for our student body, not only in the library and student lounges, but also in the classrooms. We know that students need to use the internet to download class materials, access files on the Cloud, and locate other important information. However, we also recognize that internet access in the classroom provides opportunity for abuse and misuse. Some students have unfortunately used their internet access to engage in many activities that distract them from the classroom lectures (e.g., surfing the web, checking sports scores, playing games). Not only does such activity hamper a student’s own seminary education, but it distracts other students who can easily view the screens of nearby students. In addition, donors and classroom guests (who often sit in the back) can see this inappropriate internet usage, which reflects poorly on RTS. Classroom etiquette includes leaving cell phones turned off, refraining from surfing the Internet or playing computer games or other distracting activities. In addition, students must respect standards set by individual professors regarding the use of technology during their class.

In order to address this issue, we must appeal to the integrity of the students as ones who are preparing for a lifetime of ministry to Christ and his church. We expect each student to take personal responsibility for proper classroom technology usage and to encourage others around them to do the same. All RTS-Charlotte students are accountable to the policies stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Catalog and are therefore expected to use technology in the classroom only for appropriate class-related activities. Student conduct is under the supervision of the Dean of Students.

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

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Professor: Richard P. Belcher, Jr.

Campus: Charlotte

Date: Spring 2020

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| **MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes**  *In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.*  *\*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.* | | **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. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm. | 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. | Minimal | 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 | This is one of the goals 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.) | Minimal | 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 | Students will read Scripture in public, preach and apply the word of God in order to shepherd the flock and engage with the church and the world. |