

Williamson Bible Institute
Mid Atlantic District Church of the Nazarene

Christian Preaching I
SYLLABUS
Spring 2025

PROFESSOR: Rev. Dr. Larry A. Dunlap
B.A. Theology and Biblical Languages (MVNU) 1992
M.Div. Honors Research in Historical Theology (NTS) 1996
D.Min. Homiletics and Christian Communication (Ilf School of Theology) 2009

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to homiletical principles and the practice of sermon preparation.

INTENDED COURSE OUTCOMES

At the completion of the course students will be able to:

1. Prepare and preach sermons that are Biblically Based.
2. Prepare and preach sermons that are Spirit-driven.
3. Prepare and preach sermons that are outcome focused.
4. Prepare and preach well crafted sermons.
5. Prepare and preach sermons that are communicated effectively.

COURSE CORE COMPETENCIES

- Ability to exegete a passage of Scripture using the steps of historical, literary, and theological analysis used in exegesis.
- Ability to communicate publicly through multiple methods (oral, written, media, etc.) with clarity and creativity for the sake of fostering meaning.
- Ability to preach evangelistically and to be engaged with and equip others in personal and congregational evangelism.
- Ability to envision, order, participate, and lead in contextualized theologically grounded worship and to develop and lead appropriate services for special occasions (i.e. wedding, funeral, baptism, and Lord's Supper).

- Ability to prepare, organize, and deliver biblically sound sermons in culturally appropriate ways using appropriate techniques and skills.
- Ability to develop and utilize existing ministry forms such as evangelistic preaching, pastoral care preaching, doctrinal/teaching preaching and preaching Christian seasons/ calendar by which individuals, families, and congregations may be formed in Christlikeness.
- Ability to assess the strengths and weaknesses of current homiletical models in light of enduring theological (Bible, doctrine, philosophy) and contextual (history, psychology, sociological) perspectives.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS/RESOURCES

REQUIRED:

Kinlaw, Dennis F. *Preaching in the Spirit*. Reprint 1985. Anderson: Francis Asbury

Robinson, Haddon, and Craig Brian Larson. *The Art & Craft of Biblical Preaching: A Comprehensive Resource for Today's Communicators*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan,

Stanley, Andy and Lane Jones. *Communicating for a Change: Seven Keys to Irresistible Conversation*. 1st ed. Colorado Springs: Multnomah Publishers, 2006.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Reading of Class Texts

Students are expected to read from the assigned textbooks during the term. The assigned reading is intended to inform the class assignments.

Weekly Reading Reflection

Each student will write a one- to two-paragraph reflection on one insight gained from the week's reading.

Exegesis of Selected Text

Each student will choose a particular passage of Scripture, to be approved by the professor, and complete an exegesis of the selected passage. This exegesis will examine such things as authorship, audience to who the passage was written, cultural and historical context, and textual context.

Homiletical Outline

Each student will prepare a homiletical outline to address three primary questions:

- *What* does God have to say in the Biblical text?
- *Why* is this important to know?
- *How* does this apply to our lives?

Sermon Manuscript

Each student will complete a sermon manuscript of 8-10 pages. The manuscript should be preceded by a sermon outline to include the following:

- Title
- Scripture Text
- Statement of Main Point or Main Idea
- Goal for Life Application - clearly state what you want the audience to know and to do regarding the text
- The Sermon Outline: Including the points and sub-points as well as identifying the three questions and five movements.

Preached Sermon

Each student will preach in class the sermon prepared in the sermon manuscript (15-20 minutes – no less and no more). Following the preaching of the sermon, the student will engage in dialogue with the class, discussing strengths and growth points of the student's sermon and presentation.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS

Reading of Textbooks:	25 Points
Weekly Reflections:	50 Points
Exegesis of Selected Text:	50 Points
Homiletical Outline:	75 Points
Sermon Manuscript:	100 Points
Preached Sermon:	200 Points

COURSE GRADING/EVALUATION

The grade a student receives for this course will be a combination of objective grades (participation, reading reports, test results, etc.) and subjective evaluation by the professor (attentiveness, insight in questions and remarks, etc.). The grading scale below will be used and points assigned will be based on the following percentage scale:

A	94-100
A-	90 – 93
B+	87 – 89
B	84 – 86
B-	80 – 83
C+	77 – 79
C	74 – 76

C-	70 – 73
D+	67 – 69
D	64 – 66
D-	60 – 63
F	59 and below

COURSE SCHEDULE

April 21	<p><i>Class Introduction</i></p> <p>Review of Syllabus</p> <p>Review of Assignments</p> <p>Review of Professor’s philosophy of education</p> <p><i>The Spirit / The Text / The Preacher</i></p>
April 28	<p>The Call to Preach</p> <p>Reading:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Kinlaw: Chapter 1</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Robinson: Part 1 (5 articles)</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Stanley: Chapters 1-2</i></p> <p><i>Assignments Due: May 4th</i></p> <p>Reading Reflection 1</p> <p>Selection of text</p>
May 5	<p>Cultivating Personal Spirituality</p> <p>Reading:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Kinlaw: Chapter 2</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Robinson: Part 2 (5 articles)</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Stanley: Chapters 3-5</i></p> <p><i>Assignments Due: May 11th</i></p> <p>Reading Reflection 2</p> <p>Exegesis of Selected Text</p>
May 12	<p>(No Class - Watch Video Lecture) Exegesis of the Audience</p> <p>Reading:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Kinlaw: Chapter 3</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Robinson: Part 3 (5 articles)</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Stanley: Chapters 6-8</i></p> <p><i>Assignments Due: May 18th</i></p> <p>Reading Reflection 3</p> <p>Homiletical Outline</p>

- May 19** So What?
Reading:
Kinlaw: Chapter 4
Robinson: Part 4 (5 articles)
Stanley: Chapters 9-10
Assignments Due: May 25th
Reading Reflection 4
Sermon Presentations (Manuscripts due when you preach)
- May 26** Structure and Style of a Sermon
Reading:
Kinlaw: Chapter 5
Robinson: Parts 5 & 6 (5 articles from each section)
Stanley: Chapters 11- 12
Assignments Due: June 1st
Reading Reflection 5
Sermon Presentations
- June 2** The Power of a Good Illustration
Reading:
Kinlaw: Chapter 6
Robinson: Part 7 (5 articles)
Stanley: Chapters 13-14
Assignments Due: June 8th
Reading Reflection 6
Sermon Presentations
- June 9** Crisis / Funerals / Weddings
Reading:
Kinlaw: Chapter 7
Robinson: Parts 8 & 9 (5 articles from each section)
Stanly: Chapters 15-17
Assignments Due: June 15th
Reading Reflection 7
Sermon Presentations
- June 16** No Class
Reading:
Robinson: Parts 10 & 11 (5 articles from each section)
Assignments Due: June 22
Reading Reflection 8