

MNST 5115 Preaching the Word
Summer 2021
June 7-11, 2021
9am-noon and 2-4pm (pst)
Professor: Dr. Casey Barton
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Teaching Assistants:
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Course Description

This course is intended to provide students with a foundational theology for biblical preaching, help them to understand the contexts in which preaching occurs, take thought for those to whom they are preaching, and explore the practices available to them for the preparation and delivery of the sermon. Special attention will be paid to the hermeneutical process of developing an exegetical idea from a study of the text that lays the foundation for the development of the homiletical idea (Big Idea) for the sermon. Further, students will learn a theological homiletical movement for preaching (*The Four Pages of the Sermon*).

Learning Outcomes | Course Objectives

As a result of this course, students will:

- Be able to articulate and apply a theology of preaching that seeks to faithfully proclaim the biblical text at its intersection with God's people today.
- Be able to demonstrate through accurate exegesis foundational principles in the area of hermeneutics and how these principles lay the foundation for good exegetical work within the biblical text.
- Develop their *cultural intelligence* with regard to the contexts of the people to whom they preach.
- Clearly and faithfully preach the gospel, from a study of the text within its context and in its intersection with God's people right now.
- Learn and understand the hermeneutical implications of one's theology of Scripture for homiletical practice.
- Learn and understand the shapes sermons take and the theological, hermeneutical and communicative reasons for each.

Course Format

Due to COVID-19, our class has moved into an online format. On the one hand, this poses a challenge for a preaching class, especially. On the other, we have adjusted our schedule to make the most of the time that we have (while trying to not being on ZOOM for 8 hours a day!). Through a combination of synchronous and asynchronous formats, we will accomplish our learning outcomes.

Large Group Meetings and Small Group Workshops

Each day of our scheduled class (June 7-11), we will gather *online* from 9am-noon (pst). This will be a time for course lectures and discussion, interaction over reading and sermon viewing.

Students will be assigned a small group. Part of afternoon class time will be spent in small groups and will meet online with one of the instructors. These meetings will focus on practical workshoping of homiletical practices learned in the reading and in large group meetings. Instructors will rotate through groups throughout the week.

Details for joining online meetings will be provided.

Preaching Sermon #1 In-Class:

Beginning Thursday (June 10), students will preach in their small groups in an online format. Details and a preaching schedule will be given on the first day of class.

Preaching Sermon #2:

Students will have an option for preaching Sermon #2.

Option 1: We will meet in small groups 2 weeks after class ends (the week of June 21-25), in 2 sessions (3 hours each) in which students will preach their original sermon to their small group. This is the preferred method for delivering Sermon #2.

Option 2: Students will submit a video of themselves preaching an original sermon written within the context of our class, *in a church worship service context*.

Course Texts

Required:

Barton, Casey C. "A Dramatic Homiletic: Preaching for Participation in God's Gospel Drama." *The Covenant Quarterly*, 70.1-2 (February-May 2014): 17-38.

-or-

_____. *Preaching Through Time: Anachronism as a Way Forward for Preaching*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2016. **Chapter 1 only is required.**

(Please note that only one of the above is required, and only chapter one of the second option is assigned).

Buechner, Frederick. *Telling The Truth: The Gospel As Tragedy, Comedy, & Fairy Tale*.

San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1977.

Kim, Matthew D. *Preaching With Cultural Intelligence: Understanding the People Who Hear Our Sermons*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2017.

Kim, Matthew D. and Scott M. Gibson. *The Big Idea Companion to Preaching and Teaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2021.

(Please note that the above is a commentary, and you will not be required to read its entirety).

Wilson, Paul Scott. *The Four Pages of the Sermon: A Guide To Biblical Preaching. Revised and Updated*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2018.

Recommended:

Barton, Casey C. *Preaching Through Time: Anachronism as a Way Forward for Preaching*. Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2016.

Fry Brown, Teresa L. *Delivering The Sermon: Voice, Body, and Animation in Proclamation*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2008.

Gibson, Scott M. *Preaching With A Plan*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2012.

_____. *Preaching for Special Services*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

Klein, William and Craig Bloomberg. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation, 3rd Edition*. Waco: Thomas Nelson, 2017.

Robinson, Haddon. *Biblical Preaching 3rd Edition*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2014.

Taylor, Barbara Brown. *The Preaching Life*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 1993.

Course Assignments And Expectations

1) Student Profile Report

Students will fill out a profile report prior to the start of class. The purpose of this will be to help instructors get to know you better, and to more effectively create small groups. The profile page is available in Canvas.

Due: Monday, May 25, by 5pm.

Submit via Canvas

Weight: 5% of total grade

2) Reading and Sermon Viewing

Students will read all required texts in their entirety prior to the first day of class. A 6-8 page reflection paper is due the *first day of class* (12pt, Times New Roman, Double Spaced, 1 inch margins). The paper should answer the following questions for each book:

- ▶ What is the overall thesis of this article/book?
- ▶ What aspect of preaching as presented did you find most compelling?
- ▶ What aspect of preaching as presented did you find yourself objecting to?
- ▶ What might you begin to integrate into your practice of preaching as a result of reading these works?

Students should list the above questions as headings within the paper, and interact with each of the texts under each heading.

Additionally, there are sermons for students to watch in Canvas. These should be viewed prior to the first day of class. Spend time reading through and answering the questions for each sermon in the *Sermon Viewing Notes*, available in Canvas.

Due: June 7, 2021 by the beginning of class.

Submit via Canvas

Weight: 20% of total grade

2) Sermons

Each student will preach two sermons using one New Testament and one Old Testament text, chosen from the lists below.

Sermon #1

- ▶ Choose a New Testament text from the list below:

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Matthew 19:16-30

Matthew 21:1-11

Mark 5:1-20

Luke 4:1-13

1 Corinthians 10:1-21

Ephesians 2:11-22

Revelation 21:1-6

- ▶ This sermon will be preached in class on Thursday or Friday of the week.
- ▶ 12-15 minutes
- ▶ Turn in exegetical work and sermon outline by your time to preach in class. See the exegetical work and sermon outline example available in Canvas.
- ▶ Must be preached as a *Four Page* sermon (See Wilson's *Four Pages of the Sermon*. We will also go over early in class).
- ▶ In your exegetical work you must include one non-white, or non-Western, or one female, commentator/resource. Cite exegetical work properly.

Due: June 10 or 11, 2021, IN CLASS.

Submit exegetical work and sermon outline via Canvas.

Weight:

Exegetical work and outline: 10% of total grade

Sermon: 25% of total grade

Total: 35% of total grade

Sermon #2

- ▶ Choose an Old Testament text from the list below:

Genesis 21:8-21

Exodus 16:1-4, 9-15

Judges 7

Psalms 1

Psalms 131

Proverbs 9:1-6

Isaiah 40:1-11

Lamentations 1 or 2 or 3 or 4

Hosea 11:1-11

- ▶ Please see Sermon #2 options as explained above. Requirements/details will be given in class.
- ▶ Turn in exegetical work and sermon outline at the time of submitting your sermon.
- ▶ Must be preached as a *Four Page* sermon (See Wilson's *Four Pages of the Sermon*. We will also go over early in class).
- ▶ In your exegetical work you must include one non-white, or non-Western, or one female, commentator/resource. Cite exegetical work properly.

Due: Week of June 21-25, 2021

Submit: Exegetical work and sermon outline via Canvas.

Weight:

Exegetical Work and outline: 10% of total grade

Sermon: 25% of total grade

Total: 35% of total grade

3) Class Participation

This includes attendance through all class times, and sermon feedback for your classmates.

Weight: 5% of total grade

Grading Scale

A : 90%-100%

B : 80%-89%

C : 70-79%

D : 60-69%

F: 59% and below

Course Schedule

Day One- June 7, 2021

Course Overview, Introductions & Expectations

Why We Preach : The Necessity of Homiletical Study for Pastoral Ministry

Preaching: Definitions and Goals

What is preaching?

The Pastoral calling to preach

The Persistence of Preaching

The Eschatological Role of Preaching

What We Preach

What do we preach?

Preaching is from the text: Text centered vs. Reader centered study and preaching

Preaching is about God

Preaching proclaims the Gospel

What preaching is not

From Text to Sermon: Theologies of Scripture and Preaching

Timeless Truths

Creating Experience : The New Homiletic

A Literary World : Post-Liberal Preaching

Theological Movement : Law and Gospel

Participation in the Drama : Narrative through Time

Exegetical Work for Preaching

Day Two- June 8, 2021

How We Preach

A Theology For Preaching: The Central Idea

Subject - Complement - Exegetical Idea - Homiletical Idea

Sermon Purpose

Outlining the Sermon: The Shapes Sermons Take

Four Page Movement: Paul Scott Wilson

Deductive Movement

Inductive Movement: Fred Craddock

Narrative Movement: Eugene Lowry

Day Three- June 9, 2021

Introductions and Conclusions
Images and Illustrations
Calling for Participation
Creativity in Preaching
Sermon Delivery

To Whom We Preach: Preaching With Cultural Intelligence

Day Four- June 10, 2021

When We Preach

Preaching in the Context of Worship
Preaching for Special Services

Student Sermons

Day Five- June 11, 2021

Student Sermons

Week of June 21-25

Two meetings for Student Sermons

LATE WORK

Work submitted late will incur a penalty of 5% of the total grade for each day late, unless this is worked out with the instructor ahead of time.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

In keeping with our Christian heritage and commitment, North Park University is committed to the highest possible ethical and moral standards. Just as we will constantly strive to live up to these high standards, we expect our students to do the same. To that end, cheating of any sort will not be tolerated. Students who are discovered cheating will receive a failing grade on the assignment and are subject to discipline up to and including failure of a course and expulsion. Our definition of cheating includes but is not limited to:

1. Plagiarism – the use of another’s work as one’s own without giving credit to the individual. This includes using materials from the internet.
2. Copying another’s answers on an examination.
3. Deliberately allowing another to copy one’s answers or work.
4. Signing an attendance roster for another who is not present.

For additional information, see the Seminary Academic Catalog.

ACCOMMODATIONS

North Park is committed to creating an inclusive learning environment. If you anticipate or experience any barriers to learning in this class related to a disability, contact the Center for Student Engagement by email ada@northpark.edu or phone at 773-244-5737 to schedule an appointment with the Learning Specialist. You can also stop by The Center for Student Engagement, located on the first floor of the Johnson Center.

Computer Use Statement

Students may use computers in class under the condition that they will use the computer only for purposes related to the course that day. All programs such as internet use, solitaire and other games, email, and any others not related to the course should not be open during class time. Such programs cause unnecessary distraction for you and those sitting around you in the class.

Incomplete/Course Extensions

Incomplete and course extensions may not be granted by the professor past the final day of exam week and are granted only for very exceptional reasons. Requests for course extensions must be made to the Instructor. Grades of “incomplete” are granted at the discretion and judgment of the faculty of the course in question. See the Academic Catalog for the full policy.

Harassment Policy and Title IX

Students who believe they have been harassed, discriminated against, or involved in sexual violence should contact the Dean of Students (773-244-6222) or Director of Human Resources (773-244-5601) for information about campus resources and support services, including confidential counseling services. As members of the North Park faculty, we are concerned about the well-being and development of our students and are available to discuss any concerns. Faculty are legally obligated to share information with the University’s Title IX coordinator in certain situations to help ensure that the student’s safety and welfare is being addressed, consistent with the requirements of the law. These disclosures include but are not limited to reports of sexual assault, relational/domestic violence, and stalking. Please refer to North Park’s Safe Community site (<http://www.northpark.edu/Campus-Life-and-Services/Safe-Community>) for contact information and further details.

Bibliography

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- Bailey, E.K. and Warren Wiersbe. *Preaching in Black and White*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1963.
- Braga, James. *How to Prepare Bible Messages*. Portland: Multnomah, 1981.
- Brooks, Gennifer. *Good News Preaching: Offering the Gospel in Every Sermon*. Cleveland, OH: Pilgrim Press, 2009.
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- Erickson, Millard. *Postmodernizing the Faith*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.
- Ezell, Rick. *Hitting a Moving Target*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1999.
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- Hendricks, Howard. *Living by the Book*. Chicago: Moody, 1991.
- Hendricks, Howard. *Teaching to Change Lives*. Portland: Multnomah, 1987.
- Hostetler, Michael. *Introducing the Sermon*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986.
- Johnston, Graham. *Preaching to a Postmodern World*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.
- Kaiser, Walter. *Toward an Exegetical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981.
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- Kollar, Charles. *How to Preach Without Notes*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1964.
- Larsen, David. *Telling the Old, Old Story*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 1995.
- Liftin, Duane. *Public Speaking*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992.
- Loscalzo, Craig. *Apologetic Preaching*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 2000.
- Loscalzo, Craig. *Preaching Sermons that Connect*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 1992.
- MacArthur, John. *Expository Preaching*. Waco: Word, 1992.
- Massey, James. *Designing the Sermon*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1988.
- Mathewson, Steve. *The Art of Preaching Old Testament Narrative*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.
- Mawhinney, Bruce. *Preaching with Freshness*. Eugene: Harvest House, 1991.
- McDill, Wayne. *The 12 Essential Skills for Great Preaching*. Nashville: Broadman, 1994.
- Mitchell, Henry. *Black Preaching*. Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1970.
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Richard, Ramesh. *Scripture Sculpture*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1995.

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Robinson, H. *Biblical Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1980.

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