

# HM420 Homiletical Resources

## Spring 2010

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*Thursdays 8:30-11:20 A.M.*

*Room G145*

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### **Course Description & Pedagogical Strategy**

This course will survey the various devices preachers utilize in the preaching moment: voice, literature, culture, music, video, powerpoint, internet, drama, imagination, and much more. Additionally, this class will guide students how to employ these tools responsibly. The itinerary will be designed to give students ample opportunities to practice preaching with different homiletical resources. The course seeks to increase the student's learning through multiple methods: class discussion of readings and lectures, the student's preparation and delivery of several sermons, instructor and peer evaluations of the student's sermons, extemporaneous exercises, written assignments, and analysis of published and videotaped sermons of well known professional clergy.

### **Inclusivity**

All genders, races, classes, denominations and cultures are welcomed to and included in this course. The readings for this class originate from women and men of various ethnicities and Christian traditions.

### **Attendance and Participation**

Enrollment in this course assumes regular attendance, participation in all class activities and discussions, and the completion of all assignments in a timely manner. Assignments are due on the specified date. Late work will only be accepted with severe penalty: a deduction of one letter grade for each day the assignment is late.

### **Grades**

A – Excellent: demonstration of superior scholarship in homiletical analysis, exegesis, structure, and delivery; comprehension and use of class texts in all assignments; thoughtful consideration, address and application of homiletical critique from instructor and peers; completion of assignments on time

B – Above Average: better quality than average work; details of assignments met and completed on time; relevant and accurate use of course concepts and critique (from instructor and peers); all major and minor goals of the course are fulfilled

C – Minimum Standard: average work; all major goals of the course are fulfilled, but most minor ones are not; many of the details of the assignment are met; some course concepts are integrated into the work

D – Substandard but passing: below average work; only a few major goals are met; little preparation is evident; work reflects little or no use of assigned texts or course concepts

F – Failure: unsatisfactory work; no major goals are reached; no use of course concepts or readings in assignments; no display of comprehension of course content

For the METHESCO grading policy, see METHESCO's Academic Catalogue (p.24).

### **Sermon Evaluations**

1. Only constructive critiques are accepted.
2. The aim is to be helpful.
3. Speak the truth in love and with humility.
4. Be sure to mention the preacher's strengths as well as her/his growing edges.
5. Pay careful attention to the sermon's content, structure, delivery, and communicability.
6. During the evaluation, the preacher must **LISTEN** to all comments before making her/his own comments. There is no need to defend a particular theology, style or faith tradition. Please receive all comments with a spirit of humility.

### **Readings**

*Bible* (NRSV)

Buttrick, David. *Preaching the New and Now*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998. **(Supplemental)**

Childers, Jana. *Performing the Word: Preaching as Theatre*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1998.

\_\_\_\_\_ and Schmit, Clayton J., eds. *Performance in Preaching: Bringing the Sermon to Life*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2008.

Clader, Linda L. *Voicing the Vision: Imagination and Prophetic Preaching*. Harrisburg, PA: Morehouse Publishing, 2003.

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

Jones, Kirk Byron. *The Jazz of Preaching: How to Preach with Great Freedom and Joy*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2004.

Smith, Christine Marie, ed. *Preaching Justice: Ethnic and Cultural Perspectives*. Cleveland: United Church Press, 1998.

- Rose, Lucy. *Sharing the Word: Preaching in the Roundtable Church*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1997.
- Troeger, Thomas H. *Ten Strategies for Preaching in a Multi Media Culture*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1996.
- Wilson, Paul Scott. *God Sense: Reading the Bible for Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001.

### Course Requirements/Expectations

1. Class Participation: involves prompt attendance, preparation, participation, and completion of assigned readings and projects by the chosen date (10%)
2. Reflection Papers: 2-3 page written reflections on the assigned text(s) that not only display evidence of the student's reading but also answers how the student will integrate the ideas into her/his homiletic (20%)
3. Mini-Sermons: varying lengths as designated by the instructor; text assigned or student choice as listed in outline; no notes; in class evaluation. (20%)
4. Major Sermons: two sermons 15-20 minutes in length that explore innovative homiletical resources; must submit full manuscript on the date of the sermon prior to the sermon's delivery; must also supply blank VHS videotape or blank DVD for self evaluation and instructor's review; turn in self evaluation with the videotape at the next class period. A full manuscript, outline, notes, or extemporaneous delivery may be used for the preaching moment. (50%)

### Course Outline

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| Feb. 4  | Introduction to Resources<br>Overview of syllabus, Introductory exercise, Lecture  |
| Feb. 11 | Preaching from Sacred and Profane Texts<br>Readings: Wilson, Childers-Schmit ch.5-6, Buttrick (optional)<br><b>Wilson Reflection Paper Due</b>                 |
| Feb. 18 | <b>Mini-Sermons</b>  |
| Feb. 25 | Preaching out of Culture / The Use of Objects<br>Readings: Smith, Fry Brown ch.2<br><b>Fry Brown Reflection Paper Due</b><br><b>Smith Reflection Paper Due</b> |
| March 4 | <b>Mini-sermons</b>  |

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| March 11 | Preaching with Heart, Music and Voice<br>Roundtable Preaching<br>Readings: Rose, Jones, Fry Brown ch.1, 3-5<br><b>Jones Reflection Paper Due</b><br><b>Rose Reflection Paper Due</b>                 |
| March 18 | <b>Mini-sermons</b>  |
| March 25 | Technology, Performance, Movement and Imagination in Preaching<br>Readings: Clader, Fry Brown ch.6, Childers, Troeger<br><b>Childers Reflection Paper Due</b><br><b>Troeger Reflection Paper Due</b> |
| April 1  | <b>No Class – Holy Week Break</b>  |
| April 8  | <b>No Class – Spring Break</b>   |
| April 15 | <b>Major Sermons</b>   |
| April 22 | <b>Major Sermons</b>   |
| April 29 | <b>Major Sermons</b>   |
| May 6    | <b>Major Sermons</b>   |
| May 13   | Concluding Remarks, Evaluations<br><b>Group Sermons</b>  |