

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT.

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**TITLE:** Preaching and Communication in Ministry (Hybrid)

**TERM:** Spring 2023-2024

**PROFESSOR:** Donna Giver-Johnston

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3

**REGISTRATION:** LIMITED TO: \_\_\_\_\_  
# AUDITORS: \_\_\_\_\_

UNLIMITED X  
NO AUDITORS X

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course introduces students to the theology and practice of preaching, with attention to the performative skills involved in effective communication in ministry settings. Topics include: the oral interpretation of Scripture, biblical exegesis for proclamation, the role of culture and context in preaching, the structure and rhetoric of sermons, and the non-verbal dimensions of communication.

### **CLASS OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Identify gifts for and calling to the task of Christian proclamation
- Define and describe the theological and methodological issues at stake in the movement from a biblical text to a sermon in relation to a particular congregational context
- Give evidence of growth in the exegetical, rhetorical, creative, pastoral, and performative skills involved in the practice of preaching and communication in ministry
- Demonstrate working knowledge of the basic exegetical method and approaches to sermon design introduced in class through the creation and delivery of two sermons
- Exhibit the capacity to think critically and deeply about one's own practice and listen with discernment to the sermons of others, using the theological and rhetorical language of homiletical criticism

### **PREREQUISITES:**

NT110, OT110, CS110

### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:**

- Brown, Sally and Luke Powery. *Ways of the Word: Learning to Preach for Your Time and Place* (Fortress, 2016), ISBN: 978-0800699222, \$28.63
- Davis, Ellen. *Wondrous Depth: Preaching the Old Testament* (WJK Press, 2005), ISBN: 978-0664228590, \$21.11
- Long, Thomas G. *The Witness of Preaching*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Thomas Long (WJK Press, 2017), ISBN: 978-0664261429, \$23.49
- McClure, John S. *Preaching Words: 144 Key Terms in Homiletics* (WJK Press, 2007), ISBN-13: 978-0664230135, \$20.63
- Giver-Johnston, Donna. *Writing for the Ear, Preaching from the Heart* (Fortress Press, 2021), ISBN: 978-1-5064-6323-0 (print) \$19.99; 978-1-5064-6324-7 (ebook) \$13.49
- Other required readings will be available on the course portal

### **ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:**

- 15% Speech performative exercises and class participation
- 25% Sermon 1 (written and preached, including text-to-sermon log)
- 30% Sermon 2 (written and preached, including text-to-sermon log)
- 10% Midterm take-home assessment
- 5% Brief ethnography of context (Sermon 2)
- 15% Capstone Sermon Analysis

**ATTENDANCE:** Required.