PREACHING - TS 755

Conrad Grebel University College

University of Waterloo

Winter 2019

Professor: Dr. Allan Rudy-Froese
E-mail: arudyfro@uwaterloo.ca
Phone: 226-339-9813

Contacting me by email is best and I will usually respond to an email within 24 hours of receiving it, except on weekends. I am happy to meet with you in person. Just send me an email and we can find a time to meet.

DATES FOR THIS COURSE: We will meet on the following Fridays from 9-12 am and 1-4 pm: January 11, 25, February 1, March 1, 8, 22.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course explores major issues in preaching such as biblical interpretation, sermon form, and performance. Matters such as the place of preaching in worship, the role of the preacher, as well as purposes of preaching will be addressed throughout. Class time will include short lectures, discussions, solitary and small group reflective work, voice/body exercises, listening to sermons, and preaching.

Preaching is inherently interdisciplinary. Planning for, performing, and reflecting on the event of preaching requires the preacher to engage in biblical studies, performance studies, cultural hermeneutics, theology (systematic, practical, and otherwise), rhetoric, and worship. Moreover, preaching is also personal and somatic: in the event of preaching body and voice are front and center for all to see and hear. For the preacher, intimately related to knowledge and practice is the preacher’s own self- and body-awareness, voice, passion, and faith.

EDUCATIONAL GOALS
By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. appreciate and execute crucial steps in the interdisciplinary, arduous, yet joyous task of moving from biblical text to embodied sermon to post-sermon reflection
2. proficiently study a biblical text for preaching the gospel
3. craft and preach sermons that are clear in form and focus
4. perform sermons with increased voice - body awareness
REQUIRED TEXTS

OTHER READINGS
I will ensure that you have access to the following required articles or chapters:


REVIEW BOOKS
LaRue, Cleophas J. *I Believe I'll Testify: The Art of African American Preaching*. Louisville, KY: Westminster

OTHER RESOURCES
You may wish to consult these reference books as you discover new words and concepts in the world of preaching. They are on the reserve shelf.


ASSIGNMENTS
All written assignments should be submitted to me through email in Word, single-spaced, and with your name on top upper left.

1) **Sermon 1** (1600 words) with **Sermon Rationale** – 20%. Create a sermon based on one narrative biblical text and crafted in the *Four Page* form. Your sermon manuscript, along with the sermon rationale, is due on **Friday, February 8**. You will not preach this sermon in class. This is only a written exercise.

2) **Sermon 2** (8 minutes) with **Sermon Rationale** – 40%. Create a sermon based on one biblical text using a form outlined in Allen’s *Determining the Form*. You may preach a *Four Page* sermon again if you like or try another form. This sermon will be preached in class on **March 1 or March 8**. Send me a Word document of your sermon manuscript with your sermon rationale on the day that you preach.

3) **Brief personal reflection entitled “My Voice”** (600-800 words) – 10%. Drawing on readings and class exercises on voice, tell me about your voice - its history, problems, and potential. **Due Friday, March 15.**

4) **Book Review** (900-1200 words) OR **Attend and Review** (900-1200 words) **School for Ministers** (Wednesday, February 20 and Thursday, February 21, 2019) here at Conrad Grebel University College – 20%. If you want to do a book review, see the Review Books above. Attend *most of the sessions* at the School for Ministers and write a review. The theme is “*The Audacious Preacher*”. The keynote speaker is Rev. Dr. Anthony D. Bailey from Ottawa. Rebekah Smoot-Enns, renns@uwaterloo.ca for the “substantially subsidized rate” for students. **Due Friday, March 29.**
5) **Participation** – 10%. This course relies heavily on you being present in body, voice, mind, and spirit. Attendance in all class periods is expected. The other way to say it is that we need everyone here to do what we need to do. Our knowledge and practice of preaching is not a given and not fixed – as though it all comes from books – but something that we create together. Missing a class session (3 hours) will result in a loss of 3%. Grades for late assignments will be reduced by 3%.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Morning 9-12</th>
<th>Afternoon 1-4</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday Jan 11</td>
<td>Introduction to the course and each other</td>
<td>Body, voice, and biblical interpretation</td>
<td>Carter Florence (start reading) Barton and Del Vera, (read and take notes) Allen, 1-7 Brown and Powery 6-8, Wilson, Eslinger</td>
<td>What is your experience in preaching? What part of preaching do you like? How do you study the bible when you preach?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Jan 25</td>
<td>Sermon unity and form with special attention to the ‘Four Pages’ form</td>
<td>Body, voice, and preaching Writing for the ear</td>
<td>Carter Florence (keep reading) Barton and Del Vera (read and take notes) Long Brown and Powery, 1-5 Linklater</td>
<td>What kinds of sermon forms are you accustomed to? What kinds of sermons do you like? When has a sermon surprised you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Feb 1</td>
<td>The voices of preaching (Herald, pastor, storyteller, witness, ...) Theology and preaching: Why do we do this? What is a sermon doing?</td>
<td>Body, voice, and preaching How shall we help each other? Critical Response Process</td>
<td>Carter Florence (keep reading) Barton and Del Vera (read and take notes) Long Brown and Powery, 1-5 Linklater</td>
<td>What is the purpose of preaching? What is your theology of preaching? Are you a herald, pastor, storyteller, witness, or ... ? What have you noticed about your voice?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Mar 1</td>
<td>Student sermons</td>
<td>Student sermons</td>
<td>Barton and Del Vera (keep reading and taking notes)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Mar 8</td>
<td>Student sermon</td>
<td>Student sermons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday Mar 22</td>
<td>Revisiting Carter Florence Biblical, Theological, and Practical Reflection on Preaching</td>
<td>Body, voice, and preaching A celebrative preaching game</td>
<td>Selections TBA from Barbara Brown Taylor and Jana Childers on the Preaching Life</td>
<td>What does the preaching life look like for you? What patterns do you notice?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>