



# Nazarene Theological Seminary

1700 E Meyer Blvd • Kansas City, MO 64131 • 816/333-6254

---

## PRH610 - Christian Preaching Fall 2011

### ***Essential Information***

Please refer to the following resources for information essential for the successful completion of courses and degree programs at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Links to these resources are available at [http://support.nts.edu/index.php/Essential\\_Information](http://support.nts.edu/index.php/Essential_Information). Additional technical support information can be found at <http://support.nts.edu>.

- NTS Mission Statement & Purpose and Master of Divinity Objectives
- Tips for online learning success
- NTS library services
- NTS bookstore procedures
- Online technical requirements and Moodle support information
- NTS Student Handbook including statements on quality of work, plagiarism, and academic probation
- *A Handbook for Inclusive Language*

### ***Instructor Information***

Professor: Dr. Steve Estep  
Office: (931) 647-7768

Email: [pastorsteve@clarksvillegrace.org](mailto:pastorsteve@clarksvillegrace.org)

Steve Estep completed a Bachelor of Arts from Mt. Vernon Nazarene University in 1991. He then served 2 years as youth pastor in West Virginia before earning an M. Div. from Nazarene Theological Seminary in 1996. While in seminary, Steve served as a youth pastor in Kansas City. A month before graduating from NTS he began pastoring the Harrisonville Church of the Nazarene where he served for 11 ½ years. In 2006 Steve completed a Doctor of Ministry in Preaching from McCormick Theological Seminary. In Jan. 2008 he became the Sr. Pastor of the Clarksville Grace Church of the Nazarene. Steve and his wife Michelle have been married 19 years, and they have three children. Brandon (18), Brooke (15) and Blake (13). Steve enjoys spending time with his kids, riding motorcycles and jet-skis, watching sports and hunting.

### ***Catalog Description***

A study of the nature and importance of Christian preaching and the characteristics of sermon preparation; the selection and interpretation of the text, the formulation of the sermon sentence and the function statement, the movement from text to sermon, the shaping of the sermon, the improvement of the sermon style, the delivery of the sermon, the context of preaching, and an introduction to the funeral sermon.

## **Course Narrative & Rationale**

This course is designed to help the preacher understand the meaning of Christian preaching and to develop skills in sermon formation and delivery. The student will be introduced to selected current homiletical forms. Techniques of textual and congregational exegesis will be examined, with particular emphases on imagination, creativity, and passion for preaching.

Students will have the opportunity to integrate and apply what they have learned by preaching in class. While life-long growth in one's ability to preach is the expectation, it is anticipated that some life-long practices for sermon formation will be gained in this course. Students will be able to carefully articulate and reflect on their own homiletic. An assumption in this course is that while certain practices and skills can be learned that will make us better preachers, there is no substitute for Spirit-led, Spirit-inspired proclamation.

## **Course Outcomes**

By the conclusion of this class the student should be equipped to:

1. Articulate their own homiletic and identify the "lenses" through which they see scripture and interpret experience. (Assignments 1, 2, 3a-d, 4, 6,7)
2. Form (with knowledge of which homileticians they draw upon) and deliver a sermon that is:
  - Passionate
  - Biblically and Theologically sound
  - Creative
  - Contextually appropriate
  - Readily Applicable
  - Balanced - cognitive, emotive, and intuitive(Assignments 2, 3a-d, 4, 5, 7)
3. Compose a preaching calendar with attention given to the Christian calendar, and various biblical / doctrinal themes that should be addressed in the course of a year that include but are not limited to: salvation, sanctification, the Church, sacraments, family related issues, healing, forgiveness, grace, and other issues that make for a well rounded diet for the congregation. (Assignments 2, 3d, 6, 7)

## **Church of the Nazarene COSAC Competencies**

Upon completion of this course, students should satisfy the competency requirements as set forth in the Course of Study for Ministers in the Church of the Nazarene. The following will be addressed through the course objectives and requirements:

**CP 1** Ability to communicate publicly through multiple methods (oral, written, media, etc.) with clarity and creativity for the sake of fostering meaning (Assignments 1, 2, 3c)

**CP 3** Ability to speak coherently in the mode of discourse appropriate for the various ministry contexts. (Assignments 1, 3c, 5)

**CP 22** Ability to prepare, organize, and deliver biblically sound sermons in culturally appropriate ways, using appropriate techniques and skills. (Assignments 3a, 3b, 5, 7)

**CP 23** 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 into Christlikeness. (Assignments 3a, 3d, 4, 5, 6, 7)

**CP 24** 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. (Assignments 3a, 4, 7)

### **Required Texts & Course Materials**

Long, Thomas G. *The Witness of Preaching*, Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1989.

Satterlee, Craig and Lester Ruth. *Creative Preaching on the Sacraments*. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2001.

Thomas, Frank A. *They Like to Never Quit Praisin' God: The Role of Celebration in Preaching*, Cleveland: The Pilgrim Press, 1997.

Tisdale, Leonora Tubbs. *Preaching as Local Theology and Folk Art*, Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1997.

### **Course Outline**

- Aug. 23 Introduction to the Course & each other, sermon by Dr. Estep  
The Preacher and the Holy Spirit, Master Technique But Let the Spirit Prevail, insights on the preaching life from Charles Finney
- Aug. 24 Definitions (Various) and Theology of Preaching (Craddock, Long, and Luke's Gospel)  
Knowing our Lenses / Limitations  
Tools for Engaging the Text: Genre
- Aug. 25 Tools for Engaging the Text: Dynamic Translation  
Tools for Engaging the Text: Journaling  
Tools for Engaging the Text: Description
- Aug. 26 Tools for Engaging the Text: Asking the Right Questions  
Tools for Engaging the Text: Consulting the Scholars (Long, Witness of Preaching ch. 3)  
**(Dr. Hahn Resource person / walking bibliography)** commentaries, online resources.
- Aug. 29 Context Specific Preaching (Tisdale)  
Developing a Sermon Purpose Statement (Thomas)  
Sermon Form: Engaging the Senses
- Aug. 30 Sermon Form: The Importance of Plot  
Sermon Form: Preaching as Celebration
- Aug. 31 Student Sermons  
Planning a Preaching Calendar (Long, pg. 62)
- Sept. 1 Student Sermons  
Preaching and the Sacraments (Satterlee and Ruth)
- Sept. 2 Student Sermons, Pizza Party

## Course Assignments & Requirements

**1. Prior to the class**, students will write a 1-3 page homiletic (this is a description of your own process of sermon formation) and mail to the instructor a recent video-taped sermon (DVD) with manuscript, outline, or whatever you typically write out. This will be due by Wednesday, **July 27<sup>th</sup>** and can be mailed to

Dr. Steve Estep

238 Blair Dr.

Clarksville, TN 37043

(Addresses Outcomes 1, CP 1, CP 3)

**2. Class Participation** Because theological education assumes that significant learning takes place in integrative dialogue, regular class attendance is required. Because of the block nature of the class, class attendance and participation will be evaluated in the final grade. Make-up assignments are at the discretion of the instructor. (Addresses Outcomes 1, 2, 3, CP 1)

**3. Textbook Reading** Each student is required to read each of the assigned textbooks in full and be prepared for full participation in group exercises and discussion. Reading reports on each of the texts should be 2-4 pages each, should be posted on Moodle or emailed to the instructor on the date due, and should address the following:

3a. Long - **Report Due Aug. 1** Which image of preacher fits you best? Why? Pick a quote that helped, challenged or frustrated you from each chapter (ch. 2-10) and briefly comment on each.

(Addresses Outcomes 1, 2, CP 22, CP 23, CP 24)

3b. Tisdale - **Report Due Aug. 8** Showing knowledge of Tisdale's suggestions, provide and exegesis of your current congregational context. (Addresses Outcomes 1, 2, CP 22)

3c. Thomas - **Report Due Aug. 15** What is the greatest motivation for behavioral change? What other motives have you seen/heard/used? Briefly describe the structure Thomas suggests. What did you find most helpful in this book? (Addresses Outcomes 1, 2, CP 1, CP 3)

3d. Satterlee - **Report Due Aug. 22** How do you/will you approach preaching on the sacraments? What did you find most helpful, insightful or enlightening in this book? (Addresses Outcomes 1, 2, 3, CP 23)

**4. Sermon Evaluations.** The assignment is to evaluate 3 sermons. Each evaluation should be 2-3 pages and address the following questions:

1. Preacher, date, text, congregational context

2. Did you hear the Gospel? If so, at what point in the sermon?

3. What is the Good News?

4. What commendations? (Things you liked, found helpful, etc. Address both **form** and content.)

5. What recommendations? (How might this sermon have been better?)

6. What response do you think this sermon was *intended* to evoke?

7. What response did this sermon evoke in you?

If the sermon is preached on a special occasion, that also needs to be noted. Sermon evaluations will be due **Sept. 12, Sept. 19, Sept. 26**. (Addresses Outcomes 1, 2, CP 23, CP 24)

**5. Oral Sermon** Each student will preach one sermon in class and provide the following on the day the sermon is preached:

1. Sermon Manuscript (which includes the sermon purpose statement)

2. A description of the congregational context

3. A Dynamic Translation of the text

4. All of the exegetical work done in preparation for the sermon

5. A description of how the sermon took shape from initial reading of the text to proclamation.

(Addresses Outcomes 2, CP 3, CP 22, CP 23)

**6. Preaching Calendar.** Develop a preaching calendar based on the Christian calendar that begins with the first Sunday of Advent, 2011 (Nov. 27, 2011) and goes through Pentecost Sunday (May 27, 2012). **Due Oct. 3** (Addresses Outcomes 1, 3, CP 23)

**7. Reading on Preaching** Good preachers insatiably read about preaching. Read at least 500 pages from the bibliography (or books approved by the professor). 250 pages of that reading must be from the Focused Bibliography and 250 pages may be from either the Focused or the General Bibliography. After reading write a 7-8 page reflection on your reading (not a summary, but a response as to what you agree/disagree with and how you will/will not use it in your own process of sermon formation or delivery). Be sure to include the bibliographical information for each book from which you read and the pages read. **Due Oct. 10** (Addresses Outcomes 1, 2, 3, CP 22, CP 23, CP 24)

**8. Final** In light of what you have been exposed to in this course, re-write your homiletic (process of sermon formation from text-selection, to proclamation). **Due Sept. 7.**

### ***Distribution of Student Learning Hours***

	pre-module hours	module hours	post-module hours
Face-to-face Class Sessions		38	
Online Participation in forums, groups, etc.	0		0
Reading The Witness of Preaching (198 pgs) They Like to Never Quit Praisin God (130 pgs) Creative Preaching on the Sacraments (86 pgs) Preaching as Local Theology and Folk Art (144 pgs) Collateral reading	8 5 4 6	0	20
Writing Homiletic Reading reports - class texts (4) Sermon Sermon Evaluations Collateral Reading Report	2 10	10	6 8
Other Assignments and Learning Activities Quarterly Preaching Calendar Sermon Evaluations (listening to sermons)	0	0	20 3
Exams & Quizzes (final)	0	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>59</b>

### **Method for Submitting Assignments**

Assignments can be submitted in person, through the mail, e-mail, or by posting on moodle.

### **Policy Regarding Late Work & Missed Exams**

Unless prior arrangements are made, late work will be penalized 10% per day late. There are no exams in this course.

### **Course Grading**

Homiletic and 1<sup>st</sup> Video sermon                      10%  
Reading Reports    15%

Class attendance and participation	10%
Sermon Evaluations	10%
1 Quarter preaching calendar	10%
Collateral reading and report	10
Final	10%
Class Sermon / supp. materials	25%

## **Course Calendar**

<b>July 27</b>	Video Sermon and homiletic due
<b>August 1</b>	Reading Report Due- Long
<b>Aug. 8</b>	Reading Report Due - Tisdale
<b>August 15</b>	Reading Report Due - Thomas
<b>August 22</b>	Reading Report Due - Satterlee
<b>Sept. 7</b>	Final
<b>By Sept. 12</b>	Sermon Evaluation # 1
<b>Sept. 19</b>	Sermon Evaluation # 2
<b>Sept. 26</b>	Sermon Evaluation # 3
<b>Oct. 3</b>	1 quarter preaching calendar
<b>Oct. 10</b>	Collateral Reading Report Due

## **Bibliography**

### Focused Bibliography

- Allen, Ronald J. ed. *Patterns of Preaching: A Sermon Sampler*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 1998.
- Allen, Ronald J. *Preaching and Practical Ministry*. St Louis: Chalice Press, 2001.
- Allen, Ronald J. *Preaching Is Believing: The Sermon as Theological Reflection*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001.
- Allen, Ronald J. *The Teaching Sermon*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1996.
- Carl, William J. III. *Preaching Christian Doctrine*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1984.
- Eslinger, Richard L. *The Web of Preaching: New Options in Homiletic Method*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2002.
- Graham, Billy, et. al. *The Pastor's Guide to Effective Preaching*. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 2003.
- Greenhaw, David M. and Allen, Ronald J. eds. *Preaching in the Context of Worship*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2000.
- Honeycutt, Frank G. *Preaching for Adult Conversion and Commitment: Invitation to a Life Transformed*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2003.
- Jacobsen, David Schnasa, and Kelly, Robert Allen. *Kairos Preaching: Speaking the Gospel to the Situation*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2009.
- Loscalzo, Craig A. *Evangelistic Preaching that Connects: Guidance in Shaping Fresh & Appealing Sermons*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1995.

- Pasquarello, Michael III. *Christian Preaching: A Trinitarian Theology of Proclamation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2006.
- Stott, John R.W. *Between Two Worlds: The Art of Preaching in the Twentieth Century*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1982.
- Willimon, William H. *The Intrusive Word: Preaching to the Unbaptized*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. 1994.
- Willimon, William H. *Peculiar Speech: Preaching to the Baptized*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1992.
- Willimon, William H. *Proclamation and Theology*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2005.
- Willimon, William H. *Undone by Easter: Keeping Preaching Fresh*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2009.

### General Bibliography

- Altrock, Chris. *Preaching to Pluralists: How to Proclaim Christ in a Postmodern Age*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2004.
- Boone, Dan. *Preaching the Story that Shapes Us*. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 2008.
- Brown-Taylor, Barbara. *Gospel Medicine*. Cambridge: Cowley Publications, 1995.
- Brown-Taylor, Barbara. *Bread of Angels*. Cambridge: Cowley Publications, 1997.
- Brueggeman, Walter. *The Word Militant: Preaching a Decentering Word*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2007.
- Buttrick, David. *A Captive Voice: The Liberation of Preaching*. Louisville: John Knox Press, 1994.
- Childers, Jana. *Performing the Word: Preaching as Theatre*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1998.
- Craddock, Fred B. *Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1985, 98.
- Craddock, Fred B. *As One Without Authority*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2001.
- Gladwell, Malcolm. *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking*. New York: Back Bay Books, 2005.
- Graves, Michael. *The Sermon As Symphony*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 1997.
- Hoffman, Lawrence A. *The Art of Public Prayer: Not for Clergy Only*. Woodstock, Vermont: SkyLight Paths Publishing, 1999.
- Jones, Chelyn (ed.) *The Study of Liturgy*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1978.
- Lathrop, Gordon. *Holy Ground: A Liturgical Cosmology*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2003.
- Lathrop, Gordon. *Holy Things: A Liturgical Theology*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1993.
- Lewis, Ralph L. and Gregg Lewis. *Inductive Preaching: Helping People Listen*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1983.

- Long, Thomas G. *Preaching and the Literary Forms of the Bible*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1989.
- Long, Thomas G. *The Witness of Preaching*. Louisville: John Knox Westminster Press, 1989.
- Lowry, Eugene L. *Doing Time in the Pulpit*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1985.
- Lowry, Eugene L. *How to Preach a Parable: Designs for Narrative Sermons*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1989.
- Lowry, Eugene L. *The Sermon: Dancing the Edge of Mystery*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997.
- Lundblad, Barbara K. *Transforming the Stone: Preaching Through Resistance to Change*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001.
- Mawhinney, Bruce. *Preaching With Freshness*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 1991.
- Miller, Calvin. *Preaching: The Art of Narrative Exposition*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2006.
- Mitchell, Henry. *Celebration and Experience in Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1990.
- O'Day, Gail and Thomas Long (ed.) *Listening to the Word: Studies in Honor of Fred B. Craddock*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993.
- Salter, Darius. *Preaching as Art: Biblical Storytelling for a Media Generation*. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 2008.
- Satterlee, Craig and Lester Ruth. *Creative Preaching on the Sacraments*. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2001.
- Smith, Christine Marie (ed.). *Preaching Justice: Ethnic and Cultural Perspectives*. Cleveland: United Church Press, 1998.
- Stanely, Andy and Lane Jones. *Communicating for a Change*. Colorado Springs: Multnomah Books, 2006.
- Staples, Rob. *Outward Sign, Inward Grace: The Place of Sacraments in Wesleyan Spirituality*. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 1991.
- Stookey, Laurence H. *Eucharist: Christ's Feast With the Church*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1993.
- Stookey, Laurence H. *Calendar: Christ's Time for the Church*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1996.
- Tracy, Wesley D. *What's A Nice God Like You Doing In A Place Like This?* Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 1990.
- Troeger, Thomas. *Imagining a Sermon*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1990.
- Troeger, Thomas. *Ten Strategies for Preaching to a Multi-Media Culture*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1996.
- Tubbs-Tisdale, Leonora *Preaching as Local Theology and Folk Art*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press,

White, James F. *The Sacraments as God's Self Giving*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1983.

White, James F. *The Sacraments in Protestant Practice and Faith*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1999.

Willimon, William H. *Word, Water, Wine and Bread*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 1980.

Wilson, Paul Scott. *Imagination of the Heart: New Understandings in Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1988.