

PRH620 Expository Preaching  
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Nazarene Theological Seminary  
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## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the development of biblical sermons, including an analysis of the hermeneutical method used to move from the passage to the sermon on the passage. Particular attention will be given to scripture analysis, and homiletical tools for creating a sermon. How the preacher allows the text to conceive the sermon is the crux of the course.

## II. COURSE RATIONALE

The pastor must, among other responsibilities, lead his people into the presence of God through acts of worship. A significant part of that worship is the time the congregation listens to God--His Word for our day. While His Word may be heard through a variety of means--a hymn that is sung, a prayer worshipfully offered, a testimony joyfully shared, or just the quiet atmosphere of His people hushed to silence before Him--the sermon is that significant point when God speaks His truth to His people through a chosen human anointed by the Holy Spirit. The pulpit is sanctified by the spoken Word of God, and by no other means. Only then can the people hear "what the Spirit says to the Churches."

For this purpose, Expository Preaching is offered as a means of sharpening one's expositional skills of the Word, understanding more fully the variety of methods in proclaiming that Word, and challenging each student to a life and program of fully setting forth His Word to His people.

## III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

### A. General Objectives

As a student in this course you will:

1. Study the basic principles of expositional preaching.
2. Observe those methods by which servants of God have faithfully proclaimed His word.
3. Preach twice to your peers.

### B. Specific Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. State clearly the basic theology that provides a foundation for Biblical preaching.
2. Define what is meant by the terms biblical preaching, exegesis, and exposition; and be able to demonstrate an ability to do each.
3. Identify and discuss those methods by which one may explicate the Word of God.

4. Demonstrate an ability as a Christian scholar and preacher to use the "tools" of the Bible expositor skillfully in the preparation of sermons.
5. Discover key ingredients within the text, which provide content and direction for the sermon.
6. Utilize expository tools which give shape to the sermon.
7. Induct a sermon form from the literary type of scripture and the pericopy under examination.

#### IV. ENABLING ACTIVITIES

To assist the student in achieving these objectives the following activities will be followed:

1. Reading and studying the assigned textbooks.
2. Collateral reading of the student's choice. Those books necessary to help meet the objectives will be on the reserve shelf.
3. The lectures and discussions of the classroom are aimed to give major help to the student. While a student may have excused absences, it should be borne in mind that a lecture missed may be the vital source of knowledge to attain a specific objective. The student is responsible for classroom presentations.
4. Assignments aimed to develop those skills necessary for the successful completion of this course. The assignments are as follows:
  - a. Preach an expository message from the Old Testament. Write a two-page paper explaining how Sidney Greidanus influenced your treatment of the text and development of the message.
  - b. Preach an expository message from the New Testament. Write a two-page paper explaining how Thomas Long influenced your treatment of the text and development of the message.
  - c. Apply Haddon Robinson's "Idea of the Message" to a passage of scripture.
  - d. Paraphrase a portion of scripture, using oral language.
  - e. State as many judgement-grace themes as possible in a pericopy. How would you translate from judgement to grace?
  - f. Produce a movie from a biblical story. Describe characters, sets, dialogue, etc.
  - g. Listen to five different preachers. What use or non-use do they make of the text? Write a paragraph on each and submit to the professor.

#### V. COURSE ORGANIZATION

##### A. Required Texts

Primary Text – The Bible

Secondary Texts

1. Greidanus, Sidney The Modern Preacher and the Ancient Text. Grand Rapids: W. Eerdmans, 1989.
2. Long, Thomas. Preaching and the Literary Forms of the Bible. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1988.
3. Robinson, Haddon. Biblical Preaching. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1980.
4. Wilson, Paul Scott. God Sense. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2001.

- B. The course will be arranged as follows: The first half of the course will be given to lecture, discussion, and especially group work on individual texts. The second half of the course will be given to student preaching. The message which the student preaches will be immediately followed by a peer discussion of the sermon. The student will be videotaped each time s/he preaches. When the student views the video s/he will take notes on it. These notes, consisting of a page of observations, will be handed in to the professor. Please make careful recognition of posture, gestures, expression, eye contact, engagement, unity, transitions, passion, tempo, climax, conclusion, etc.

VI. GRADING - The final grade will be based upon the following:

1. Class participation - one-third
2. Assignments - one-third
3. Test - one-third

#### VIII. CLASS SCHEDULE

February 4	Course Introduction
February 5	Defining Expository Preaching
February 6	Marks of the Expositor
February 11	Choosing a Text for the Professor
February 12	Choosing and Establishing a Text
February 13	The Language of the Text: Assignment on Oral Language Due
February 18	Inductive Preaching
February 19	Going Into the Text: Mining the Raw Material
February 20	Judgement-Grace Assignment Due
February 26	Forming the Sermon
February 27	The Idea of the Sermon
March 3	The Idea of the Message Due
March 4	Fred Craddock
March 5	Fred Craddock

March 10	Imagination and the Text
March 11	Cinematography Assignment Due
March 12	Haddon Robinson Preaching
March 17	Closing the Message
March 18	Group Work on Scripture for Professors Sermon
March 19	Professor Preaching
April 1 – 30	Students Preaching

#### IX. Supplemental Reading

1. Blackwood, Andrew W. Expository Preaching For Today.
2. Brueggemann, Walter. Finally Comes the Poet.
3. Buttrick, David. A Captive Voice.
4. Buttrick, David. Homiletic.
5. Craddock, Fred. Preaching.
6. Greidanus, Sidney. The Modern Preacher and the Ancient Text.
7. Kaiser, Walter C. Jr. Toward an Exegetical Theology: Biblical Exegesis for Preaching and Teaching.
8. Killinger, John. Fundamentals of Preaching.
9. Koller, Charles W. Expository Preaching Without Notes.
10. Long, Thomas. Preaching and the Literary Forms of the Bible.
11. Long, Thomas. The Witness of Preaching.
12. Miller, Donald G. The Way to Biblical Preaching.
13. Robinson, Haddon. Expository Preaching.
14. Traina, Robert A. Methodical Bible Study.
15. Unger, Merrill F. Principles of Expository Preaching.
16. Whitesell, Faris. Great Expository Sermons.
17. Whitesell, Faris. Power in Expository Preaching.
18. Wilson, Paul Scott. God Sense.
19. Wilson, Paul Scott. The Practice of Preaching
20. Expositional sermons of the student's own choice.