PHILLIPS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
SYLLABUS DISCLAIMER

The following syllabus is the teaching and learning guide for the last time this course was taught. It will give you a good idea of the descriptions of the course, how it was taught, the reading, the papers and other assignments, the intended outcomes, and the workload. By examining this syllabus and others, you will be able to form an impression of what graduate theological education at Phillips Theological Seminary requires of students.

Due to periodic curriculum revisions, course names and/or numbers may be different on this syllabus than what the name and/or number of the current offered course may be.

This syllabus is provided for your information only. The faculty reserves the right to revise the curriculum, and each professor reserves the right to decide how best to meet the learning goals of the curriculum. Therefore, the following syllabus is an historical artifact rather than a promise of how the course will be taught in the future, or that the course will be taught again.

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This course is designed to build upon preceding seminars in Constructive Theology and Biblical Hermeneutics, the purpose being to integrate those subjects with homiletical theory and practice. The primary aim is to enable students to articulate purposeful performance of the preaching ministry within a theological framework. Towards that effort we will explore the full range of exegetical practices—from exegesis of ‘self’, to textual traditions and congregations. At the conclusion of this and Core Seminar II the student should have a rich foundation in homiletical theory for the completion of the final project for the Doctor of Ministry program.

Books:


Schedule of Topics:

Week I

January 8 (AM)

Topic: Who is Preaching Today? (the selfhood of the preacher)
Worship and discussion of sermon
Focus of discussion: how was the preacher ‘present’ in the sermon?
Introduction of our ‘selves’ as preachers
Discussion of influences, images, metaphors that guide our preaching

January 8 (PM)

Topic: Why Does the Preacher Preach?
Extemporaneous sermons on the purpose of preaching
Overview of The Purpose of Preaching (Childers, ed)

January 9 (AM)
Worship and discussion of the sermon
Focus: what purpose(s) of preaching emerged or were evident in the preaching event?
Presentation of your assignments on The Purpose of Preaching

January 9 (PM)

Topic: Why the Renewed Emphasis on Theology for Preaching?
Watch Paul Scott Wilson on You Tube on ‘purpose of preaching’
Discussion with Joe Bessler on preaching and theology
Overview of Mary Catherine Hilkert
Presentation of your reviews of Hilkert

January 10 (AM)
Worship and discussion
Focus: what were the theological concerns of the sermon?
Library work: Developing a profile of ‘dialectical’ and ‘sacramental’ theologians

January 10 (PM)
Reports from your library work
Study questions from Hilkert

January 11 (AM)
Worship and discussion
Focus: How did the preacher use a text? What strategies of interpretation were in evidence?
Topic: What is the Text Trying to Say?
1st exegetical report and sermon (recorded)
January 11 (PM)
2nd exegetical report and sermon (recorded)
3rd exegetical report and sermon (recorded)
4th exegetical report and sermon (recorded)

Week II

January 14 (AM)
Worship (preacher from the DMin seminar)
Discussion of the sermon
Foci for the week’s discussion of sermons:
   1. in what ways was the preacher ‘present’ in the sermon?
   2. What purpose(s) of preaching were evident in the sermon?
   3. What were the theological concerns in the sermon?
   4. How did the preacher use a text?
Topic: To Whom is the Preacher Preaching?
Overview of Tisdale and Principles of Congregational Exegesis

January 14 (PM)
1st Congregational Exegesis Report (1st draft)
2nd Congregational Exegesis Report

January 15 (AM)
Worship (preacher from the DMin seminar)
Discussion of the sermon (see above for foci)
3rd Congregational Exegesis report

January 15 (PM)
4th Congregational Exegesis report
Role-play in congregational exegesis

January 16 (AM)
Worship (preacher from the DMin seminar)
Discussion of the sermon
Setting up a “Formation and Feedback Group” in the congregation

January 16 (PM) Topic: How Does the Preacher Design the Sermon?
Discussion of “The Preacher as Narrator” (Hilkert, pp. 99ff)
The Value of ‘Story’ in Preaching (Hilkert, chapter 6)
Read overnight: “Preaching in the Shape of a Novel” in *Patterns of Preaching*, Ron Allen, ed. (Handout)

January 17 (AM)
Worship (preacher from the DMin seminar)
Discussion of the sermon

Discussion of “Preaching in the Shape of a Novel”
Overview of *Novel Preaching*

January 17 (PM)
Individual conferences