

COS 324: Preaching
Course of Study School of Ohio at MTSO

Spring 2022
Online, April 1-2 and May 6-7
The Reverend Don Dotterer, PhD
dondotterer@gmail.com
Check syllabus on Populi for cell phone

This course focuses on preaching from the Old and New Testaments.

General Board of Higher Education and Ministry

Course Objectives:

1. Articulate a theology of proclamation.
2. Exegete a variety of biblical passages for preaching.
3. Evaluate sermons for biblical integrity, theological soundness, internal logic, and delivery, and appropriate insights gained from the evaluation of their own sermons.
4. Develop plans for ordering and delivering sermons in their congregational and communal context.

This class is conducted as a seminar in preaching; therefore, a high level of class participation is expected.

Textbooks selected by GBHEM:

Required Texts:

Fred Craddock, *Craddock on the Craft of Preaching*
Cleophus LaRue, *The Heart of Black Preaching*
Barbara Brown Taylor, *The Preaching Life*

Required Reference Text:

Paul Scott Wilson, ed., *The New Interpreter's Handbook of Preaching*

Supplementary Texts:

Joseph Webb, *Preaching Without Notes*
Adam Hamilton, *Unleashing the Word*

Synchronous Zoom Classes (Eastern Time)

Friday, April 1, 10: 00 a.m.–Noon.

Saturday, April 2, 9:00–11:00 a.m.

Friday, May 6, 10:00 a.m.–Noon.

Friday, May 6, 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 7, 9:00–11:00 am.

Pre-class reading and written assignments:

First Weekend, April 1-2:

Due at the beginning of class on April 1:

1. Read articles in *The New Interpreter's Handbook of Preaching*:

Exegesis, p. 17; Hermeneutics, p. 31; Controversy, p. 117; Plagiarism, p. 128; Self-Disclosure, p. 133; Concerns of the Text and Sermon, p. 181; Illustrations and Stories, p. 189; Theme Sentences, p. 207; Video Clips, p. 209; Worship Environment, p. 211; Recovering Performance, p. 213; Leadership, p. 229; Long Range Sermon Planning, p. 232.; Performing the Manuscript, p. 236.

2. Read *The Preaching Life*.

3. Read chapters 1-9 of *Craddock on the Craft of Preaching*.

4. Choose a lectionary reading for any Sunday in the Lenten Season. Write an exegesis and sermon and submit both manuscripts as a combined paper of at least ten pages. If possible, preach the sermon in your church and be ready to discuss how you prepared and delivered the sermon and what was the response. Be prepared to preach the sermon in class. Post a recording of your sermon on Populi.

Second Weekend, May 6-7:

Due at the beginning of class on May 6:

1. Read articles in *The New Interpreter's Handbook of Preaching*:

Time Management, p. 247; Preaching to Children, p. 279; Preaching to Young Adults, p. 283; Pulpit, Use of, p. 284; Internet Preaching Databases, p. 310; Lectionary and the Christian Year, p. 321; Seeking to be Heard, p.369; Conclusions, p. 372; Controversial Preaching, p. 372; Funeral, p. 385; Introductions, p. 392; Preparation, p. 406; Sermon Series, p. 416; Teaching, p. 420; The Big Idea, p. 424.

2. Read Cleophus LaRue's *The Heart of Black Preaching*.

3. Read chapters 10-18 of *Craddock on the Craft of Preaching*.

4. Choose a lectionary reading from Holy Week or the first two Sundays of Easter. Write an exegesis and sermon and submit both manuscripts as a combined paper of at least ten pages. If possible, preach the sermon in your church and be ready to discuss how you prepared and delivered the sermon and what was the response. Be prepared to preach the sermon in class. Post a recording of your sermon on Populi.

POSTING SERMON RECORDINGS (from Grace, gwallace@mtso.edu)

There are several ways you can post a recording of your sermon on Populi. If you preached the sermon at your church and the service was streamed/recorded, post a link to the recording and note at what time in the video the sermon starts. You can record the sermon on your phone/computer/camera, and then upload the file to Populi (Populi has a 200 MB size limit, which your sermon will probably be under, if you don't film in HD—if the file is too big Populi will tell you when you try to post it), or to somewhere like Youtube. You can post a video with a free Youtube account and if you wish, you can make the video “unlisted” so that it's just visible to those you share the link with.

DISCUSSION BOARD

There is a discussion board for our class on Populi which will enable us to meet GBHEM's requirement of asynchronous hours. The purpose of the discussion board is to promote conversation among students about assigned material. Every week, from March 28–May 8, a question will be posted on the discussion board on Monday. The questions will be based on assigned readings and YouTube videos. **Each student should post a 4–5 sentence paragraph response to the question by midnight Thursday evening, plus a 2–3 sentence response to a fellow student's post by midnight Sunday evening.** The first postings are due March 31; topic will be posted on March 28.

Things to remember . . .

The Course of Study program's expectation is at least **twenty pages of writing** for each course. This would be double-spaced, 12 font. Your two exegeses and sermons together should meet this requirement.

Please call or e-mail me with questions prior to, in between, or after the weekend classes. I am looking forward to our time together. May God bless you in your preaching ministry.

COSSO ATTENDANCE POLICY

National policy from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) states that a student is expected to attend every class session. Unexcused absences may be cause for loss of credit or dismissal from the school. A student missing 20% or more of the classroom work shall not receive credit for the class. In the event of extenuating circumstances which require the student to miss up to 20% of a course (4 hours for an in-person class or 20% of synchronous time on Zoom for an online course), the student should contact both the instructor and the Director prior to the start of the class to get approval and discuss make-up work. Extenuating circumstances include emergency situations, illness, and dire circumstances, for example.

Cancellation and Withdrawal: Student must notify the COSSO office if they will be unable to attend class for which they are registered. Although there is no penalty when withdrawing more than two weeks in advance of the beginning of a term, registration fees are nontransferable and nonrefundable. A \$25.00 late withdrawal fee is charged for all withdrawals within two weeks of the start of a class. All tuition and housing payments are applied to a future term.

Students withdrawing after the start of a term will be assigned a grade of AW (Administrative Withdrawal) and will be responsible for the full \$270 tuition amount. Any annual conference scholarship applied to the student billing record becomes the student's responsibility and is due by the end of the term. Housing payment is non-refundable.

No Shows: Except in cases of immediate and dire emergencies, if a student misses any class without notifying the COSSO office, tuition and housing fees are due immediately, a \$25.00 no show fee is charged, and the student will receive an "F" in the class.

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY

The Course of Study School of Ohio requires that all material submitted by a student in fulfilling his or her academic requirements be the original work of the student.

Violations of academic honor include any action by a student indicating dishonesty or lack of integrity in academic ethics. Violations in this category include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly passing off work of another as one's own.

Cheating includes seeking, acquiring, receiving or passing on information about the content of an examination prior to its authorized release or during its administration. Cheating also includes seeking, using, giving or obtaining unauthorized assistance in any academic assignment or examination.

Plagiarism is the act of presenting as one's own work with the work of another whether published or unpublished (including the work of another student). A writer's work should be regarded as his or her own property. Any person who knowingly uses a writer's distinctive work without proper acknowledgement is guilty of plagiarism.

Please speak to me if you need clarification.

A student found guilty of a violation of the academic honor code, after a review of the case, may be subject to one or more of the following sanctions: (1) warning; (2) failing grade for the assignment and/or course; (3) probation; (4) suspension; (5) dismissal from the Course of Study School of Ohio. In severe or repeat cases (regardless of the sanctions) a letter will be sent to the student's District Superintendent and Board of Ordained Ministry representative.