

PT 502A: Homiletics A
New Geneva Theological Seminary
Dr. Christopher Faria

Online Course Syllabus

General Course Description: Instruction in the historical, biblical expositional method of preparation and delivery of Expository Sermons with an emphasis on Reformed preaching.

I. Coarse Goals

- Knowledge:
 - To gain a basic understanding of the basic principles of expository sermons
 - To understand these principles in the light of the history of the church; i.e., Reformed preaching
- Skills:
 - To be able to explain the two components of a Reformed Sermon
 - To be able to identify the difference between a biblical application and moralistic implication/application
 - To be able to identify the purpose, form, and delivery of a sermon
 - To be able to identify the redemptive theme; i.e., Fallen Condition Focus of given passages of scripture
 - To synthesize the redemptive historical Christ-centered theme in any given passage as it is prepared
 - To be able to compose and deliver a biblical, expository, Reformed sermon
- Character:
 - To understand the biblical call and office of a preacher
 - To develop a greater humility and appreciation of God's grace as an ambassador and herald of the gospel
 - To develop a growing present sense of responsibility of a pastor-teacher for one's present/future congregation

II. General Course Requirements

1. Read: Chapell, Bryan, *Christ Centered Preaching*, chapters 6-11;
2. Read assigned chapters from Faria, Christopher, *Calvin's View of Reformed Preaching*;
3. Complete written assignments based on the Chapell reading;
4. Take the Final Exam: This will be a three-hour exam for which you will be able to use no helps, not even a Bible. It will include all the class notes and the reading from Chapell and Faria

III. Text Book List

Required:

Chapell, Bryan. *Christ-Centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon* (Kindle version available).

Faria, Christopher. *Calvin's View of Reformed Preaching* (included in course materials).

Recommended:

Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*.

Greidanus, Sidney. *Preaching Christ from the Old Testament: A Contemporary Hermeneutical Method* (Kindle Version available).

Greidanus, Sidney. *Sola Scriptura: Problems and Principles in Preaching Historical Texts*.

Johnson, Dennis E. *Him We Proclaim: Preaching Christ from All the Scriptures* (Kindle Version available).

Willimon, William. *Peculiar Speech: Preaching to the Baptized* (Kindle version available).

Willimon, William. *The Intrusive Word: Preaching to the Unbaptized* (Kindle version available)

IV. Reading and Written Assignments

- Complete assigned readings from the Chapell text.
- It is *highly* recommended that you peruse the works of Willimon and Johnson.
- Complete the written assignments and exercises from the Chapell text. Make your responses brief, but not so brief that the instructor has to guess that you covered the topic.

V. Preaching Assignments

Each student will preach a round of three sermons on chosen passages.

- The student will turn in the written sermon one week prior to his assigned preaching date.
- The student will preach the sermon via Skype without notes.
- The length of the sermon will not exceed 25 (Twenty-Five) minutes and no less than 20 (Twenty) minutes.
 - Grading for both written and oral presentations will be according to the scale announced in class.

VI. Format for written assignments:

- Each paper should be formatted in accord with the latest edition of Turabian. A convenient guide to Turabian formatting may be found here: <https://www.covenantseminary.edu/library/turabian/>;
- Use the Times New Roman font, 12 point, double spaced, providing footnotes where needed;

- A cover sheet with the topic, subject, chapter number; i.e, Chapter 4 Exercises, student name, and date of the assignment centered on the page;
- Subsequent pages should be numbered in the upper right hand corner;
- There is no minimum number of pages, but your responses should not be so brief that one has to guess if you covered the topic.