



TYNDALE

• SEMINARY •

Course Syllabus

WINTER 2020 INTRODUCTION TO PREACHING PAST 0641

JANUARY 15 – APRIL 8, 2020
WEDNESDAYS, 6:45 – 9:35 PM

INSTRUCTOR: DR. KEVIN LIVINGSTON

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 2-4 p.m. and by appointment at other times

Access course material at <http://classes.tyndale.ca/>

Course emails will be sent to your @MyTyndale.ca e-mail account only.

[Learn how to access and forward emails to your personal account.](#)

The mission of Tyndale Seminary is to provide Christ-centred graduate theological education for leaders in the church and society whose lives are marked by intellectual maturity, spiritual vigour and moral integrity, and whose witness will faithfully engage culture with the Gospel.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Introduces preaching as a theological and pastoral practice of the church in service to the gospel. Topics include exegeting the biblical text and our contemporary context; principles of sermon design and delivery; and the character of the preacher. Two sermons are preached in class.

Prerequisites: BIBL 0501 Biblical Interpretation

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

Cognitive:

- Articulate their own emerging theology of preaching
- Explain the basic elements of sermon design and delivery

Affective:

- Demonstrate the conviction that the biblical text is the proper foundation for preaching, as God speaks good news by the power of the Holy Spirit
- Address the needs of listeners in ways that are relevant and engaging
- Show confidence that God is dynamically present in the preaching event

Skills:

- Interpret a biblical text and craft sermons that are coherent, attractive and persuasive to hearers
- Develop greater proficiency in public speaking, Scripture reading and storytelling
- Analyze sermons of experienced preachers and their own peers, in order to help them assess their own preaching and offer constructive feedback to peers
- Plan a preaching schedule

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Hulst, Mary. *A Little Handbook for Preachers*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2016. (ISBN 978-0830841288) 208 pp.

Long, Thomas. *The Witness Of Preaching*. 3rd ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2016. (ISBN 978-0664261429) 280 pp.

B. REQUIRED CHAPTERS (PDF copies are on the class page)

Briscoe, Stuart. "Planning a Preaching Menu" In *Mastering Contemporary Preaching*, edited by Bill Hybels, Stuart Briscoe and Haddon Robinson. Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1989, 45-53.

Farris, Stephen. "Exegesis of the Congregation," and "Exegesis of Self." In *The New Interpreter's Handbook of Preaching*, edited by Paul Scott Wilson. Nashville, Abingdon Press, 2008, 266-269.

Newbigin, Lesslie. "Preaching Christ Today," In *The Good Shepherd: Meditations on Christian Ministry in Today's World*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1977.

Ooms, John. "Planning Ahead: how one pastor was delivered from Monday morning madness," in *Reformed Worship* 55 (2000), 4-6.

Pitt-Watson, Ian. "What Comes First." In his *A Primer for Preachers*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999, 11-22.

Powery, Luke. "Preaching and Prayer." In Sally Brown and Luke Powery, *Ways of the Word: Learning to Preach for Your Time and Place*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2016, 51-78.

Robinson, Haddon. "How to Speak so People Will Listen." In his *Biblical Preaching*. 3rd edition. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2013, 201-220.

Stott, John and Greg Scharf. "The Call to Study." In their *The Challenge of Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2013, 40-50.

C. Exegetical/commentary readings

Students will read commentaries and other resources as needed to produce two exegetical reflections on chosen biblical texts.

Tyndale recommends www.stepbible.org – a free and reputable online resource developed by Tyndale House (Cambridge, England) – for word searches of original-language texts, as well as for topical searches, interlinear texts, dictionaries, etc. Refer to the library for other [online resources for Biblical Studies](#).

C. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Primary assignments for this course include required readings; class participation; posting of weekly reading responses; two preached sermons, along with written exegetical notes, sermon manuscript and self-evaluation; and participation in a group book discussion. Attendance is mandatory and grade may be reduced for unexcused absences.

- 1. Reading Response Posts.** Due weeks 2-6 & 8-12. 30% of final grade (3 points x 10 weeks). Each week I will post questions from the week's readings. You are asked to respond to two questions from two different readings. The length of the response should be around 350 words and must be posted on our Class Page by 12 Noon Wednesday, the day of class. No points will be given for any late submission. Your posts will be used to measure your progress in learning the content of course, monitor your writing ability, and to plan the discussion for the upcoming class. Submit your reading response posts by uploading them to the Class page in the appropriate location.
- 2. Preparation and preaching of two sermons, including submission of exegetical notes, full sermon manuscript and a brief (2-3 paragraph) self-evaluation of your preaching experience.** 60% of final grade (30 points x 2). You will prepare exegetical summaries of both texts you are preaching, based on the exegetical model presented in class. Identify and make use of at least two scholarly commentaries, a list of which will be provided on our Class Page. Sermon texts for preaching will be assigned in the course. The length of sermon will be 15 minutes. When you preach, you may use your manuscript, an outline or without notes, but you must submit a full sermon manuscript; point form or outline is not acceptable. Grades will be based on sermon manuscripts and exegetical notes. Though the presentation of your sermons will not be graded, they will be carefully evaluated and discussed in class and with the professor. Your first sermon will be preached in small student groups. Your second sermon will be preached in class. (If the class is large, some students may preach at another time to a smaller group of classmates and the instructor.) Submit your

exegetical notes, sermon manuscript and self-evaluation by uploading them by uploading them to the Class page in the appropriate location.

3. **Interview a Preacher.** 10% of final grade, due by April 15. Conduct an interview with a seasoned, mature preacher, asking him/her about the methods they use to select the passages of Scripture they preach; their habits of exegesis and sermon preparation; their practices and advice about sermon delivery; and what they do in their life as pastors to keep their preaching fresh and vital. Write up a 2-3-page summary of your interview and reflect on the wisdom you have gained.

D. ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES

Wed., Jan. 22, Noon	Reading Response Post 1
Wed. Jan. 29, Noon	Reading Response Post 2
Wed. Feb. 5, Noon	Reading Response Post 3
Wed. Feb. 12, Noon	Reading Response Post 4
Wed. Feb. 26, Noon	Reading Response Post 5
Wed. March 4	All students preach sermon 1 in small groups
Wed. March 11, Noon	Reading Response Post 6
Wed. March 11	Turn in Sermon 1 exegetical notes, manuscript, & self-evaluation
Wed. March 18, Noon	Reading Response Post 7
	Student group A preach sermon 2
Wed. March 25, Noon	Reading Response Post 8
Wed. March 25	Student group B preach sermon 2
	Student group A turn in Sermon 2 exegetical notes, manuscript, & self-evaluation
Wed. April 1, Noon	Reading Response Post 9
Wed. April 1	Student group C preach sermon 2
Wed. April 1	Student group B turn in Sermon 2 exegetical notes, manuscript, & self-evaluation
Wed. April 8, Noon	Reading Response Post 10
Wed. April 8	Student group D preach sermon 2
	Student group C turn in Sermon 2 exegetical notes, manuscript, & self-evaluation
Wed. April 15	Student group D turn in Sermon 2 exegetical notes, manuscript, & self-evaluation
Wednesday, April 15	Preacher Interview Reflection Paper

E. EQUITY OF ACCESS

Students with permanent or temporary disabilities who need academic accommodations must [contact](#) the [Accessibility Services](#) at the [Centre for Academic Excellence](#) to [register](#) and discuss their specific needs. *New students* must self-identify and register with the Accessibility Office at the beginning of the semester or as early as possible to access appropriate services.

Current students must renew their plans as early as possible to have active accommodations in place.

F. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

Reading Response Posts (10 x 3%)	30%
Sermon 1 Manuscript, Exegetical Notes, Self-Eval.	30%
Sermon 2 Manuscript, Exegetical Notes, Self-Eval.	30%
Preacher Interview and Written Summary	10%
Total Grade	100%

G. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Documentation Style

Exegetical summaries should follow proper documentation style. For proper citation style, consult the [Chicago-Style Quick Guide](#) (Tyndale e-resource) or the full edition of the [Chicago Manual of Style Online](#), especially [ch. 14](#). For citing scripture texts, refer to sections [10.44 to 10.48](#) and [14.238 to 14.241](#).

Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University College & Seminary takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

Students are encouraged to consult [Writing Services](#). Students should also consult the current [Academic Calendar](#) for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System.

Research Ethics

All course-based assignments involving human participants requires ethical review and may require approval by the [Tyndale Research Ethics Board \(REB\)](#). Check with the Seminary Office (Room B302; aau@tyndale.ca) before proceeding.

H. COURSE EVALUATION

Tyndale Seminary values quality in the courses it offers its students. End-of-course evaluations provide valuable student feedback and are one of the ways that Tyndale Seminary works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student's

learning experience. Student involvement in this process is critical to enhance the general quality of teaching and learning.

Before the end of the course, students will receive a MyTyndale email with a link to the online course evaluation. The link can also be found in the left column on the course page. The evaluation period is 2 weeks; after the evaluation period has ended, it cannot be reopened.

Course Evaluation results will not be disclosed to the instructor before final grades in the course have been submitted and processed. Student names will be kept confidential and the instructor will only see the aggregated results of the class.

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

Jan 15 Orientation: What makes for a worthy sermon?

Required Reading: Long, Introduction; Hulst, Introduction & Conclusion

Syllabus review
Images of preachers
What makes for a worthy sermon?
Practicum: introducing ourselves

**** ATTENTION: JAN. 22 CLASS WILL BE ONLINE ONLY; LECTURES WILL BE POSTED ****

Jan 22 Theologizing: What is God doing when we preach?

Required Reading: Long, ch. 1; Hulst, chs. 2 & 3; Pitt-Watson PDF

Preaching from below: self-knowledge and bearing witness
Preaching from above: participating in God's work
The Priority of grace: indicatives before imperatives

Jan 29 Exegeting: What does this text say?

Required Reading: Long, chs. 3; Hulst, ch. 1

Lectio Divina and getting immersed in the text
Exegesis for preaching
The importance of a *single* idea: the claim of the text
Practicum: speaking for audibility, clarity and emphasis
Selecting a text for sermon 1

Feb. 5 Bridge-Building: What does this text mean for us today?

Required Reading: Long, ch. 2; Hulst, chs. 6 & 7; Farris PDF

Preaching as the hermeneutical task of bridge-building
The exegesis of life: self, congregation and culture
Preaching with cultural intelligence

Practicum: asking good questions of a text

Feb. 12 Discerning: What is the focus and function of this sermon

Required Reading: Long, ch. 4; Hulst, chs. 4; Newbigin PDF

The focus and function of the sermon

Preaching the text of Scripture and preaching the gospel of Christ

Practicum: clarifying your text's claim and your sermon's focus and function

Feb. 19 Reading Days; NO CLASS

Feb. 26 Designing: What form should this sermon take?

Required Reading: Long, chs. 5 & 6, Appendix A and B

Common sermon forms: inductive or deductive?

Focus, function, and sermon "moves"

Practicum: pondering the best form and moves for your sermon

March 4 Preaching and Evaluating: Offering gracious and truthful feedback

Required Reading: Hulst, ch. 10

Offering gracious feedback – strategies to speak the truth in love

Sermon 1 (15 minute maximum; preached in small groups)

March 11 Introductions & conclusions; illustrations & storytelling; words and orality

Required Readings: Long, chs. 7 & 8; Appendix C and D; Hulst, ch. 5

Beginnings, connections and endings

Illustrations, implications, applications

The power of words: show, don't tell

Writing and orality: preaching for the ear as well as the eye

March 18 Rehearsal and delivery; some preach Sermon Two

Required Readings: Long, ch. 10; Hulst, ch. 8; Robinson PDF

Activity: Group A preach sermon 2

Manuscript, outline or without notes?

Embodying your sermon: purposeful gestures and the sound of your voice

Rehearsal and revision: practice makes perfect

March 25 Sustaining the preaching life: sermon planning; some preach Sermon Two

Required Reading: Long, ch. 9; Ooms PDF; Briscoe PDF

Activity: Group B preach sermon 2

Striving to provide a balanced preaching diet
Sermon planning: annual, seasonal, and weekly tasks

April 1 Sustaining the preaching life: the call to study; some preach Sermon Two

Required Reading: Hulst, ch. 9 and Stott PDF
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Activity: Group C preach Sermon 2

Self-less Preaching
The call to study
Course evaluation

April 8 Sustaining the preaching life: the inner life; some preach Sermon Two

Required Reading: Long, ch. 11; Powery PDF
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Activity: Group D preach Sermon 2

Developing a Rule of Life for preachers
Preaching Virtues: sincerity, earnestness, courage and humility

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

(Tyndale Library supports this course with [e-journals and e-books](#). See the [Library FAQ page](#).)

A. Reference Works

Larson, Craig Brian and Haddon Robinson, eds. *The Art and Craft of Biblical Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

McClure, John. *Preaching Words: 144 Key Terms in Homiletics*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2007

Old, Hughes Oliphant. *The Reading and the Preaching of the Scriptures in the Worship of the Christian Church*. 7 vols. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1998-2010.

Willimon, William and Richard Lischer, eds. *Concise Encyclopedia of Preaching*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1995.

Wilson, Paul Scott. *A Concise History of Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992.

Wilson, Paul Scott, ed. *The New Interpreter's Handbook of Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2008.

B. Biblical, Theological and Cultural Foundations for Preaching Today

Adam, Peter. *Speaking God's Words: A Practical Theology of Expository Preaching*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996.

- Billings, Todd. *The Word of God for the People of God: An Entryway to the Theological Interpretation of Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2010.
- Goheen, Michael and Craig Bartholomew. *The Drama of Scripture: Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story, Second Edition*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2014.
- Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2000.
- Johnson, Patrick. *The Mission of Preaching: Equipping the Community for Faithful Witness*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2015.
- Keller, Timothy. *Preaching: Communicating Faith in an Age of Skepticism*. New York: Viking, 2015.
- Kim, Matthew. *Preaching with Cultural Intelligence: Understanding the People Who Hear Our Sermons*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2017.
- Peterson, Eugene. *Eat This Book: A Conversation in the Art of Spiritual Reading*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2006.
- Tisdale, Lenora Tubbs. *Preaching as Local Theology and Folk Art*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1997.
- Willimon, William. *Proclamation and Theology*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2005.

C. Preaching Textbooks

- Alcántara, Jared. *The Practices of Christian Preaching: Essentials for Effective Proclamation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2019.
- Brown, Sally and Luke Powery. *Ways of the Word: Learning to Preach for Your Time and Place*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2016.
- Chapell, Bryan. *Christ-Centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon, Third edition*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2018.
- Craddock, Fred B. *Preaching, 25th Anniversary Edition*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2010.
- Johnson, Darrell. *The Glory of Preaching*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2009.
- Long, Thomas G. *The Witness of Preaching, Third Edition*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2016.
- Robinson, Haddon. *Biblical Preaching. 3rd edition*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2013.
- Stott, John. *Between Two Worlds: The Challenge of Preaching Today*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1982.
- Wilson, Paul Scott. *The Practice of Preaching: Revised Edition*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2007.

D. Some older and newer “classics”

- Forsyth, P. T. *Positive Preaching and the Modern Mind*. New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son, 1906. Reprinted 2012 by HardPress Publishing.
- Hulst, Mary. *A Little Handbook for Preachers*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Praxis, 2016.
- Lischer, Richard, ed. *The Company of Preachers: Wisdom on Preaching, Augustine to the Present*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2002.
- Piper, John. *The Supremacy of God in Preaching, Revised Edition*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2015.
- Spurgeon, Charles. *Lectures to My Students*. Reprinted 2010 by Hendrickson Publishers.
- Stewart, James. *Heralds of God*. London: Hodder, 1946. Reprinted 2001 by Regent College Publishing.
- Stott, John and Greg Scharf. *The Challenge of Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2015.
- Taylor, Barbara Brown. *The Preaching Life*. Lanham, MD: Cowley Publications, 1993.
- Wilson, Paul Scott. *The Four Pages of A Sermon: Revised and Updated*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2018.

E. Exemplary Sermons

- Craddock, Fred. *The Cherry Log Sermons*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2005.
- _____. *The Collected Sermons of Fred Craddock*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2011.
- Dean, Robert. *Leaps of Faith: Sermons from the Edge*. Eugene: Wipf & Stock, 2016.
- Long, Thomas and Cornelius Plantinga. *Chorus of Witnesses: Model Sermons for Today's Preacher*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994.
- Rutledge, Fleming. *The Bible and the New York Times*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.
- _____. *Help My Unbelief*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.
- _____. *The Undoing of Death*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005.
- _____. *Not Ashamed of the Gospel. Sermons from Paul's Letter to the Romans*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2007.
- _____. *And God Spoke to Abraham: Preaching from the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2011.
- Peterson, Eugene. *As Kingfishers Catch Fire: A Conversation on the Ways of God Formed by the Word of God*. New York: Waterbrook, 2017.
- Taylor, Barbara Brown. *Bread of Angels*. Cambridge: Cowley Publications, 1997.
- Willimon, William. *The Collected Sermons of William H. Willimon*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2014.