

Syllabus for
PRM 661-OCT—Introduction to Preaching
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2015

Modular/Distance Education Program Blended A Course
On campus component: October 5-7, 2015

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the dynamics of preaching within the context of the Christian community. Provides a general introduction to preaching challenges, sermon preparation, and sacramental functions.
Prerequisites: None.

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to do the following:

- A. Learn about what it is like to be a preacher in today's world.
- B. Study the basic rudiments of sermon preparation.
- C. Consider how to be a preacher in the kinds of ministry settings into which the student may be called.
- D. Learn to develop confidence in the possibilities of being a preacher of the Word of God.
- E. Be challenged to pay the price of preparation, struggle, and spiritual anguish that is required to preach and, in turn, to experience the satisfaction that follows.
- F. Learn to develop a passion for preaching the Word of God for response under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.
- G. Learn to bring interest, vitality, solid content, and the power of the Holy Spirit into the preaching event.
- H. Acquire insight into the skills necessary to officiate at weddings and funerals and to administer the sacraments/ordinances.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Explain a rationale for why preaching is different from other forms of public address.
- B. Make a case, either orally or in writing, for the importance of authority in preaching and describe the sources of this authority.
- C. Describe the various kinds of sermons and the ingredients that go into a sermon.
- D. Conduct weddings and funerals, and administer the sacraments/ordinances.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required Materials

1. Textbooks

Carter, Terry G., J. Scott Duvall, and J. Daniel Hays. *Preaching God's Word*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005. ISBN: 9780310248873

Cox, Richard H. *Rewiring Your Preaching*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2012. ISBN: 9780830841011

Edwards, J. Kent. *Deep Preaching: Creating Sermons that Go Beyond the Superficial*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2009. ISBN: 9780805446951

Merida, Tony. *Faithful Preaching: Declaring Scripture with Responsibility, Passion, and Authenticity*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2009. ISBN: 9780805448207

2. Other None

B. Optional Materials

1. Textbooks

None

2. Other

None

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, electronic, video, multimedia, or computer software. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating involve both lying and stealing and are violations of ORU's Honor Code: "I will not cheat or plagiarize; I will do my own academic work and will not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments." Plagiarism is usually defined as copying someone else's ideas, words, or sentence structure and submitting them as one's own. Other forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) the following:

- a. Submitting another's work as one's own or colluding with someone else and submitting that work as though it were his or hers;
- b. Failing to meet group assignment or project requirements while claiming to have done so;
- c. Failing to cite sources used in a paper;
- d. Creating results for experiments, observations, interviews, or projects that were not done;
- e. Receiving or giving unauthorized help on assignments.

By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means. Penalties for any of the above infractions may result in disciplinary action including failing the assignment or failing the course or expulsion from the University, as determined by department and University guidelines.

2. Students are to be in compliance with university, school, and departmental policies regarding Whole Person Assessment requirements. Students should consult the WPA handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the students' majors.
 - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an ePortfolio artifact is a zero for that assignment.
 - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.

B. Graduate School of Theology and Ministry Policies and Procedures—Modular/Distance Education Program

1. **Modular Intensive Week:** Each Modular Intensive Week, usually held in CityPlex Towers on the 21st floor, has sessions Monday-Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
 - a. This week will be comprised of two 2 ½ day blended courses designated as Blended “A” and Blended “B.”
 - b. Blended “A” courses include 7 weeks of online instruction *prior to* the 2 ½ day modular intensive component.
 - c. Blended “B” courses include 7 weeks of online instruction *following the* 2 ½ day modular intensive component.
 - d. Students are to make travel arrangements that do not interfere with their involvement in all of these sessions, and confirm course location prior to arrival.
2. Instructions for the online portion of this course and designated assignments are to be found in the course management shell in Desire 2 Learn (D2L) and elsewhere in this syllabus.
3. Each overdue assignment will be penalized 10% for each week it is late. After the third week, no credit will be given for the assignment.
4. Attendance
 - a. Students are to attend all sessions associated with the specific blended course designation during the modular intensive week.
 - b. All absences, late arrivals, and early departures receive a grade reduction equal to 2.5% for each classroom hour missed and **must be approved by the Modular Director.**
5. The Disability Service Center, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, assures that no qualified individual with a disability will be denied reasonable accommodations based upon the individual's needs. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Disability Service Center and properly register for these services. For more information, call 918.495.7018 or go to www.studentresources.oru.edu.

- C. Course Policies and Procedures
1. Evaluation Procedures
 - a. Grading:

Book critique	21%
Reading certifications (3% reduction for each missing cert. form)	12%
3 sermon observations	15%
Sermon outline	5%
Sermon manuscript	12%
Unit questions and assignments	21%
Discussion board interaction	14%
 - b. Grading scale:
 - A=90-100%
 - B=80-89%
 - C=70-79%
 - D=60-69%
 - F=59% and below
 - 2) Whole Person Assessment Requirements
 - a. All students entering the seminary are required to enroll in PRF 059—ePortfolio: Whole Person Assessment, which provides specific training to develop the skills needed to create an ePortfolio.
 - b. WPA requirements for this course:
 - None
 - 3) Other Policies and/or Procedures
 - a. Online Assignments
 - (1) Read the following textbooks and sign the certification forms on due dates:
 - (a) Week 3: Edwards
 - (b) Week 5: Merida
 - (c) Week 7: Cox
 - (d) Week 7: Carter, Duvall, Hays
 - (2) Write one 6-9 page book critique incorporating three books (Edwards, Merida, Cox) into one paper, using this format:*
 - (a) A summary of ½ to 1 page for each book
 - (b) An evaluation of 2 to 3 total pages discussing each author’s purpose and indicating issues on which you agree and disagree and why
 - (c) An integration of 2 to 3 pages total discussing elements on how the authors compare and contrast and what is significant to you for an effective preaching ministry
 - (d) *Please use the divisions above as subheadings in your paper to distinguish each section
 - (e) Due week 7
 - (3) Three sermon observations of three different preachers.
 - (a) Observation forms available in D2L.
 - (b) Complete form and submit one in each of the week 3, 5, and 7 designated dropboxes.

- (4) Sermon Outline:
- (a) Develop one sermon outline from the designated themes listed below, according to the following form:
 - Preliminary matter
 - Introduction
 - Body
 - Conclusion
 - Invitation
 - Citation of study resources
 - (b) Note: Use at least 3 resources besides Bible translations.
 - (c) Due Week 6.
- (5) Sermon Manuscript:
- (a) Develop one sermon, fully written, from the designated themes listed below. The manuscript should be 4 to 5 pages (doubled spaced) in length.
 - (b) Designated themes:
 - Love of God
 - Life of Jesus
 - Discipleship
 - Importance of studying the Bible
 - Prayer
 - Funeral/Memorial
 - Holy Spirit baptism
 - Divine healing
 - Salvation (to unbelievers)
 - Old Testament hero or heroine
 - One of Jesus' parables
 - (c) Due Week 6
- (6) Discussion Board Interaction (weekly)
- (a) Students will be placed into small groups with 5 to 7 of their classmates. All weekly discussion board interaction will take place within small groups.
 - (b) Each student is responsible for posting 300-400 words based on the assigned reading.
 - (c) Students will also need to post a minimum of two 100-150 word replies to the posts of their peers to receive full credit.
 - (d) It is vital students do not get behind in discussion board postings because they cannot be made up.
- (7) Weekly Unit Questions and Assignments Document
- (a) Answer designated weekly questions and complete weekly assignments.
 - (b) Submit a Word document in the designated dropbox for all unit questions and assignments.

- b. Modular Intensive Week Assignments
 - (1) Attend all lectures
 - (2) Participate in small group activities
- c. Instructor: Dr. Tim Ekblad, tekblad@oru.edu

VI. COURSE CALENDAR – MODULAR INTENSIVE WEEK

Monday, October 5, 2015 BLENDED A

8:30 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	Course introduction
9:00 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	The Personal Life of a Leader
10:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m.	12:00 noon	Challenges of Preaching
12:00 noon	1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	3:15 p.m.	Five Kinds of Deep Preaching and Definitions of Preaching
3:15 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	Break
3:30 p.m.	4:45 p.m.	Sermon Observation – Evaluation Group Activity
4:45 p.m.	5:30 p.m.	Eight Steps of Sermon Preparation

Tuesday, October 6, 2015 BLENDED A

8:30 a.m.	10:00 a.m.	Using Illustrations Effectively
10:00 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15 a.m.	12:00 noon	The Purpose, Advantages, and Principles of Effective Outlines
12:00 noon	1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	3:15 p.m.	Intriguing Introductions and Captivating Conclusions
3:15 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	Break
3:30 p.m.	4:45 p.m.	Sermon Outline Explanation/Observation Group Activity
4:45 p.m.	5:30 p.m.	Utilizing a Preaching Calendar

Wednesday, October 7, 2015 BLENDED A

8:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	Planning, Preaching, and Executing Meaningful Weddings and Funerals, Dr. Tim Watkins
10:30 a.m.	10:45 p.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	12:00 noon	Chapel
12:00 noon	2:30 p.m.	Lunch/Welcome & Program Orientation – Dr. Ekblad

**Inventory for Student Learning Outcomes
Graduate School of Theology and Ministry**

Master of Divinity

PRM 661 Introduction to Preaching Dr. Tim Ekblad, Instructor

Fall 2015

This course contributes to student learning outcomes for the Master of Divinity degree as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

No Contribution – Does not address the outcome.

Degree Program Outcomes	Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
Scripture in Cultural/Historical Context				
Articulate a foundational knowledge of the content of Scripture within its cultural and historical context with application to selected contemporary situations.		X		
Exegetical Tools to Translate/Analyze Biblical Text				
Interpret the biblical writings in the Greek and/or Hebrew languages using critical exegetical tools, and write a hermeneutical and exegetical paper.			X	
Knowledge of Christianity				
Present a basic knowledge of the key movements and figures together with their significance in the history of Christianity.			X	
Knowledge of Christian Theology/Doctrine				
Exhibit a basic knowledge of contents and methods of Christian theology.		X		
Biblical/Theological Basis for Ministry Strategies				
Present practical ministry skills and strategies.	X			
Christian Ethics for Social Issues				
Analyze and discuss contemporary social issues affecting the Church and society based upon biblical, theological, and ethical principles.		X		
Theology and Theory of Ministry				
Develop and articulate a theology and theory of ministry that is relevant to the student's background and calling.		X		
Skills for Contemporary Ministry				
Demonstrate skills for contemporary ministry within a variety of traditions, churches, and cross-cultural contexts.			X	