

## **PREACHING AND LITERARY GENRE: PROPHETIC, APOCALYPTIC, AND GOSPEL/ACTS**

3 Credit Hours

Instructors: Paul House, Barry Webb, Don Carson, Dave Helm, William Taylor, Jonathan Pennington, Robert S. Kinney, Mike Bullmore, Kevin DeYoung, Kathleen Nielson, Deb Lorentsen, Colleen McFadden

### **CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

This course provides teaching practice and laboratory to provide students with tools, models and opportunities for practicing teaching from Prophetic, Apocalyptic, and Gospels/Acts. Lectures will focus attention on the hermeneutical and homiletical demands of those genres, specifically concerning how to study these texts with an eye towards teaching and preaching.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

By the end of this Course:

1. Students will have an accurate grasp of the main characteristics of Prophetic, Apocalyptic, and Gospels/Acts and understand the specialized opportunities and demands of teaching from texts of these genres.
2. Students will improve the quality of their own study and preparation for teaching by interacting with diverse, expert practitioners over their own preparation on texts from these genres.
3. Students will, by virtue of a mentored, critiqued ministry experience, be better able to bring all of their theological and ministry insights to bear on faithfully expounding these genres.
4. Students will appreciate the value of offering and receiving constructive feedback.
5. Students will allow the taught Word itself to inform their lives in ways consistent with the reasons the Holy Spirit saw fit to include them in Scripture.

### **COURSE FORMAT**

This Course is divided into three primary components. The first element is “Instruction” for the student’s apprehension of tools for studying and teaching from diverse genres. The instruction comes primarily through the lecture component as well as the reading materials, study guides and supplementary video/audio lectures available on the website. The second element is the “Demonstration” of the tools through model expositions. Practicing pastors and Bible teachers have partnered with the Course to give sermons or talks that both demonstrate the tools as well as feed the students in the Course. The third element is “Practice.” The students will submit their own work to the group in order to initiate discussion and analysis aimed at improving each student’s work.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS**

Chapell, Bryan, *Christ-Centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon*, Second Edition, Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2005.

Spurgeon, Charles H., *Lectures to my Students: Complete and Unabridged*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1954.

Helm, David, Robert Kinney, et al., *Study Guides on Biblical Genre*. Available on student website.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Each student is expected to:

1. View all video lectures and attend all group sessions. Video lectures can be viewed together in groups or asynchronously. Group sessions will take place in person. Grade penalties will be assessed for excessive absences.



2. Complete the written study questions for each week of class and turn them into the Group Coordinator.
3. Read the passage from which each of the other group members will present prior to the group meeting. Offer a thoughtful critique of the presenter's work through the discussion. Engage the material and presenters.
4. Prepare practice outlines in advance of the group session on weeks when assigned, and submit outline to the Group Coordinator.
5. Prepare a practice talk in advance of the group session on weeks when assigned. Provide the Group Coordinator or Director:
  - a. notes (however rough) *one week* in advance of giving the *practice talk*
  - b. a provisional outline of the message at least *three days* in advance
  - c. a two-page rationale/commentary for the homiletical decisions
  - d. a final outline of the practice talk
6. Read Bryan Chapell's *Christ-Centered Preaching* by the eighth week of the Course and on a ten-page, double-spaced report a) affirm that you have read the book, b) in 6-7 pages, summarize main point(s) of the author's argument(s), being sure to reference specific supporting insights and giving page numbers in parentheses, and, c) in the remaining 3-4 pages, engage personally with the content that you have already summarized. You should address the following questions: 1) How do the author's arguments affirm or challenge my current beliefs or practices in teaching ministry? 2) What from the book will I implement immediately? 3) Why would I recommend (or not recommend) this book?
7. Read Charles Spurgeon's *Lectures to my Students* by the thirteenth week of the Course and on a ten-page, double-spaced report a) affirm that you have read the book, b) in 6-7 pages, summarize main point(s) of the author's argument(s), being sure to reference specific supporting insights and giving page numbers in parentheses, and, c) in the remaining 3-4 pages, engage personally with the content that you have already summarized. You should address the following questions: 1) How do the author's arguments affirm or challenge my current beliefs or practices in teaching ministry? 2) What from the book will I implement immediately? 3) Why would I recommend (or not recommend) this book?
8. Participate in your church's training and teaching activities as part of your training.

### COURSE GRADING

Grades will be assigned as follows:

Study Questions (required each week)	40%
Practice Outlines (two required)	20%
Practice Talk (including notes, outline, rationale)	30%
Reading Reports	10%

Letter grades will be assigned as follows:

94-100	A
90-93.9	A-
87-89.9	B+
84-86.9	B
80-83.9	B-

The same distribution in the 70s and 60s will be used for the C and D ranges.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

This term is 15 weeks. Not including breaks for holidays, a typical first term will follow this schedule:

Prophetic 1 Lesson 1	View INSTRUCTION #1 (Paul House) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for INSTRUCTION #1 Read STUDY GUIDE for Prophetic Literature
Prophetic 2 Lesson 2	View INSTRUCTION #2 (Barry Webb) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for INSTRUCTION #2 Practice Outline – Isaiah 65:1-16
Prophetic 3 Lesson 3	View INSTRUCTION #3 (Paul House) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for INSTRUCTION #3 Practice Outline – Amos 5:1-17
Prophetic 4 Lesson 4	View INSTRUCTION #4 (Barry Webb) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for INSTRUCTION #4 Practice Talk– Jonah 3:6-4:4 (Student)
Prophetic 5 Lesson 5	View DEMONSTRATION #1 (Paul House/Colleen McFadden) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for DEMONSTRATION #1 Practice Talk – Haggai 1:1-11 (Student)
Apocalyptic 1 Lesson 6	View INSTRUCTION #1 (Don Carson) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for INSTRUCTION #1 Read STUDY GUIDE for Apocalyptic Literature
Apocalyptic 2 Lesson 7	View INSTRUCTION #2 (Don Carson) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for INSTRUCTION #2 Practice Outline – Revelation 5:1-14 (Student)
Apocalyptic 3 Lesson 8	View INSTRUCTION #3 (Don Carson) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for INSTRUCTION #3 Practice Outline – Revelation 19:11-21 (Student)
Apocalyptic 4 Lesson 9	View INSTRUCTION #4 (Dave Helm) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for INSTRUCTION #4 Practice Talk – Daniel 7:1-14 (Student)
Apocalyptic 5 Lesson 10	View DEMONSTRATION #1 (William Taylor/Kathleen Nielson) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for DEMONSTRATION #1 Practice Talk – Revelation 2:1-7 (Student)
Gospels/Acts 1 Lesson 11	View INSTRUCTION #1 (Jonathan Pennington) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for INSTRUCTION #1 Read STUDY GUIDE for Gospels/Acts
Gospels/Acts 2 Lesson 12	View INSTRUCTION #2 (Robert Kinney) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for INSTRUCTION #2 Practice Outline – Luke 5:1-11 (Student)

Gospels/Acts 3 Lesson 13	View INSTRUCTION #3 (Robert Kinney) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for INSTRUCTION #3 Practice Outline – Luke 18:1-8 (Student)
Gospels/Acts 4 Lesson 14	View DEMONSTRATION #1 (Mike Bullmore/Deb Lorentsen) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for DEMONSTRATION #1 Practice Talk – Matthew 4:23-5:3 (Student)
Gospels/Acts 5 Lesson 15	View DEMONSTRATION #2 (Kevin DeYoung) Discuss/Write STUDY QUESTIONS for DEMONSTRATION #2 Practice Talk – John 5:1-17 (Student)

### COURSE RESOURCES

- Adam, Peter, *Speaking God's Words*, Downers Grove: Inter Varsity Press, 1996.
- Alter, Robert, *The Art of Biblical Narrative*, New York: BasicBooks, 1983.
- Arthurs, Jeffrey D., *Preaching with Variety: How to Re-Create the Dynamics of Biblical Genres*, Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2007.
- Bland, Dave, and David Fleenor, eds. *Preaching the Eighth Century Prophets*. Abilene; A.C.U. Press, 2004.
- Caird, G.B. *The Language and Imagery of the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980.
- Chapell, Bryan, *Christ-Centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon*, Second Edition, Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2005. [REQUIRED]
- Clowney, Edmund P., *Preaching Christ in All of Scripture*, Wheaton: Crossway, 2003.
- Collins, Raymond, *Preaching the Epistles*, New York: Paulist Press, 1996.
- Duduit, Michael. *Handbook of Contemporary Preaching*. Nashville: Broadman, 1992.
- Duling, Dennis, *The New Testament: History, Literature, and Social Context*, Fourth Edition, Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 2003.
- Fee, Gordon, *New Testament Exegesis*, Third Edition, Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002.
- Kaiser, Walter C., Jr., *The Old Testament Documents*, Downers Grove: Inter Varsity, 2001.
- Kaiser, Walter C., Jr., *Preaching and Teaching from the Old Testament: A Guide for the Church*, Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2003.
- Johnson, Dennis E., *Him We Proclaim: Preaching Christ from All the Scriptures*, Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R Publishing, 2007.
- Long Thomas G., *Preaching and the Literary Forms of the Bible*, Philadelphia: Fortress, 1989.
- Robinson, Haddon W., *Biblical Preaching: The Development and Delivery of Expository Messages*, 2nd Edition, Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001.

Robinson, Haddon W., and Torrey W. Robinson, *It's All in How You Tell It: Preaching First-Person Expository Messages*, Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2003.

Scharf, Greg R. *Prepared to Preach: God's Work and Ours in Proclaiming His Word*, Fearn, Scotland: Christian Focus, 2005.

Spurgeon, Charles H., *Lectures to my Students: Complete and Unabridged*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1954. [REQUIRED]

VanGemeren, Willem, *Interpreting the Prophetic Word*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.