

# BRIERCREST

## CM 832 Contemporary Issues in Preaching Evangelical Homiletics Society Annual Meeting in Waco, TX Preaching in an Age of Idols Fall 2020 Event & Online Course

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Course Dates:

- EHS is hosted by George W. Truett Seminary (Baylor University) on October 15-17, 2020; Theme: "Preaching in an Age of Idols"
- Full-engagement online course: November 21, 2020 & January 30, 2021 (9:00 am-4:30 pm SK time)

3 Credit Hours

### COURSE DESCRIPTION

An exploration of a current issue in preaching as addressed by the Evangelical Homiletics Society in its annual conference in mid-October. Students will be guided in their interaction with the papers presented (accessed from the EHS website). An Associate Membership in EHS is required.

Prerequisite: CM 632 Homiletics (or approval of Program Coordinator)

### COURSE INTEGRATION

In concert with the theme of the 2020 EHS annual meeting, this course will help each student develop an enhanced understanding of the current state and the pressing issues within contemporary evangelical preaching in the North American context. The interaction with the work of leading homileticians, fellow students and the professor will enhance the student's grasp of the field and his/her practice of preaching.

### COURSE TEXTS

**Required Reading for Part One of the Course (in preparation for the EHS meeting on October 15-17, 2020):**

Read each of the conference papers and make detailed notes. The papers can be accessed on the EHS website (<http://ehomiletics.com/join/>). Each student will need to become an EHS Associate member (\$25 USD) to gain access to the conference papers.

**Required Reading for Part Two of the Course (in preparation for the online discussions on November 21, 2020):**

Eslinger, Richard L. *The Web of Preaching. New Options in Homiletical Method*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 2002.

Graves, Mike, ed. *What's the Matter with Preaching Today?* Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2004.

Johnston, Scott B., Ted A. Smith and Leonora Tubbs Tisdale, eds. *Questions Preachers Ask*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2016.

Ryken, Leland and Todd Wilson, eds. *Preach the Word*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2007.

Gibson, Scott M. and Matthew S. Kim, eds. *Homiletics and Hermeneutics: Four Views on Preaching Today*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2018.

**Required Reading for Part Three of the Course (in preparation for the online discussions on January 30, 2021):**

**Each student will read the books associated with the one issue in contemporary preaching he/she will present during the online discussions.**

### **1. Christocentric Preaching versus Christiconic Preaching:**

Keller, Timothy. *Preaching*. New York, NY: Viking, 2015.

Kuruville, Abraham. *Privilege the Text!* Chicago, IL: Moody, 2013.

Pelton, Randal E. *Preaching with Accuracy*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2014.

### **2. Traditional (word-based, left-brained) Preaching versus Innovative (image-based, right-brained) Preaching**

Akin, Daniel L. and David L. Allen and Ned L Mathews, eds. *Text-Driven Preaching*. Nashville, TN: Broadman and Holman, 2010.

Pagitt, Doug. *Preaching Re-imagined: The Role of the Sermon in Communities of Faith*. Grand Rapids MI: Zondervan, 2005.

Sweet, Leonard. *Giving Blood. A Fresh Paradigm for Preaching*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2014.

### **3. Theology of Preaching:**

Pasquarello, Michael. *Christian Preaching: A Trinitarian Theology of Proclamation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2006.

Meyer, Jason C. *Preaching: A Biblical Theology*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2013.

Willimon, William H. *Proclamation and Theology*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 2005.

#### 4. The Relation of Preaching to Worship

Quicke, Michael J. *Preaching as Worship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2011.

Piper, John. *Expository Exultation. Christian Preaching as Worship*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2018.

Tisdale, Leonora Tubbs. *Preaching as Local Theology and Folk Art*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress, 1997.

#### 5. The Person of the Preacher

Reed, Rick. *The Heart of the Preacher: Preparing Your Soul to Proclaim the Word*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham, 2019.

Resner, André. *Preacher and Cross: Person and Message in Theology and Rhetoric*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1999.

Taylor, Barbara Brown. *The Preaching Life*. Cambridge, MA: Cowley, 1993.

#### 6. Lectionary Preaching

Lowery, Eugene L. *Living with the Lectionary: Preaching Through the Revised Common Lectionary*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 1992.

Old, Hughes Oliphant. *The Reading and Preaching of the Scriptures in the Worship of the Christian Church*. Vol. 2: *The Patristic Age*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1998. Chapters 2, 4, 6.

Rigby, Cynthia L. and Paul Scott Wilson. *Abingdon Theological Companion to the Lectionary: Preaching Year B*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 2014.

#### 7. Preaching and Culture

Bailey, E.K. and Warren W. Wiersbe. *Preaching in Black and White: What We Can Learn From Each Other*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2003.

Kim, Matthew D. *Preaching with Cultural Intelligence: Understand the People Who Hear Our Sermons*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2017.

**And Either:** Gibson, Scott M., ed. *Preaching to a Shifting Culture*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2004.

**Or:** Gibson, Scott M., ed. *The Worlds of the Preacher*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2018.

#### 8. An Issue in Contemporary Preaching Arising from the EHS Papers:

Topic to be researched and appropriate bibliography to be determined in consultation with the professor.

**Helpful Preaching Reference Works (optional):**

Duduit, Michael, ed. *Handbook of Contemporary Preaching*. Nashville, TN: Broadman, 1992.

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

Wiersbe, Warren W. and Lloyd Perry, eds. *The Wycliffe Handbook of Preaching and Preachers*. Chicago, IL: Moody, 1984.

Willimon, William H. and Richard Lischer, eds. *Concise Encyclopedia of Preaching*. Louisville, TN: 1995.

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

*Students are expected to refer Briercrest Seminary's Format and Style Guides and Guide for Writing Research Papers, available as PDF documents here: <http://briercrest.ca/current/seminary/academics/important-documents/>.*

*These texts are available in store and online at the Briercrest Bookstore: <http://briercrest.ca/bookstore>.*

*Students are responsible for course materials and communication on Canvas (<https://briercrest.instructure.com>; cf. <http://briercrest.ca/online/canvas>) and their myBriercrest.ca email account.*

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. Each participant will have a deepened sense of confidence and competence in experiencing, learning from, contributing to, and guiding dialogical learning conversations in an environment focused on the preaching ministry
2. Each participant will have a deepened and broadened sense of the contributions of some of the most highly respected 21<sup>st</sup> century voices in evangelical homiletics
3. Each participant will grow their capacity to read with fluency, understanding, wise interpretation, and significant application to a real preaching context
4. Each participant will experience, observe, and gain confidence with principles and practices of guiding coaching circle learning experiences readily transferrable to their own situation
5. Each participant will have the opportunity to study a particular issue in contemporary preaching in order to contribute to the collective understanding of the group
6. Each participant will experience and have increasing freedom in gaining close-up insight from persons who have walked the journey and are just a few strides ahead in their sense of personal and contextual experience, grasp, and application in the preaching ministry.

**COURSE OUTLINE AND CONTENT**

The course will assume the student has experienced the 2020 EHS annual meeting by reading the conference papers at minimum. The two days of significant learning from the presentations are assumed to be a significant part of the course. The course will build off those sessions, the theme of the two days, and the resources related as we step through the learning journey together. In

addition to the two days of learning we will have two added days (one in the fall and the second in the winter/spring) of intense learning as a coaching circle of persons wanting to grow together. The outline to follow will serve as a guide for this:

- A. Day One Journey when online together (November 21, 2020)
  - a. In the morning session we will review the paper presentations and plenary sessions of the EHS conference and will expect the full engagement of each participant as we do so. While doing so we will want each student to choose his/her favorite presenter and will expect that he/she will be the class expert on the chosen presenter.
  - b. In the afternoon session we will also work through the reading list of the 5 books assigned. While we will expect full engagement regarding every one of the five books, we will expect that each person has chosen one book about which he or she can speak with expertise in ways that enlighten the entire group.
  
- B. Day Two Journey when online together (January 30, 2021)
  - a. In the morning session each student will give a report on the three books associated with the issue he/she will be presenting later in the day.
  - b. In the afternoon session each student will lead the presentation on the particular issue he/she has chosen to study in more detail (chosen from the list of topics listed above).

## ASSIGNMENTS

1. Each participant will submit his or her detailed notes on the paper presentations (approx. 145 pp of single-spaced text) of the EHS conference. This journal will include summary comments and prevailing themes discerned from the materials. Each student will choose **one** paper to present in depth during the online discussions on the morning of November 21, 2020.
  - a. **Due date:** (for both submission and choice of particular presentation): October 23, 2020
  - b. Value: 20%
  
2. Each participant will have read and submitted a four-page book review of each of the 5 books (Eslinger, Graves, Johnston, Ryken, and Gibson/Kim). Each student will have chosen **one** of the 5 books for special attention and will lead the discussion of it during the afternoon session on November 21, 2020. This choice will be communicated to the professor earlier to aid in the breadth and depth of the discussions.
  - a. **Due Date:** (for the reviews): November 21, 2020; (for choice of special text): October 23, 2020
  - b. Value: 25%
  
3. Each participant will be expected to lead presentations on each of the three books that relate to the topic he/she will present in the afternoon of January 30, 2021. The choice of topic will be cleared with the professor in advance to encourage a breadth of topics addressed. These presentations should give insight into the thesis of each book, the basic contents/arguments and contribution each makes to the issue under study, and

their relative strengths and weaknesses. A set of journal/presentation notes should be sent to each of the class members and professor.

- a. **Due date:** (choice of topic): November 27, 2020; (submission of journals/presentation notes): January 30, 2021
- b. Value: 15%

#### 4. Final Project

This is a 15-page research paper relating to the issue chosen by each student. Each student should use the 3 assigned books as a basis for a fuller, more robust treatment of the issue in relation to the contemporary practice of preaching. Each student will present his/her research on the issue during the afternoon session on January 30, 2021. Each student will serve as facilitator of the discussion surrounding the issue and will have a few more days of reflection, as well as the possible contributions of others in the class to be considered before the final copy of the paper is due.

- a. **Due date:** February 13, 2021
- b. Value: 40%

### TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Since part of this course is in an online format, students will need reliable access to a computer or device with a highspeed Internet connection, an up to date web browser, audio and video capability, as well as a pair of headphones. The course material will be available through Briercrest's Canvas site at: <https://briercrest.instructure.com>. In addition, you need to be able to view pdf, PowerPoint, and video files (file viewers are available online for free).

### SEMINARY CALENDAR

Students are expected to be aware of the policies that govern course work at Briercrest Seminary, all of which are published in the current Seminary Calendar: <https://www.briercrestseminary.ca/academics/calendar/>.

#### ***Attendance Policy***

In order to benefit fully from a seminary education, to be good stewards of time and finances, and to be considerate of their classmates and faculty members, students must be in class at every opportunity.

#### ***Modular Courses***

Students are expected to attend 100 per cent of each modular for which they register. If this is impossible due to extenuating circumstances, arrangements must be made with the course professor before the first day of class. If extenuating circumstances prevent a student from attending class, a maximum of one (1) full day of class can be foregone. If additional time is missed, the student will fail the course unless they first request to withdraw from the course or move the course to an audit.

#### ***Online Courses***

If extenuating circumstances prevent a student from attending scheduled meeting times, then up to 20% of meeting time can be foregone. Students missing scheduled meeting times should make every effort to inform the course professor prior to any time missed. If additional time is missed, the

student will fail the course unless they first request to withdraw from the course or move the course to an audit.

#### *Semester-Based Courses*

All students missing more than two full weeks of a particular course from registration to the last day of classes will receive an automatic fail (0%). A student may appeal a course failure due to excessive absences. Successful appeals will be granted only in rare cases where all absences are clearly beyond the student's control. Appeals must be made through the Academic Appeal Process.

#### *Course Schedules*

Classes begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday morning and run a minimum of 30 hours through the course of the week. The schedule is determined by the course professor. Students should check the syllabus for specifics. When the syllabus does not state class times, students are responsible to check with the professor prior to making travel plans.

#### *Assignment Submission*

All assignments must be submitted no later than eight weeks after the last day of class as stated in the syllabus. The correct due dates will be clearly noted in the syllabus and each faculty member will state in their syllabus how assignments should be submitted. Assignments submitted within a week after the due date will be accepted with a 10 per cent penalty. For additional information refer to the late assignment policy or the extension policy in the [academic calendar](#).

#### *Return of Graded Assignments*

Professors are expected to return graded assignments within six weeks of the due date. If they fail to do so, students may submit an inquiry to the [Seminary](#). If an extension is granted, the professor is no longer obligated to meet this deadline.

#### *Academic Honesty*

Students are accountable to perform each task according to principles of academic honesty. Please refer to pages 24-25 in the [academic calendar](#) for more information.

#### *Academic Accommodations*

Any student with a disability, injury, or health condition who may need academic accommodations (permanent or temporary) should discuss them with the course instructor after contacting the Director of the Academic Resource Centre in person (L234 in the Library), by telephone (1-306-756-3230) or by email ([academicresourcecentre@briercrest.ca](mailto:academicresourcecentre@briercrest.ca)). Documentation from a qualified practitioner will be required (i.e., medical doctor, psychologist, etc.).

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Ask the instructor for lists of applicable sources.