

Syllabus

Course: PS632-T&TN Expository Preaching II
Credit: 3 Semester Hours
Semester: Spring 2026 (Sessions 1 & 2, Jan 12–May 08)
Time: 6:00 - 9:00 pm, Thursdays
Instructor: Dr. Michel Dodds. (816) 322-5152 ext. 1348, mike.dodds@calvary.edu, (913) 638-3291 (cell)

**About This Course:* This course is offered in two formats: in-person and online. Students registered for in-person attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. For both in-person and online students, assignments and interaction outside of the class period are done in the learning management system.

**About Disabilities:* Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinate (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

**About Assistance for All Course Assignments:* The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams, and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

**About Changes to this Syllabus:* The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time during the course, but any changes made will only be done after clearly communicating the need for the change and the specific change to be made via in-class announcement and Canvas announcement.

I. DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to evaluate and instruct a student with a view to improving his performance in the pulpit. Class lectures will be limited. The student will preach several types of sermons. Requires the preparation of preaching manuscripts from the original languages. (Men only) (Prerequisite: PS631 or equivalent)

II. OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved.

1. Demonstrate maturing skills in the preparation and presentation of expository sermons. (PLO- #1, 2, & 4) (A- A)
2. Prepare and present expository sermons for the various ministry seasons and settings of the local church ministry. (PLO- #1 & 2) (A- A, B, C, D)
3. Affirm his God-given preaching style. (PLO- #1 & 4) (A- B & D)

Our Mission: "...to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview."

B. Specific competencies to be achieved.

1. Prepare and preach a variety of expository sermons used in a local church setting. (PLO- #1, 2, & 3) (A- A & B)
2. Evaluate preaching effectiveness and context today. (PLO- #2, 3, & 4) (A- A & C)
3. Develop a personal preaching plan. (PLO- #1 & 4) (A- A & D)

III. REQUIREMENTS

***Note:** Specific instructions for each assignment are posted in Canvas.

A. Read textbooks.

1. Read the **one (1)** textbook in its entirety by the assigned due date. **Note:** At least **two** of the sermons preached for this course must employ the methodology described in this text.
2. Read an additional volume of at least **200 pages** related to preaching and on the due date, present an annotated bibliography of the materials read and the number of pages from each source.

B. Preach Sermons.

1. **Prepare 5 original** (i.e., never before preached and not adapted from any other source), **expository sermon outlines** of the following types of sermons. (**Note:** The specific texts and topics must be approved by the instructor before beginning sermon preparation.)
 - Sermon #1:** Doctrinal (e.g., attribute of God, nature of Christ's Person, work of the Holy Spirit, security of the believer, aspects of sanctification, etc.)
 - Sermon #2:** Practical Christian Living (e.g., marriage, discipleship, parenting, temptation, failure, etc.)
 - Sermon #3:** Seasonal – Easter (i.e., Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Sunrise, Easter, Ascension)
 - Sermon #4:** Evangelistic (i.e., a sermon spoken to the unbeliever with invitation to respond)
 - Sermon #5:** Leadership (e.g., ministry mission, vision, strategy, leadership, etc.)
2. **Prepare 2 additional expository sermon outlines** (i.e., these will not be preached in class) of the following types of sermons.
 - a. **Sermon #6:** Special (Wedding).
 - b. **Sermon #7:** Special (Funeral).
3. **Preach the 5 sermons** in "1" above, **then present to the instructor** the following:
 - a. The complete sermon **outline** which includes the following:
 - (1) a full statement of the Sermon Idea,
 - (2) a full statement of the sermon's Purpose/anticipated Life Change,

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- (3) main points written as full sentences, and
- (4) illustrations identified as to their purpose and "level."

- b. **Note:** While a sermon may have many illustrations, at least **two (2)** the two illustrations submitted **must be** "Level 3, 2, or 1" illustrations (categories as explained in PS631).
- c. **Note:** At least **two (2)** of these sermons must employ the use of visual media (e.g., video clip no longer than 3 min, physical object, PowerPoint).
- d. **Note:** All "Blended" (and some in-class) students must (may have to) make video recordings of all (some) sermons, upload the video recording to a location where the instructor can view them (e.g., Youtube, GoogleDocs, etc. – Note: most video files are too large to upload to Canvas or email to the instructor; however, students have at times been able to upload mp4 files to Canvas and email them).

C. Interview Preaching Pastors and Congregation Members.

1. Interview the following individuals concerning preachers and preaching.
 - a) **1** Preaching Pastor (i.e., a pastor who has had regular preaching responsibility of at least 5 years)
 - b) **3** Church Attenders (i.e., people who have heard many sermons): 1 Youth (High School); 2-Adults (1 male, 1 female).
2. Following the interviews, submit a **3-page** paper indicating the following:
 - a) A summary of the significant observations gleaned from these interviews.
 - b) Discoveries made which the student wants to make sure he considers as he conducts his preaching ministry.

***Note:** While the quotation of pertinent comments is often appropriate to illustrate a point, this paper must not be a mere "word-for-word" transcript of the interviews; rather, this paper is to be a presentation of the student's analysis and conclusions from the interviews as a whole.

D. Write a Preaching Plan.

1. Submit a **one (1)** year preaching/sermon plan (i.e., 12 months of sermon themes and special/seasonal sermons). Guidelines for this plan will be given in class.
2. The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate a basic understanding of the preaching variety necessitated in the normal pulpit ministry of a local church.

E. Write a statement of a philosophy of preaching.

1. Write a 2-page paper stating your personal philosophy of preaching.

IV. METHODS

A. Presentation:

1. **In-class methods:** lecture, discussion, presentation, and evaluation.

***About Class Attendance:** Research consistently demonstrates that class attendance and active participation correlate to higher performance on course assessments.

***About Classroom Use of Media:**

-**Computing devices** are permitted during the lecture and class discussion sessions for the sole purpose of taking notes. Use of these devices to access the Internet, make telephone calls or video calls, text messaging, updating social network services, etc. is not allowed, let alone very distracting to other students.

-**Cellphones / smartphones** may only be used in an emergency, and in those situations the student may take the call but must leave the room and not return until the next break out of courtesy to fellow classmates.

***About Note Taking:** Students are expected to take notes during each class. Significant peer reviewed studies continue to demonstrate that notes taken by hand are understood better and remembered longer than those taken with a computer. Computer use which is a distraction to others (i.e., noise, blocking the screen, displaying non-class related material, etc.) is not allowed.

2. **Out-of-class methods:** observation, evaluation, and sermon preparation.

***About written assignments:** Unless directed otherwise, all written assignments must follow the Turabian style according to *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 update.

B. Grading:

***About Late Assignments:** Assignments turned in late will be lowered **5% each class day** it is late.

***About Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification. Any assignment that includes plagiarism will receive a **zero (0) grade.** (**Note:** Turn-It-In.com will be used to verify plagiarism.)

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***About course grade:** See the grading scale in the university catalog for specific grading scale that will be used for final course grade.

1. General grading criteria:

- A = completed assignment well beyond assignment criteria
- B = completed assignment as specified and very well done
- C = completed assignment with average work
- D = completed assignment but poorly
- F = did not complete assignment and/or unacceptable work

2. Possible points for each specific assignment:

- a. Additional Reading Bibliography (1 @ 50) . . . = 50
- b. Sermons Preached (5 @ 100 ea) . . . = 500
- c. Sermon Outlines (7 @ 50 ea) . . . = 350
- d. Media used in sermons (2 @ 25 ea) . . . = 50
- e. Interviews & Summary (4 @ 5 ea & 1 @ 20) . = 40
- f. Preaching Plan (1 @ 40) . . . = 40
- g. Philosophy of Preaching (1 @ 50) . . . = 50

Total = 1080 points

V. MATERIALS

A. Textbooks.

1. The Bible: NASBU, ESV, or NET.

-The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

2. Stanley, Andy and Lane Jones. *Communicating for Change: Seven Keys to Irresistible Communication*. Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 2005. ISBN-13: 978-1590-5251-42; Retail: \$19.99

VI. TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

***Note:** A detailed "Class Schedule" is posted in Canvas along with the file of this syllabus.

Week	Activity	Assignment Due
1	Course Introduction; Review	--
2	Prepare the Doctrinal Sermon (1)	Ser #1 Outline (Draft)
3	Preach the Doctrinal Sermon (1)	Ser #1 Outline

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Week	Activity	Assignment Due
4	Prepare the Wedding Sermon (6)	Read Stanley
5	Prepare the Funeral Sermon (7)	Ser #6 Outline
6	Learning from Other Preachers	Ser #7 Outline; Interview Paper
7	Prepare Sermon #2	Ser #2 Outline (Draft)
8	Preach the Seasonal Sermon (2);	Ser #2 Outline (& media?)
9	Prepare Sermon #3	Ser #3 Outline (Draft)
10	Preach the Practical Sermon (3);	Ser #3 Outline (& media?)
11	Prepare Sermon #4	Ser #4 Outline (Draft); Ann. Biblio
12	Preach the Evangelistic Sermon (4)	Ser #4 Outline (& media?)
13	Prepare Sermon #5	Ser #5 Outline (Draft)
14	Preach the Leadership Sermon (5)	Ser #5 Outline (& media?)
15	Preaching over the Years	Philos of Preaching; Preaching Plan