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**Course: Introduction To Homiletics**

**Meets via Zoom:** March 5, 12, 19, April 2, 9, 16 (Break for Easter)

Professor: Eric R. Hallett B.A. MDiv DMin

Email: ericrhallett@aol.com

Phone: 613 345 3424 ext. 6003

Mailing Address: 3545 County Road 27 RR#2 Lyn ON, Canada K0E 1M0

**Syllabus Overview**

What you will find in this syllabus

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**Course Description**

Intro to Homiletics is a course that covers the basics of sermon construction and delivery. It is a practical introduction to the tools, structures, and concepts of the preaching task. This course explores the fundamentals of preaching and is designed to allow the student to begin to discover his or her own personal style within a broad Wesleyan theological context.

**Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes**

During this class, the student will…

1. Begin integrating the information presented in class and in assigned reading
2. Begin honing preaching skills
3. Prepare for Initial preaching experiences

**Pre-Course Assignments**

Read the book: Secrets of Dynamic Communication Preparing and Delivering Powerful Speeches by Ken Davis

**Live Class**

Students are required to attend all live class sessions.

Students will be asked to present short oral assignments as assigned and receive feedback from classmates.

In addition to the book by Davis, Each student will be assigned reading of two additional text books and asked to submit a two page reflection paper (for each book)

The **books** are as follows and are to be read in this order:

Unleashing The Word by Adam Hamilton

The Homiletical Plot by Eugene Lowry

**Post Course Assignments**

1. Interview a Pastor who you personally admire as a preacher during the six week period we meet as a class. Ask how this pastor chooses his or her message series and what their process is in every step of preparation. Topics to include would be prayer life, extra-biblical reading, bible study habits, physical fitness, vocal preparation, sermon style, family influence and preaching context. The paper is to be seven to ten pages double spaced.
2. Preach one sermon in a live setting and submit video and transcript to Professor.

**ALL POST-COURSE ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE TWO WEEKS FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF LIVE CLASSES**

**Grades**

Reading Assignments: 25%

Class Participation: 25%

Pastoral Interview: 25%

Sermons: 25%

**Policies & Requirements**

**Attendance**

Students are required to attend all class sessions. Failure to attend at least 80% (16 hours) of the minimum required seat time (20 hours) will result in automatic failure of the course. Any and all absences within that 20% window must be approved by the professor prior to the course in writing (e.g. email). Do not ask for permission to be excused during the class or after the absence has already occurred.

**Grading Scale**

100-97 A

96-94 A-

93-91 B+

90-88 B

87-85 B-

84-81 C+

80-76 C

75-71 C-

70-68 D

67 or below F

Students must get a “C” or above to pass the course and receive credit for ordination.

**Books**

**Required Textbooks**

Students are responsible for ordering their textbooks and may choose where to purchase them.

Secrets of Dynamic Communication Preparing and Delivering Powerful Speeches by Ken Davis

Unleashing The Word by Adam Hamilton

The Homiletical Plot by Eugene Lowry

**Due Date**

All assignments are due on the date indicated in the syllabus or verbally communicated by the instructor. Professors are required to submit grades to Education and Clergy Development at a maximum of 4 weeks after the last day of class. Assignments may not be submitted to the professor any later than 2 weeks after the last day of class. Assignments not submitted by the due date will result in an automatic “0” for the assignment.

**Extensions**

Extensions may be (but are not guaranteed) granted for sickness, serious injury, or death in the student’s immediate family or for similar extenuating circumstances. *When in doubt, please contact the professor.* Also, no assigned work will be accepted after the final due date, unless an extension has been granted in writing (e.g. email) from the professor. Communication is the key! Professors may reduce a student’s grade by 20% for each week past the due date (even in the event of approved extensions). Education and Clergy Development reserves the right to refuse extension and override the professor as it deems necessary.

**Papers**

All written papers must be typed. Papers should be double spaced on 8.5x11 paper using 12 point font in a normal, easy to read type style (Arial, Cambria, Times New Roman, etc.). Margins should be 1” on all sides. Each paper should include at least: student’s full name, course title, and date. It is advisable to include your name on each page of the paper.

**Ordination Deadline**

If the student is a candidate for ordination in a given year, coursework must be completed as follows: the final grade submission deadline (12 weeks after the last day of class) must be at least 40 days before the student’s district conference. Professors are not required to fulfill any requests for grade submission prior to this deadline.

**Plagiarism**

Ministerial students in The Wesleyan Church are expected to exhibit honesty and integrity in their personal, professional and academic life and work. As Christians, we are called to a high standard of honesty. As such, students in our ministerial training courses are required to adhere to strict academic guidelines.

The following is borrowed from a college catalog.

Plagiarism — This is defined as offering the work of another as one’s own. It is an attempt to deceive by implying that one has done work that was actually done by another. Faculty and students are honor bound to show that ideas and words match with the sources used and thus demonstrate that honest research has been done. Examples of plagiarism include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Copying all or part of a theme, examination, paper, library reading report, or other written work from another person’s production
2. Submitting as one’s own work that which was wholly or partially done by another so as to appear to one’s professor to be more accurate or skilled in one’s work than one actually is
3. Quoting material from any source without proper documentation
4. Summarizing or paraphrasing from any source without proper documentation
5. Misrepresentation of documentation or resources
6. Using in collateral reports or book reviews the opinion of a professional literary critic or of a campus friend as though it were one’s own original thought
7. Submitting workbook answers copied from another person or working in a group and submitting an identical set of answers for each member of the group without explicit permission from the professor

Cheating — Examples of cheating include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Use of unauthorized prepared materials (cheat sheets) for answering test questions
2. Giving aid to another student during a test or quiz
3. Gaining answers to test questions from others during testing periods
4. Signing another person’s name to the attendance record
5. Claiming to have done laboratory work or outside reading that was not done
6. Submitting the same work for more than one course without the prior approval of the professors involved

Education and Clergy Development policy for all students receiving credit through non-accredited ministry training programs (e.g. FLAME, FLAMA, Correspondence Courses, Cross Training, District Extension Classes, Equipping for Ministry, etc.):

1. Any instance of plagiarism (whether intentional or not) will result in an automatic “F” for the particular assignment and may also result in an automatic failing of the course.
2. A repeat offense will result in an automatic failing of the course.
3. A third offense will result in an automatic withdrawal from a credentialing track in The Wesleyan Church.

**Bibliography**

To Be Distributed Within First Two Weeks of Classes

**Other Course Documents**

TBD