

# **The History of Preaching in the North Atlantic Church**

Daily, 10:00-11:50

June 7-24, 2022

Google Drive: [https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/0AC\\_SIV24F\\_P\\_Uk9PVA](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/0AC_SIV24F_P_Uk9PVA)

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### **Acknowledgment:**

The Domain of the University of the South lies on territory ceded by the Cherokee Nation to the United States on Feb. 27, 1819 (Treaty with the Cherokee, 1819).<sup>1</sup>

### **Course Description:**

This course will examine homiletical thought and practice from Augustine through Phillips Brooks. The class will study significant homiletical developments and debates, analyze the best preaching practices of exemplary figures, and discern how this history of preaching in the North Atlantic Church can guide and deepen homiletical reflection and preaching practice today.

### **Course Objectives:**

- To gain an understanding of major developments and debates within the field of preaching in the North Atlantic Church
- To learn from the preaching practice of exemplars
- To put into practice course learnings in ways that strengthen preaching effectiveness today

### **Required Books:**

- O.C. Edwards, Jr. *A History of Preaching* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2004). \*\*See class schedule and read corresponding sections from Edwards. If you cannot purchase this book, I can make chapters available to you in the Google Folder.
- Kenyatta Gilbert, *The Journey and Promise of African American Preaching* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2011).
- Eunjoo Mary Kim, *Women Preaching: Theology and Practice Through the Ages* (Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2004). \*\*Chapters 1-4, 1-117.
- Richard Lischer, *The Company of Preachers: Wisdom on Preaching, Augustine to the Present* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002).
- For further reading see class schedule.

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<sup>1</sup> Information courtesy of Floyd Ayers; see also: <https://www.tngenweb.org/cessions/18190227.html>

### Course Requirements:

1. All required reading and participation in seminar discussions (10%)
2. Create Handout on historical figure and give 15-minute presentation in class (25%)
  - a. Suggested preachers are listed in the syllabus, though students may propose other figures
  - b. Find sources: Students will read the section in O.C. Edwards that corresponds with their preacher (if available; if the preacher is not in Edwards, then the student must find another appropriate historical source); students will also locate and review 2-4 sermons of the preacher (if available). \*\*Dr. Stark and/or Dr. Romulus Stefanut, our research librarian, can help you locate sources if needed.
  - c. Present on:
    - i. preacher's time/location/context
    - ii. preacher's ability, technique, acts/work, and comparison with others
    - iii. include sermon/writing samples to illustrate your key insights
3. Preach one new sermon in class, 10-12 minutes long. Due June 20-24. (25%)
4. Revise one sermon based on the in-class feedback and coursework. Due September 1. (15%)
5. Research Paper: Write a 7-10 page paper integrating course readings, materials, exegetical studies, etc. that addresses your *potential* D.Min. thesis topic. Due September 1. (25%)

### Class Schedule:

#### Tuesday, June 7

- Why study this history?
- Introductions, Orientation, assignments
- Preaching in the early history of the Church
- Read: Edwards, "The Earliest Christian Preaching" pp 1-26.
- Read: Kim, "Preaching the Risen Christ: Women Preachers in Scripture and the Early Church" pp 22-47.

#### Wednesday, June 8

- Augustine, John Chrysostom, and a developing homiletic
- Read:
  - Augustine, "The Uses of Rhetoric" pp 277-292 in Lischer
  - Augustine, Christmas Sermons 1-5, pp 55-84 in *Augustine of Hippo: Sermons to the People: Advent, Christmas, New Year's, Epiphany*, William Griffin, ed. and trans. (New York: Doubleday, 2002). \*Google Drive
  - John Chrysostom, Paschal Sermon (<https://www.oca.org/fs/sermons/the-paschal-sermon>)
  - John Cassian, "The Fourfold Reading," pp 182-187 in Lischer.
- Preaching Exercises: Marking Old Sermons (teach/delight/persuade), Gospel paradoxes.
- Student Presentation:
  - John Chrysostom
  - Gregory the Great
  - Origen

### **Thursday, June 9**

- Medieval Preaching and *Ars Praedicandi*
- Read:
  - O.C. Edwards, 125-247
  - Lischer, 293-297
  - Kim, 48-78
- Preaching Exercise: Sermon organization and form
- Student Presentation(s):
  - Bernard of Clairvaux
  - Hildegard of Bingen
  - Julian of Norwich

### **Friday, June 10**

- Reforming Preaching, part 1, Martin Luther (and John Calvin)
- Read: Lischer, pp 115-119
- Read: Edwards 283-326
- Preaching Exercise: Preaching and Exegesis
- Student Presentation(s):
  - Jonathan Edwards
  - Karl Barth
  - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

### **Monday, June 13**

- Reforming Preaching, part 2, the Wesleys
- Read: Edwards 429-455
- Read: Lischer 126-131
- Preaching Exercise: Preaching and Testimony
- Student Presentation(s):
  - George Whitfield
  - Richard Allen
  - Anna Shaw

### **Tuesday, June 14**

- Reforming Preaching, part 3, Anglican Reformers
- Read Edwards, 350-387
- Preaching Exercise: Preaching and Liturgy
- Student Presentation(s):
  - Lancelot Andrews
  - Sacramental Preachers
  - Alexander Crummell
  - Dr. Anna Julia Cooper

### **Wednesday, June 15**

- Revivalist Preaching
- Read: Kim, 79-117

- Read: Lischer, 132-142
- Read: Edwards, 492-525
- Preaching Exercise: Preaching and Drama
- Student Presentation(s):
  - Phoebe Palmer
  - Charles Finney
  - Henry Ward Beecher

#### **Thursday, June 16**

- African American Preaching
- Read: Gilbert, *The Journey and Promise of African American Preaching*
- Preaching Exercise: Playing with the Prophetic, Priestly, and Sagely Voice
- Student Presentation(s):
  - Howard Thurman
  - C.L. Franklin
  - Charles Adams
  - Peter Gomes
  - Barbara Harris
  - Pauli Murray

#### **Friday, June 17**

- The Development of Modern Homiletics: From Phillips Brooks to Tom Long
- Read: Lischer, (\*note: texts are listed in chronological order):
  - Phillips Brooks 15-22,
  - John Broadus 311-315,
  - Harry Emerson Fosdick 395-400
  - Joseph Sittler 331-336,
  - Henry Mitchell 149-155
  - Fred Craddock 401-408
  - Gardner Taylor 104-112
  - David Buttrick 337-351
  - Justo and Catherine Gonzalez 248-264
  - Barbara Brown Taylor 46-53,
  - Will Willimon 453-458
- Drafting sermon evaluation criteria
- Preaching Exercise: Discerning and Articulating Homiletical Theology
- Student Presentation(s):
  - \*Select any of the names above for further investigation

#### **Monday, June 20**

- Student Preaching in COTA

#### **Tuesday, June 21**

- Student Preaching in COTA

#### **Wednesday, June 22**

- Student Preaching in COTA

**Thursday, June 23**

- Student Preaching in COTA

**Friday, June 24**

- Student Preaching in COTA