

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **HOMI 500**

#### **PREPARATION OF THE SERMON**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A basic study of the principles of sermon construction which includes selecting and interpreting the text, forming sermon objectives, and structuring sermons for content and style. (Formerly HOMI 501)

#### **RATIONALE**

The purpose of the course is to provide the student with a toolbox of skills that will enable him/her to preach effective biblical sermons in a sustained pastoral ministry. The student will study the priority of character, the history of preaching, and the mechanics of sermon planning, preparation, and delivery. Mastering the discipline of preaching is absolutely critical in order to maintain an effective pastoral ministry.

#### **I. PREREQUISITE**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Demonstrate a working knowledge of sound hermeneutic principles.
- B. Provide a sound working definition of expositional preaching.
- C. Identify the sources for the development of sermon ideas.
- D. Demonstrate the ability to write the foundational statements of the sermon.
- E. Discuss both the ingredients and the process of constructing biblical sermons.
- F. Identify the key elements of an expositional sermon.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (2)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be at least 400 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 200 words.

D. Worksheets (12)

The student will complete 12 worksheets throughout the course on the preparation and dissection of a sermon according to the McDill textbook (found within the *WORDsearch Preaching Library*).

E. Sermon Manuscript

Using the worksheets completed from the McDill textbook as a guide, the student will write a 15-page sermon manuscript on Philippians 1:12–18. This manuscript will utilize appropriate formatting in order to demonstrate the various elements of the sermon.

F. Exams (2)

The exams contain 50 multiple-choice and true/false questions, are open-book/open-notes, and must be completed in 1 hour and 30 minutes.

Midterm

The student will take the Midterm Exam on McDill skills 1–6.

Final

The student will take the Final Exam on McDill: Skills 7–12.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES****A. Points**

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums (2 at 50 pts ea)		100
Worksheets (12 at 50 pts ea)		600
Sermon Manuscript		100
Midterm Exam	(Modules 1–4)	100
Final Exam	(Modules 5–8)	100
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

**B. Scale**

A = 940–1010    A- = 920–939    B+ = 900–919    B = 860–899    B- = 840–859  
 C+ = 820–839    C = 780–819    C- = 760–779    D+ = 740–759    D = 700–739  
 D- = 680–699    F = 0–679

**C. Style Guidelines**

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the [LUSD Writing Guide](#) and the latest edition of the Turabian style manual (*A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style. All other written assignments should use the footnote citation style. Supplemental writing aids are available via the [Online Writing Center](#).

**D. Extra Credit**

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

**E. Course Changes**

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

**F. Disability Assistance**

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at [equityandcompliance@liberty.edu](mailto:equityandcompliance@liberty.edu). Click to see a full copy of Liberty’s [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **HOMI 500**

Textbooks: *WORDsearch Preaching Library* (2014):

McDill, *12 Essential Skills of Great Preaching* (2007).

Meyer, *Expository Preaching* (2001).

Spurgeon, *An All Round Ministry* (2014).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	McDill: skill 1 Spurgeon: chs. 1–6 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Structural Diagram Worksheet	10 0 50
2	McDill: skills 2–3 Spurgeon: chs. 7–12 2 presentations	DB Forum 1 Immediate Observations Worksheet Research Questions Worksheet	50 50 50
3	McDill: section 2, skills 4–5 2 presentations	Naming the Text Idea Worksheet Bridging Text to Sermon Worksheet	50 50
4	McDill: skill 6 1 presentation	Division Statements Worksheet Midterm Exam	50 100
5	McDill: section 3, skills 7–8 Meyer: chs. 1–3 2 presentations	Persuasive Elements Worksheet Natural Analogies Worksheet	50 50
6	McDill: section 4, skills 9–10 Meyer: chs. 4–6 2 presentations	DB Forum 2 Scenes and Stories Worksheet Human Experience Worksheet	50 50 50
7	McDill: skills 11–12 2 presentations	Preaching for Faith Worksheet Oral Presentation Worksheet	50 50
8	1 presentation	Sermon Manuscript Final Exam	100 100
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.