

## **MN230W      PREACHING**

William J. Layton (With members of WTS Faculty)

Fulfills M.Div. preaching requirement - 2nd Year Course

3 credit hours

Letter grades or Credit/No Credit

In this course students explore, engage, and apply the theological and ecclesiological foundations of the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Toward this end, course objectives include:

- To develop an evangelical and Lutheran theology and ecclesiology of proclamation;
- To describe and evaluate the theology of a sermon;
- To explore scriptural hermeneutics, particularly Nicene and Lutheran, in the service of Christian proclamation;
- To think critically and creatively about the place of proclamation within the worship-centered life of the church;
- To develop of a balanced and workable discipline for sermon preparation;
- To demonstrate knowledge of and sensitivity to the context of one's hearers;
- To acknowledge the impact of delivery with regard to the effectiveness of the sermon;
- To apply rhetorical and creative writing skills to the craft of sermon writing;
- To understand the relationship between personal character and proclamation; and
- To begin to identify and honor one's own emerging voice as a preacher.

## **EVALUATION**

Evaluation is based on the following...

- Attendance is expected at all plenary and preaching precepts in which a student is enrolled, with the exception of distance students who may engage the plenary sessions asynchronously.
- Preparation and presentation of four sermons following the course guidelines, including, for M.Div. students, exegetical work with the Greek and/or Hebrew text.
- Participation: (1) Readiness and participation in large group sessions and (2) collegial interaction and critical reflection on student sermons in the preaching precepts are central factors in the evaluation a student's participation in the course.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

### ***Required***

Childers, Jana, ed. *Birthing the Sermon: Women Preachers on the Creative Process*

Hall, Douglass John, *The Cross in Our Context: Jesus and the Suffering World*

King, Stephen, *On Writing*

Lischer, Richard, *The End of Words: The Language of Reconciliation in a Culture of Violence*

Luther, Martin, *The Annotated Luther Vol. 2: Word and Faith* ed. Kirsi Stjerna (Fortress Press 2015)

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Freedom of a Christian, 1520: The Annotated Luther Study Edition*, ed.

Timothy Wengert (Fortress Press, 2016) **OR** as found in *The Annotated Luther Vol. 1*.

Thurman, Howard, *Jesus and the Disinherited*

Wengert, Timothy J., *Reading the Bible with Martin Luther: An Introductory Guide*