

MN 131W-CL Introduction to Preaching: The Preaching Body

Samantha Gilmore

Elective – Residential or Synchronous

Open to anyone who has not taken MN230; CL students prioritized; 1 credit (credit/no credit only)

Description: This highly experiential course gives particular attention to the human body as the instrument through which the gospel resonates and is proclaimed. Students engage in embodied prayer practices as a part of sermon preparation and learn exercises to care for and warm up their bodies and voices for the sake of free, uninhibited proclamation of the gospel. All bodies and all voices are warmly welcomed. *This course is one-credit but meets for two hours weekly due to its experiential nature. No more than one hour of work will be assigned outside of class.*

Objectives: As a result of this course, students will know how to:

1. Navigate basic tools to aid in the movement from text to sermon (*Practice of Missio Dei in Word and Sacrament*)
2. Attend to their bodies as vital instruments of proclamation (*Practice of Personal Faith and Integrity*)
3. Lead themselves through a warmup before preaching (*Practice of Curiosity*)

Procedure

This course will meet for two hours per week. A significant portion of our time will be spent practicing embodied voicework. Other teaching and learning methods will include 1) interactive lectures, 2) group discussions, and 3) preaching and receiving feedback on brief sermons.

Assignments and Evaluation

This highly experiential course requires active participation, collegial interaction, arriving to class on time, and being prepared to discuss assignments and preach.

Bibliography

Required

There are no required texts for this course.

Recommended

The Divine Voice: Christian Proclamation and the Theology of Sound by Stephen H. Webb

Freeing the Natural Voice: Imagery and Art in the Practice of Voice and Language, Revised and Expanded by Kristin Linklater

Transforming Preaching by Ruthanna Hooke

Ways of the Word: Learning to Preach for Your Time and Place by Sally Brown and Luke Powery

Women's Voices and the Practice of Preaching by Nancy Lammers Gross