



COURSE SYLLABUS

MNS 340 – Introduction to Homiletics

Fall 2009

Term I

2 Credit Hours

Thursday 7:00-9:00 PM

Rev. William J. Promesso, D. Min.
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I. Course Description: Pastoral study of the theology of communication with practical emphasis on individual ministerial communication skills. The course incorporates public speaking fundamentals, composition, and actual student performance with critical evaluation.

II. Required Texts:

Fulfilled in Your Hearing: The Homily in the Sunday Assembly.

Washington, DC: USCCB, 2002. Publication No. 850-9. ISBN: 1555868509

Better Preaching. Most Rev. Kenneth Untener. New York: Paulist Press, 1999.

ISBN: 0809138492

Lectionary For Weekday Mass. (Publisher of your choosing, be sure latest edition)

III. Student Outcomes

- To create an awareness of the ecclesial call to preach the Word of God as teacher, prophet, and leader in the community.
- To expose the student to differing theologies of preaching so as to develop one's own approach to and understanding of the preaching event.
- To develop and improve oral skills, delivery, and creativity.
- To insure the creation of deeply Biblical preaching through proper exegesis of the appointed scriptural text.
- Growth in delivering a homily without text or notes
- Willingness to use a visual aid, music, and movement in preaching
- To seek encouragement for future growth through personal and group evaluation of homiletic style and content.

IV. General Outline of the Course

Students will be reading both *Fulfilled in Your Hearing* and *Better Preaching*. A five-page paper on your understanding of preaching will be assigned the first night of class and will be due at mid-term. Some additional reading may be assigned throughout the term. The majority of the course will be dedicated to the creation, delivery, and evaluation of weekday homilies.

Depending on the number of students enrolled, each student may expect to prepare and deliver at least three formal preaching events.

V. Required Coursework

- Attendance in class
- Reading and active discussion of assigned texts
- Participation in proclamation skill-building
- Mid-term Paper
- Development of assigned homilies, including assembly exegesis, Scriptural exegesis, homiletic goal, and homily text.

VI. Grading

Attendance, Participation and Papers 25% of grade

Homily preparation and proclamation 75% of grade

VII. Tentative Course Calendar

Thursday, September 10 (Review Syllabus, Books, Intro, Term Paper assigned)

Thursday, September 17 (Practicing Proclamation)

Thursday, September 24 (Homily creation: styles, logos, pathos, ethos)

Thursday, October 1 (Homily Creation and Practice)

Thursday, October 8 (Weekday Homilies)

Thursday, October 15 (Weekday Homilies)

Thursday, October 22 (Mid-term paper due, weekday homilies)

Thursday, October 29 (Weekday homilies)

Thursday, November 5 (NO CLASS, Homily Prep)

Thursday, November 12 (Weekday Homilies)

Thursday, November 19 (Weekday Homilies)

Thursday, November 26 (NO CLASS – Thanksgiving)

Thursday, December 3 (Weekday Homilies)

Thursday, December 10 (Weekday Homilies)

Thursday, December 17 (course evaluation, feedback, final comments)