I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course allows students who have completed the introductory course to continue improving their skills in developing and preaching sermons and to benefit from peer evaluation.

II. TEXTBOOKS:

**Required Reading:**


**Recommended Reading:**


III. GOALS:

1. Advanced Preaching provides an elective course designed to meet the requirements of judicatories requiring masters students to take two courses in preaching. It is also shaped to provide an enrichment of the introductory-level course for students interested in further developing their preaching skills and understanding of homiletics.

2. Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) guiding the syllabus and design of the course include:

   A “Student’s work demonstrates an understanding of the Bible’s foundational role in the formation of Christian identity and Christian Witness.” The Advanced Preaching course will have a particular interest in exploring various biblical genre with regard to their implications for proclaiming the Word.

   B. “Student demonstrates competence in the skills and perspectives necessary for leadership in the formation of disciples.” Advanced Preaching will sharpen the skills of students by intensive work regarding methods in preaching and the assessment of a variety of sermonic plots and illustrations.

IV. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- Further experience in shaping homiletical plots (form) and in utilizing illustration, examples, imagery, and performance in preaching.

- An ability to bring exegetical, interpretative, theological, and liturgical criteria to bear in the assessment of sermons preached during the course.

V. TEACHING STRATEGIES:

This course follows a face to face teaching and instruction in intensive model format. Topics addressed will include: awareness of some theological images for preaching and articulation of one’s own theology of preaching; tools and techniques for more congregational involvement in exegesis and sermon creation; engaging different sermon forms, prophetic preaching; and ways of improving sermon presentation, such as preaching without notes, the use of technology and visual arts and drawing from the tool-box of poetry, music, and classic rhetoric. Students will engage these topics through pre-class work/classroom lectures/classroom presentations, watching and listening to sermons, discussion, readings, preaching live sermons during gathering week, and submitting written sermon materials and short reflection papers.

VI. CALENDAR OF TOPICS AND READINGS:

This section provides a week by week overview of the course’s progress. *Please make sure additional resources listed in this section as being on Reserve are listed in “References.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day One</th>
<th>CLASS ACTIVITY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 1, 2015</td>
<td>Introductions to the Course, Syllabus Discussion and Presentation of <em>The Choice and Decoded.</em></td>
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<td>Text for Sermon Two Announced in Class</td>
<td>1) <em>Preaching As Celebration Digital Lecture Series Workbook</em> completed and due;</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>2) <em>Decoded</em> papers and presentations due;</td>
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<td>3) <em>The Choice</em> papers and presentations due;</td>
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<tr>
<th>Day Two</th>
<th>CLASS ACTIVITY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>June 2, 2015</td>
<td>Sermons by Students Critique of Sermons by Class and Instructor</td>
<td>Be prepared to deliver one ten minute sermon of your choice and constructively critique sermons of others</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day Three</td>
<td>CLASS ACTIVITY</td>
<td>ASSIGNMENT</td>
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| **June 3, 2015** | Review Reading Assignments and Workbook sections based upon sermons preached on Tuesday. | Review the six principle of celebrative method:  
1) Core Belief  
2) Universal Human Experience  
3) Experiencing the sermon through images and sense appeal  
4) Situation, Complication, Resolution, and Celebration  
5) Preaching Worksheet and Behavioral Purpose Statement  
6) Celebration |

Re-cover and discuss:  
- 1) Core Belief  
- 2) Universal Human Experience  
- 3) Experiencing the sermon through images and sense appeal  
- 4) Situation, Complication, Resolution, and Celebration  
- 5) Preaching Worksheet and Behavioral Purpose Statement  
- 6) Celebration |

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<tr>
<th>Day Four</th>
<th>CLASS ACTIVITY</th>
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</table>
Discussion: “For Such a Time as This: A Report on the 2014 Consultation of African American Homiletics” at [www.cpx.cts.edu/preaching](http://www.cpx.cts.edu/preaching) | Preaching worksheet due based on second sermon to be preaching in class – p. 56 Digital Workbook  
Six students prepare sermons and class feedback and critique |

**Afternoon Sermons and Critique** |

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<tr>
<th>Day Five</th>
<th>CLASS ACTIVITY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>June 5, 2015</strong></td>
<td>Sermons and Critique</td>
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</table>

Six students prepare sermons and class feedback and critique |
VII: SEMINARY STANDARDS:

A. Inclusive language
United Theological Seminary has an official policy regarding the use of Inclusive Language. The policy may be found in the Seminary Catalog and further explained in the Student Handbook. If you have specific questions, please see the instructor.

B. Academic Integrity
Student integrity regarding all work assigned in this class is a basic expectation of the Seminary community. A detailed policy regarding what constitutes a violation of academic integrity can be found in the Student Handbook.

C. Online Confidentiality
One of the highlights of the online classroom is that students can draw from the experiences shared during class discussions and in written work. However, it is imperative that students do not share information that is confidential, privileged, or proprietary in nature. In addition, students are expected to honor the privacy and confidentiality of their classmates by not disclosing online conversations with those outside of the classroom.

D. Statement on Disability
Any student who may need accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Registrar’s office.

VIII: USING ONLINE RESOURCES:

For information about how to access United Online and where to find help if you need it may be found on the seminary website at http://www.united.edu. Help guides are also in the student computer lab and in the Student Handbook.

IX. EVALUATION:

A. Assignments

1) Write commentary of Jay-Z’s *Decoded*. The written commentary should be about 1,000 words, (three pages). The focus in homiletical analysis (structure, theological cultural content, etc.). What preaching insights taught in the class are reflected in *Decoded*? Student is to present commentary in class.

   **Commentary Due the first day of class – Bring written commentary to class**

2) Write commentary of *The Choice Living Your Passion Inside Out* by Frank A. Thomas. The written commentary should be 500-700 words. What is the role of the “Backstory” to preaching? What preaching insights taught in the class are evident in *The Choice*?
Commentary Due the first day of class – Bring written commentary to class

3) Each student is to preach ONE sermon on a chosen text of their choice and ONE sermon on a text assigned in the class according to the celebrative preaching method.

Text for second sermon will be given the first day of class by Professor Thomas

4) Students will download and read the brochure “For Such a Time as This: A Report on the 2014 Consultation of African American Homileticians” at www.cpx.cts.edu/preaching

5) Method of Determining Grade:
   a. Relate how you will determine student grades. Below is an example of framework for assessing grades:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Sermon</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Sermon</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Choice Paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decoded Paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>15%</td>
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</tbody>
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   Total: 100%

X. STUDENT COURSE EVALUATIONS:

It is very important for students to submit a course evaluation toward the end of the semester. Instructors do not see the student evaluations at all until after the instructors have submitted the students’ final official grades. Students should feel free to evaluate the course without any negative ramifications.

XI. REFERENCES:

Bibliography located on Pages 110-117 in Preaching As Celebration: Digital Lecture Series and Workbook