



Course Meeting: Tuesday/Thursday 10:30-11:20  
Course Location: DC 112

**Course Instructor:** Dr. Bryan Brock  
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Office Location: OM 220  
Office Hours: Monday through Friday 2:30-3:30 (or other times by appointment)

### **STRONGER TOGETHER**

Our shared commitment to maintaining a safe and healthy campus makes it possible for MBU to continue face-to-face instruction this semester. Your acceptance of personal responsibility for your health (through consistent patterns of personal behavior and hygiene) and your learning (through diligent effort) are essential to advance your education, even amid the inconveniences and sacrifices we are called on to make. Please note the following course policies:

- If you are showing any symptoms of illness, do not leave your room or come to class. Immediately contact the student health center for instructions and assistance.
- If you are not able to attend class in person due to symptoms of illness, please feel free to attend the class virtually. You must notify me before class starts so I can start the Zoom meeting and activate the camera. A link is provided in our MyMaranatha course. If you contact me before class, we will start the Zoom session and a recording will be made available even if you cannot attend live.
- You can only be counted as present for live attendance (in-class attendance or live virtual attendance; i.e. your live face showing on the screen). Unless you are enrolled as a virtual student, virtual attendance will only count in the case of illness, symptoms, or quarantine. This will be verified by the Student Health Center so you must contact them for your virtual attendance to count. Delayed viewing of the recording does not count as present but will help you keep on track academically.
- Sit only in seats designated by faculty to maintain physical distancing.
- Until further notice, masks must be worn whenever you are inside a building, which includes class time. Exemptions on file with the Student Life Office will be honored.
- Use a sanitary wipe to clean your desk or table surface prior to each class. Classrooms are cleaned regularly throughout the day, but you should still wipe off the surfaces you will touch prior to taking your seat.
- If you are diagnosed as COVID-positive and required to isolate while you recover, don't worry! You will be well-supported. Please let me know and we will make every effort to help you keep up academically until you are released to rejoin the class.

### **Textbooks:**

Haddon Robinson, *Biblical Preaching*, Baker, 2014.  
Donald Sunukjian, *Invitation to Biblical Preaching*, Kregel, 2007 [select chapters]

### Course Description/Prerequisites:

This course focuses on the process of developing an effective sermon. The class will highlight the importance of the role of preaching in a philosophy of ministry, the character and spiritual element of the preacher's life, and the process of moving from exegesis to proclamation. Students are expected to understand the exegetical process already; this course moves from text to sermon. Prerequisite: BIPA 212, Biblical Interpretation.

### MBU Institutional Outcomes supported by this course:

1. Communication Skills: Students will demonstrate competence in written, oral, and aesthetic communication.
2. Historical and Cultural Understanding: Students will recognize and evaluate the ideas, trends, and cultures of various social groups.
3. Biblical Application: Students will use discernment in moral situations by applying biblical precepts and principles to contemporary issues and lifestyle choices.

### Course Goals and Objectives:

1. Students shall develop a growing passion for the personal study of the Word of God that extends through all of life.
2. Students shall be able to apply correct methods of interpreting the contents of Scripture in its historical-grammatical context.
3. Students shall develop a philosophy of preaching for the preacher and the life of the Body of Christ.
4. Students shall acquire a systematic process for sermon development.
5. Students shall distinguish various types of sermons and their place in ministry.
6. Students shall construct sermons that effectively connect with our contemporary milieu.

### Course Requirements:

1. **Reading/Quizzes:** You will be reading and taking quizzes from the textbook according to the Class Calendar. The quizzes are **open book** and timed. You must read the entire assignment and then answer from your reading.
2. **Book Review:** Students will read their choice of one of the following books on preaching. They will submit 500-1000 word personal reflection paper of their reading on the assigned dates. The paper should not be a reiteration of the contents of the book. Rather, it should be a thoughtful personal evaluation of the contents with applications. (Be prepared to discuss the book you read in class. Class discussion may be accounted for in your grade).
  - Bruce Mawhinney, *Preaching with Freshness*. Kregel. 2008.
  - John Piper, *The Supremacy of God in Preaching*. Baker, 1990.
  - Mark Dever and Greg Gilbert, *Preach: Theology Meets Practice*. B & H Books. 2012.
  - Bryan Chapell, *Christ-Centered Preaching*. Baker Academic. 2005.
  - John Stott, *Between Two Worlds*. Eerdmans. 1982.
3. **Tests:** There will be two tests covering the all of the class lectures, and before the preaching portion of the class. Also, expect a cumulative final exam.

4. **Sermon Segment Exercises:** Students will work on mastering the various elements of a sermon. These exercises will be graded on a pass/fail basis, but those exercises that lack careful thought and preparation will not be awarded credit.
5. **Preaching Project:** Through the semester, students will prepare and deliver one fully developed sermon. The sermon will have a manuscript for the introduction and conclusion. It will include all elements of a sermon as described in class. The sermon will be graded according to the class preaching rubric.
6. **(Grad Project—this only applies to seminary/grad students):** Each student will complete a 5 page (single space) compare/contrast/critique of three different sermon preparation processes from 1) our MBU Sermon Packet, 2) Haddon Robinson’s *Biblical Preaching*, and 3) a preaching book of your choice (this requires at least 200 pages of extra reading).
  - One page will be given to listing/summarizing each sermon prep method (3 pages total).
  - One page will be a critique of each method listing strengths and weaknesses.
  - One page will be a presentation of your own method synthesized from your study.

**Grading:**

<b>Assignment Weight</b>	
Reading/Quizzes	15%
Book Review	10%
Tests/Final Exam	35%
Sermon Segment Exercises	15%
Preaching Project	25%

<b>Assignment Weight – Grad</b>	
Reading/Quizzes	15%
Book Reviews	10%
Tests/Final Exam	35%
Sermon Segment Exercises	5%
Preaching Project	20%
Grad Project	15%

<b>Grading Scale</b>			
A	100-93%	C+	82%
A-	92%	C	81-75%
B+	91%	C-	74%
B	90-84%	D	73-65%
B-	83%	F	64% & <

**Late Work/Attendance:**

- Work done at the last minute is almost never done well, and it does not usually assist the student in learning the material the homework assignment was designed to teach. I encourage students to take their time on assignments and homework projects,
- Late Work Penalties: Because we are going over the written assignments in class, 5% is deducted per day. The penalty will not go beyond 50%.
- The school’s attendance policy will be enforced.

**Academic Dishonesty:**

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense, and it can exist in many forms. For example, the following would be considered a sample of academically dishonest activities that might occur in this class:

- Sharing advance information regarding the content or answers for a test or quiz.
- Receiving advance information regarding the content or answers for a test or quiz.
- Using a previous student’s old tests or quizzes as a study guide for this semester’s tests and quizzes.
- Handing in the same paper or substituting a similar paper in more than one class without permission.

- Plagiarism—representing the words or unique thoughts of another as your own.
  - Plagiarism extends not only to the actual words of the original author, but also to the thought patterns or organizational structure. Papers giving evidence of plagiarism will not be accepted. Papers written by other students may be consulted for help on the form and structure, but it is **not acceptable** to use content from other student papers (even if properly footnoted).
- Submitting as your own, materials that have been edited/enhanced by another.
- Academic penalties for academic dishonesty range from an F grade on the particular evaluation to an F grade in the course. Also, a range of serious disciplinary penalties may apply.

“Today I give you two examinations, one in trigonometry and one in honesty. I hope you pass them both, but if you must fail one, let it be trigonometry for there are many good men in this world today who cannot pass an examination in trigonometry, but there are no good men in the world who cannot pass an examination in honesty.”—Charles Sarratt

### **Academic Success Center:**

Once source for academic help in any course is the Academic Success Center. If you require specific targeted academic help for any reason contact the Academic Success Center located in the Cedarholm Library. If you would like more information regarding targeted academic help, please contact the Academic Success Center director at [academicsuccess@mbu.edu](mailto:academicsuccess@mbu.edu)

### **Collaboration:**

Collaboration (cooperation of students with each other in preparation for a class) is a legitimate learning experience. However, teachers expect that a student will do his own work and not replace individual initiative with another’s labor. For example:

- **It is acceptable** for a student who filled out his study guide, but was unable to find an answer or did not understand one of the questions to ask for help from another student. **It is not acceptable** for a student who failed to do his study guide to use his neighbor’s study guide to cram for the quiz;
- **It is acceptable** for a group of students, after doing their own initial work, to compare answers and to quiz each other over the test or quiz study questions. **It is not acceptable** for a student who has done little or no personal preparation to join such a study group;
- **It is acceptable** for a student who was absent from class to obtain notes from another student for the day he was absent. **It is not acceptable** for a student who did not feel like taking notes, or who was working on other class work, to obtain notes from another student. **It is also unacceptable** for a student to use notes or study guides from a prior semester;
- **It is acceptable** to use another student’s paper for help on the form and structure, but **it is not acceptable** to use content from that paper for his own paper.

### **ADA:**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, the law requires that all students with disabilities be given a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Success Program Director, in the Library, (ph. 920/206-2340) or email [academicsuccess@mbu.edu](mailto:academicsuccess@mbu.edu)

### **Electronic Devices:**

Laptops, tablets, and smart phones can be great tools in the classroom, but they may also be an enormous distraction to you and your fellow students. The use of electronic equipment in the classroom is a privilege, not a right. If you are found to be misusing that privilege, you will lose it for the remainder of the semester. Misuse could include using the device for anything other than course-related applications. It is expected that electronic communication devices be **muted and out of sight** for the class period unless an application is being used for a course activity. Suitable behavior regarding electronic devices is one way to show appropriate consideration to your fellow students and instructor. Examples of inappropriate use of electronic devices:

- Texting
- Social media
- Web browsing
- Reading or writing email
- Using any application that does not apply to the classroom experience

**Course Assignment Calendar (Tentative\*)**

Date		Class Discussion	Assignment
Aug. 31	T	Syllabus and Introduction	
Sep. 2	Th	Introduction to Biblical Preaching	Robinson, Ch 1-2
7	T	The Case for Expository Preaching	Robinson, Ch 3-4
9	Th	The Biblical Basis of Expository Preaching	Robinson, Ch 5-6
14	T	Preaching Theologically	Robinson, Ch 7-8
16	Th	Preaching Applicationally	Robinson, Ch 9-10
21	T	Introduction to Preaching Genres	Sunukjian, Intro and Ch 1
23	Th	<b>Test #1</b>	
28	T	Forming the Homiletical Proposition	Sunukjian, Ch 2-3; Appendix A
30	Th	Practice The Process	Sunukjian, Ch 4 <i>Sermon Segment #1</i>
Oct. 5	T	Moving from an Exegetical to Homiletical Outline	Sunukjian, Ch 5-6 <i>Sermon Segment #2</i>
7	Th	Practice The Process	Sunukjian, Ch 7 <i>Sermon Segment #3</i>
12	T	Getting Practical with Applications	Sunukjian, Ch 8-9 <i>Sermon Segment #4</i>
14	Th	Getting Practical with Illustrations	Sunukjian, Ch 11-12
19	T	Getting Practical with Introductions	Sunukjian, Ch 13 <i>Sermon Segment #5</i>
21	Th	Getting Practical with Conclusions	<i>Sermon Segments #6 &amp; 7</i>
26	T	<b>Test #2</b>	
28	Th	1. Student Preaching:	
Nov. 2	T	2. Student Preaching:	
4	Th	3. Student Preaching:	
9	T	4. Student Preaching:	
11	Th	5. Student Preaching:	<b>Book Review</b>
16	T	6. Student Preaching:	
18	Th	7. Student Preaching:	
Thanksgiving Break Nov. 22-26			
30	T	8. Student Preaching:	
Dec. 2	Th	9. Student Preaching:	<b>[Grad Project Due]</b>
7	T	10. Student Preaching:	
9	Th	11. Student Preaching:	
<b>Finals Dec. 13-15</b>			