

DICKERSON-GREEN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

I. CMS 752 Preaching in Multiethnic and Multicultural Settings

II. Professor/Instructor

Dickerson-Green Theological
Seminary – Waverly Building

III. Course Name and Description

CMS 752 Preaching in Multiethnic and Multicultural Settings

This course is designed for current and future religious leaders, pastors, and communicators who seek to effectively convey biblical messages in multiethnic and multicultural environments. Recognizing the rich tapestry of cultures and ethnicities in many communities, this course provides students with the tools to navigate and celebrate this diversity in their preaching. It focuses on developing sermons that resonate across cultural boundaries, promote inclusivity, and foster understanding within a varied congregation..

IV. Course Policies

Class Attendance

Attendance for an online course is measured by participation in, completion of and submission of online course assignments as assigned/outlined in the course syllabus, schedule and on the course online page. Absence from this online course is determined by the lack of discussion forum post and assignment submissions. Absence from 1 week of an online course is considered excessive, whether excused or unexcused. Please note that merely logging onto the online learning platform (eLearning) is not synonymous with participation. If you do not participate in discussion forums and submit weekly assignments, you will be counted as absent from the course. For absences that are considered excessive, your instructor may contact the Vice President of Student Affairs, who will research the reasons for said absences and will move forward with scheduling a meeting with you and the appropriate unit head. In some instances, excessive absences will be addressed as combined effort between Vice President of Student Affairs, the Vice President of Academic Affairs, the Division Dean and/or the Department Chair.

Other pertinent policies that affect class attendance, conduct and academic performance can be found in the university's Student Handbook at <http://www.allenuniversity.edu/student-handbook/>

- Class Attendance and Excused Absences-p. 10
- Plagiarism-p. 38
- Student Conduct to include disruptive behavior-p. 36-39
- Dress Code- p. 9
- Satisfactory Academic Progress- p.16-17
- Provisions for Disabled or Special Need Students-p. 19-20

Electronic Usage Policy: Students are required to have access to a computer in order to complete the requirements of this course. It is the student's responsibility to obtain and maintain computer access throughout the course.

Online Late Assignment Policy: Due to the nature of online course design and setup, students are provided assignments and instructions in advance of due dates. This eliminates the need for makeups. However, should a student have circumstances that prohibits the completion of their online coursework,

students have up to 2 days beyond the due date to present that late work. The late submission will be subjected to a 10 percent deduction for each week it is late. This policy is to provide for fair grading and allow for instructor feedback for all assignments. NO assignments will be graded beyond one week late and subsequently a grade of 0 will be recorded.

VI. Course Units

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will:

- Understand the dynamics of multiethnic and multicultural congregations.
- Develop sermons that effectively communicate across cultural boundaries.
- Apply biblical teachings in a contextually relevant manner.
- Foster inclusivity and understanding in diverse congregational settings.

Methodology

The course combines lectures, case studies, group discussions, and practical sermon writing exercises. Emphasis is placed on real-world applications and peer feedback.

Course Schedule

Week	Module	Readings and Viewings	Assessment
1	Introduction to Multicultural Preaching	"Foundations of Multicultural Preaching"	Reflection paper
2	Understanding Cultural Contexts	"Diversity in Congregations"	Online discussion
3	Biblical Contextualization	"Contextualizing Scripture"	Case study analysis
4	Designing Sermons for Diverse Audiences	"Crafting Inclusive Sermons"	Sermon outline
5	Language and Communication in Preaching	"Effective Communication Across Cultures"	Group presentation
6	Storytelling in Different Cultures	"Multicultural Narrative Techniques"	Storytelling exercise
7	Addressing Social Issues in Sermons	"Preaching on Social Justice"	Short essay
8	Midterm Reflection and Feedback	Student-selected sermon reviews	Midterm sermon project
9	Engaging Youth in Multicultural Settings	"Youth Engagement Strategies"	Online forum participation
10	Technology and Digital Media in Preaching	"Digital Preaching in a Multicultural Age"	Digital sermon design
11	Interfaith Dialogue and Preaching	"Foundations of Interfaith Communication"	Reflective journal

Week	Module	Readings and Viewings	Assessment
12	Music and Arts in Multicultural Worship	"Integrating Arts in Worship"	Creative project plan
13	Community Engagement and Outreach	"Community Outreach Strategies"	Community engagement proposal
14	Leadership and Management in Diverse Churches	"Leading Diverse Congregations"	Leadership case study
15	Ethics and Integrity in Multicultural Ministry	"Ethical Considerations in Multicultural Ministry"	Ethics position paper
16	Capstone: Final Sermon Project	Integration of course concepts	Final sermon delivery

Part 1: Multicultural Sermon Portfolio

Total Points: 70

Objective: To apply and integrate course teachings, demonstrating proficiency in creating sermons that effectively engage multiethnic and multicultural audiences.

Your portfolio should reflect your ability to contextualize biblical messages for diverse audiences, incorporating the following:

- Reflection and contemplative consideration on the chosen topic of each sermon.
- Develop a thematic series of sermons addressing key concerns in multiethnic and multicultural congregations.
- Illustrate the application of cultural intelligence in sermon preparation and delivery.
- Incorporate inclusive language and relevant illustrations that resonate across cultural divides.
- Construct sermons that foster community, inclusivity, and understanding.
- Include reflections on feedback received from peer reviews and its incorporation into sermon refinement.
- Explore the use of technology and media in enhancing the accessibility and impact of your sermons.

Format and Guidelines:

Length: Portfolio of 3-4 sermons, each 1500-2000 words

Structure: Introduction, Core Message, Illustrations, Conclusion for each sermon

References: Cite at least three scholarly or theological sources per sermon, in addition to scriptural references.

Submission: Upload to the course portal in a .doc, .docx, or .pdf format before the deadline.

Scoring Rubric:

Content and Theological Depth (35 points)

Cultural Relevance and Inclusivity (20 points)

Clarity, Organization, and Creativity (10 points)

Use of Sources and Scriptural References (5 points)

Part 2: Final Exam

Total Points: 30

Objective: To evaluate comprehension of course material and the ability to apply concepts to practical scenarios in multicultural settings.

Format: Multiple Choice (10 questions, 1 point each), Essay (2 questions, 10 points each)

Topics Covered:

- Cultural Intelligence in Preaching
- Inclusive Language and Illustrations
- Engaging Diverse Audiences
- Theological Contextualization
- Technology in Multicultural Ministry

Scoring Rubric:

Accuracy of Responses (15 points)

Depth and Insight in Essay Responses (15 points)

Instructions:

Duration: 90 minutes

Closed-book: No notes or textbooks allowed.

Ensure stable internet connectivity for the duration of the exam.

Answer all questions to the best of your ability.

Grading Scale:

A: 90-100 Points

B: 80-89 Points

C: 70-79 Points

D: 60-69 Points

F: Below 60 Points

Course Textbook

Course Textbook with instructions on chapter readings are sent in a separate email.

VII. Course Reading, Listening, and/or Videos

Additional course content is provided by the instructor. These supplemental resources will be posted on eLearning. It is the responsibility of students to keep up with any readings that they miss. It is imperative that students complete work outside of the class. Students are expected to follow the syllabus and to begin the required readings before class. Readings for the week should be completed by the end of that week. Lecture and reading material supplement one another.

Students are responsible for all material covered in the required readings. Please refer to course schedule unless otherwise stated.