Course: MIN 636 Homiletics I
Instructor: Dr. Don Denyes
Meeting Time: Wednesday 12:30pm – 3:20pm

Course Description:
An introduction to homiletics with attention to philosophy and purpose. Emphasis is given to the study of available methods for gathering the biblical and non-biblical materials needed for sermons and the structures a sermon may take. The course includes a laboratory which allows basic instruction and evaluation regarding the student’s communication style and homiletical skills.

Prerequisite:
BBL501 Biblical Hermeneutics

Objectives:
 To develop a thoroughly biblical theology of preaching and a biblical understanding of the preacher’s task.
 To gain insight into the communication process with particular application to sermonic development.
 To establish a step-by-step procedure for the construction of a biblical sermon with careful attention to exegesis and audience analysis.
 To learn from some of the most effective biblical communicators of our day.
 To provide a class atmosphere of mutual ministry which will contribute to the spiritual development of all participants.

Textbooks:
 Your Choice approved by instructor.
Course Requirements:

- All students are expected to attend all classes and actively participate in Class activities and discussions. Evaluation of the student will be based in part on their ability to process [assimilate] the content of the course and in-class sermon critiques into their in-class preaching performance.


- Throughout the semester Guest Expositors will address the class. This will afford the student an excellent opportunity to interact with some proven and well-respected communicators. A 1.5 page typed [1½ spacing] evaluation is expected from the student for each guest lecturer.

- Each student will create an Illustration file with 20 illustrations, five of which must come from their own personal experience. The other illustrations may be found from any number of sources such as movies, television, books, periodicals, songs, other sermons, etc. These illustrations will be written in form and style as they would be used in a sermon. There must be a transition sentence [or two] at the end of each illustration which leads to a theological point of application. PLEASE FOLLOW THE FORM PROVIDED.

- Three 15 minute sermons will be delivered in class with evaluation made by the instructor and your cohort. A typed outline is required for each sermon. PLEASE FOLLOW THE FORM PROVIDED.
Papers and Projects
Papers in Bible and Theology courses should be formatted and sources documented according to the *GRTS Guideline for Papers and Theses* (see sample footnotes and bibliography on p. 13-16). This guideline is based on the Turabian/Chicago Manual of Style and the *SBL Handbook of Style*. Please consult these works at the following link: http://grts.cornerstone.edu/programs/research

Papers in Ministry and Counseling courses should be formatted and sources documented according to APA Style. Information on this style can be found at the following link: http://grts.cornerstone.edu/programs/research

Inclusive Language
As noted in the GRTS academic catalog, writing and discussion should reflect the GRTS policy on inclusive language when referring to other people, regardless of their gender, nationality, culture, social class or religion.

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Copyright violation and plagiarism have serious ramifications for Cornerstone students, both legally (the former) and ethically (the latter). Unauthorized copying or use of copyrighted materials, including downloaded files of various kinds, can result in criminal charges and fines. Plagiarizing another’s words or ideas (passing them off as your own) can result in loss of grade or failure. For a fuller explanation of these issues or of CU’s copyright policy, see Miller Library’s website under “Research: Copyright Questions.”

Disability accommodation
The University will make reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The purpose of accommodation is to provide equal access to educational opportunities to students affected by disabilities, and the university does not intend that the standards be altered, nor that the essential elements of programs or courses be changed. Students having documented disabilities may apply for accommodations through Student Disability Services (SDS), which is part of the Cornerstone University Learning Center located in Miller Hall on the main campus.

In the event that students have questions regarding whether they are eligible for accommodations, how they might provide appropriate documentation of disabilities, or how they might handle a disagreement with a professor over questions of accommodation, the Director of Academic Support should be contacted immediately at (616) 222-1596 or via email at learningcenter@cornerstone.edu. Further information about applying for and utilizing accommodations is provided in the Student Handbook and on the university’s website.