

HOML 70970/80970: Special Topics in Preaching –  
Narrative and the Preacher's Task  
3 Semester Hours

Instructor: Lance Pape

Prerequisites: none

Description of Content:

This course examines the relationship between narrative and preaching. Everybody loves a good story, but what does story have to do with the proclamation of the gospel? The course will provide an introduction to narrative theory, review the ways thinking about stories has influenced preaching, and explore the relationship between biblical narrative and preaching.

Class Procedures:

The course is structured as plenary lecture/discussions interspersed with student sermon presentations with instructor and peer feedback.

Requirements:

1. Attendance at all classes
2. Timely completion of all readings, reading response papers, sermon preparations, and other assignments as described in the syllabus
3. The preaching of two sermons, as assigned
4. Final paper (9-10 pages for 70970; 18-20 pages for 80970)
5. Active and responsible participation in class discussions and the evaluation of student sermons

Texts:

Abbott, H. Porter. *The Cambridge Introduction to Narrative*. 2nd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008. List: \$26.99 ISBN: 978-0521715157

Graves, Mike and David J. Schlafer, eds. *What's the Shape of Narrative Preaching*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2008. List: \$26.99 ISBN: 978-0827242555

Green, Joel B and Michael Pasquarello III, eds. *Narrative Reading, Narrative Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2003. List: \$22 ISBN: 978-0801027215

Lowry, Eugene L. *The Homiletical Plot, Expanded Edition: The Sermon as Narrative Art Form*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001. List: \$20.00

ISBN: 978-0664222642

O'Day, Gail R. *The Word Disclosed: Preaching the Gospel of John*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2002. List: \$15.99 ISBN: 978-0827242456

Pape, Lance B. *The Scandal of Having Something to Say: Ricoeur and the Possibility of Postliberal Preaching*. Waco: Baylor University Press, 2013. List: \$29.95 ISBN: 978-1602585287

Grading Procedures:

Sermons: 30%

Sermon Preparation materials: 10%

Short reading response papers: 20%

Final paper: 30%

Class Participation: 10%