



MAS 621 Advanced Techniques in Homiletics
2 cr. hrs. or 3 CEUs

Tuesday, 5:30-8:30 PM
Summer, 2008

Instructor Name	Robert Fish, Ph.D.
Office Hours	Monday and Thursday, 2:00-4:00 PM, and other times by appointment. Rm. 230
Telephone	Office: 816-251-3535, ext. 2110
E-Mail	FishRS@unityonline.
Required Texts	Pearce, T. (2003) <i>Leading Out Loud: Inspiring Change Through Authentic Communication</i> . Jossey-Bass.
Other Required Reading	
Recommended Reading	

Course Description

Students build upon the knowledge and techniques learned in Homiletics I and II by developing creativity in lesson content and by practicing energetic, engaging delivery of a spiritual lesson. The course explores the critical verbal and nonverbal elements of creating and delivering a clear and powerful message. Students create, deliver and evaluate lessons that are designed to persuade and inspire. Prerequisites: MAS 521 Homiletics I, and MAS 522 Homiletics II, or equivalent.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify critical verbal and nonverbal elements of clear, powerful Sunday lessons.
2. Integrate and apply advanced techniques and skills for creating and delivering lessons.
3. Create, deliver, and evaluate several lessons of varying lengths designed to persuade and inspire.

The above learning objectives partially fulfill the following program outcomes for the Master of Divinity:

- MD-2. Describe and integrate administrative and leadership abilities to create a productive and growing ministry.
- MD-4. Demonstrate appropriate knowledge needed for ministry.

The above learning objectives partially fulfill the following program outcomes for the Certificate in Unity Ministry:

- C-2. Describe and integrate administrative and leadership abilities to create a productive and growing ministry.
- C-4. Demonstrate appropriate knowledge needed for ministry.

The above learning objectives partially fulfill the following program outcomes for the Master of Arts in Religious Studies:

- MA-1. Demonstrate mastery in the study of religion.

Class Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Reading Assignment	Paper/Exam/Activity
1a	July 15	1. Introduction to the course 2. Approaches		in class exercises
2a	July 22	Creativity, inspiration, research		in class exercises
3a	July 29	Talk #1 (10 minutes)		student talks
4a	August 5	Applying theater to speaking		in class exercises
5a	August 12	Talk #2 (15 minutes)		student talks
6a	August 19	writing original poetry		in class exercises
7a	August 26	Talk #3 (15 minutes)		student talks
8a	Sept. 2	Speaking in alternative services		in-class exercises
9a	Sept. 9	Talk #4 (for an alternative service)		student talks
10a	Sept. 16	Review and closure		in class exercises

Assignments for the Master of Divinity:

- 1. Four lessons
- 2. A reflection paper

Grading

Assignment	Possible Points	Meets Learning Objective
Four lessons	10-15-20-20	1, 2, 3
A reflection paper	35	1, 2, 3

Final Grade Determination:

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D

Assignments for the Certificate in Unity Ministry:

1. Four lessons
2. A reflection paper

Grading

Assignment	Possible Points	Meets Learning Objective
Four lessons	10-15-20-20	1, 2, 3
a reflection paper	35	1, 2, 3

Final Grade Determination

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D

Assignments for the Master of Arts in Religious Studies:

1. Four lessons
2. A reflection paper

Grading

Assignment	Possible Points	Meets Learning Objective
Four lessons	10-15-20-20	1, 2, 3
A reflection paper	35	1, 2, 3

Final Grade Determination

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D

Expectations of Students

Students are expected to come to class having read the assigned material and being prepared to discuss it.

Classroom Protocol

Be kind to one another; no whining

Late Assignment Policy

Missed assignments can be made up at the discretion of the instructor.

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all classes, and to inform the instructor when they cannot.

Academic Honesty

Unity Institute assumes that all students desire to pursue their academic and transformational work with honesty and scholarly integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, facilitating academic dishonesty and misrepresentation of self or other students are prohibited. Students may seek the assistance from others as long as the student submitting the assignment is actually doing the work.

If a faculty member discovers a student violating academic honesty the following penalty may be applied, depending upon the severity of the infraction:

1. A reduced grade for the assignment.
2. A grade of zero for the assignment.
3. An "F" for the course.
4. Remand the decision to the full faculty.

A report will be sent to the faculty, the Dean, as well as kept in the student's permanent file.

For further information about academic honesty, students are directed to review the Unity Institute Catalog and Unity Institute Student Handbook.

Special Concerns

If students have any special concerns and/or challenges that may affect their performance in this course, they are encouraged to speak with the instructor immediately so that any accommodations, if necessary, may be made.

Selected Bibliography