

**SYLLABUS FOR PT 5175 HOMILETICS/PREACHING LAB II**  
**REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY – CHARLOTTE**  
**SUMMER 2026**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course provides actual preaching opportunities in order to continue to develop exegetical and preaching skills. The student will be required to preach 2 expository sermons from an OT and NT narrative text, an evangelistic sermon, and a wedding homily.

Prerequisites: Communication I, Preaching Lab I, Communication II.

**Course Objectives**

- 1) To get further practice in expository preaching through the preaching of two narrative texts.
- 2) To strengthen the use of the original languages in sermon preparation.
- 3) To reinforce how the message of the Bible is relevant to people's lives as a significant part of preaching.
- 4) To present a baptismal homily as if you are the minister performing the baptism.
- 5) To be able to present a wedding homily as if in a wedding standing before the couple.
- 6) To reinforce good pulpit presence and delivery.
- 7) To practice reading a large portion of Scripture with good diction.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK:**

The student must read Haddon Robinson, *Biblical Preaching*. The student must send an email to the professor no later than Friday, Aug. 7, 2026 at 5 p.m. EST stating he has read the assigned text. If Robinson has been read already, please contact the professor.

**REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:**

**I. Class attendance and discussion**

You will be expected to attend every class in order to participate in your classmates' sermon experience and evaluation. Unexcused absences will adversely affect your final grade. Please be on time.

## II. Sermons

- A. Narrative Exposition: The student must preach the narrative passage assigned in Comm II from the book of 2 Samuel. This will be an expository sermon of 25 minutes. Besides preaching the text the student will turn in the following:
1. An Outline consisting of the Proposition, the Main Points, and the Transitional Statements.
  2. A summary of your work on the Hebrew, including how the Hebrew helped you understand the text better. It is not expected that the student will do a full exegesis of the Hebrew, but key verses or key words should be examined.
- B. The second sermon will be assigned this summer from the Gospel of John. Besides preaching the text the student will turn in the following:
1. An Outline consisting of the Proposition, the Main Points, and the Transitional Statements.
  2. A summary of your work on the Greek, including how the Greek helped you understand the text better. It is not expected that the student will do a full exegesis of the Greek, but key verses or key words should be examined.
- C. Wedding homily: The student will preach a homily appropriate for a marriage ceremony, explaining the significance of a Christian marriage or a marriage based on Christ and/or Biblical principles. A brief word clarifying the nature of the gospel can be included but is not required. The homily will not be delivered behind the pulpit. Time allotted for this homily will be 5 minutes. Students must read the “guide to homilies” in the course documents.
- D. The student will preach a baptismal homily that highlights the doctrinal significance of baptism while celebrating the joy this sacrament brings to the candidate, the family and the church family. One should assume that extended family members, who are not members of your church, will be in attendance. The student can choose his own text for this homily. Time allotted for this homily will be 5 minutes. Students must read the “guide to homilies” in the course documents.

### III. Evaluation of sermons

- A. The student will be evaluated by the professor and by fellow students through the use of an evaluation form.
- B. The student will watch the video of the 2 Samuel sermon and write a short paragraph of what he learned from watching the video. Any observation can be included here but the focus should be on sermon delivery.

### IV. Oral Scripture Reading

Since we are preaching from narrative texts, part of the sermon will be to read the narrative text, and this will give the student practice in the oral reading of Scripture. No actual grade will be given, but an obviously poor job will potentially adversely affect the student's final grade.

**V. Extensions Policy for Assignments:** In extenuating circumstances, a deadline extension of **up to one week** may be granted at the discretion of the professor. Requests for extensions of **more than one week** must be submitted to the Registrar for consideration by the Academic Dean in consultation with the professor. Extensions are granted only for significant emergencies or unforeseen circumstances, and a grade penalty may be applied. *All extension requests must be made prior to the assignment deadline.* No retrospective extensions will be granted.

### VI. Grades

2 Samuel Sermon	30%
John Sermon	30%
Wedding Homily	15%
Baptismal Homily	15%
Evaluations/Participation	05%
Reading/2 Samuel video	05%

**Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: PT5175 Homiletics/Preaching Lab II  
 Professor: Joseph Rolison  
 Campus: Charlotte  
 Date: Summer 2026

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></b>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b>	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></b>
<p><i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong</li> <li>• Moderate</li> <li>• Minimal</li> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	<b>Strong</b>	Student must integrate hermeneutics, biblical exposition, theological themes, historical information, cultural familiarity, and verbal skills in communicating the message of Scripture.
<b>Scripture</b>	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	<b>Strong</b>	Student must understand the original meaning of Scripture through the use of the original language and be able to apply it in preaching the text.
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	<b>Moderate</b>	Texts have theological messages that must be

			communicated to God's people.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	<b>Minimal</b>	Preaching itself is a sanctifying process that should remind the student of complete dependence on God.
<b>Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	<b>Minimal</b>	This is one of the goals of preaching and so should be a desire of the preacher.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	<b>Minimal</b>	Emphasizes a winsome approach to preaching, including the presentation of the truth of the gospel and the word of God to those who may not agree
<b>Pastoral Ministry</b>	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians.	<b>Moderate</b>	Application of the preached word is a way of shepherding the flock and engaging the church with the world.

## **RTS Charlotte Classroom Technology Usage**

RTS Charlotte recognizes how essential it is for students to have reliable, campus-wide access to the internet. For that reason, we have made Wi-Fi available for our student body, not only in the library and student lounges, but also in the classrooms. We know that students need to use the internet to download class materials, access files on the Cloud, and locate other important information. However, we also recognize that internet access in the classroom provides opportunity for abuse and misuse. Some students have unfortunately used their internet access to engage in many activities that distract them from the classroom lectures (e.g., surfing the web, checking sports scores, playing games). Not only does such activity hamper a student's own seminary education, but it distracts other students who can easily view the screens of nearby students. In addition, donors and classroom guests (who often sit in the back) can see this inappropriate internet usage, which reflects poorly on RTS. Classroom etiquette includes leaving cell phones turned off, refraining from surfing the Internet or playing computer games or other distracting activities. In addition, students must respect standards set by individual professors regarding the use of technology during their class.

In order to address this issue, we must appeal to the integrity of the students as ones who are preparing for a lifetime of ministry to Christ and his church. We expect each student to take personal responsibility for proper classroom technology usage and to encourage others around them to do the same. All RTS-Charlotte students are accountable to the policies stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Catalog and are therefore expected to use technology in the classroom only for appropriate class-related activities. Student conduct is under the supervision of the Dean of Students.