

*Abilene Christian University*  
*College of Biblical Studies*

# Preaching Pauline Literature

BIBM 628 W1, Fall 2010  
Internet

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The mission of Abilene Christian University is to educate its students for Christian service and leadership throughout the world. The mission of the College of Biblical Studies is to provide leadership, preparation, and resources for effective worldwide ministry in the cause of Christ. The broad mission of the Department of Undergraduate Bible is to provide biblical training, Christian spiritual formation, and a Christian world-view for every student in the university.

The GST aims to equip men and women for effective missional leadership for ministry in all its forms, and to provide strong academic foundations for theological inquiry. By equipping students with the requisite skills, knowledge, and experience, the GST aspires to produce graduates with trained minds and transformed hearts.

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will enhance the ability of each student to move from text to sermon as they preach from Pauline literature. Furthermore, this class examines how the form and function of different genres influence form and function of sermons.

## **COURSE PURPOSE**

The course fulfills the preaching requirement or ministry elective in the M.Div. and MACM programs at ACU. The course will also serve to meet the needs of students or preaching professionals who desire an integrated view of the exegetical, hermeneutical, and homiletical processes necessary when moving from text to sermon.

## **COURSE GOALS AND COMPETENCIES**

1. To review basic ideas of exegesis, hermeneutics, and homiletics.
2. To explore in depth literary and rhetorical features of Pauline literature.
3. To facilitate homiletical habits that will respect form and function of biblical texts.
4. To foster an appreciation for biblical preaching that shapes congregational attitudes and actions.

<b>COMPETENCIES: LEARNERS MUST DEMONSTRATE THE ABILITY TO:</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT: LEARNERS' PERFORMANCE WILL BE MEASURED BY:</b>
1. Express comprehension of basic material	1. Exegetical Working Paper; Sermon

in the areas of exegesis, hermeneutics, and homiletics	Project; Class Assignments
2. Propose strategies for preaching Pauline literature	2. Sermon Project; Class Assignments
3. Demonstrate familiarity with preaching literature.	3. Reading Assignments, Class Discussions;
4. Critically analyze a text for the purpose of preparing sermons	4. Exegetical Working Paper; Class Assignments
5. Demonstrate skills of preaching and sermon preparation	5. Sermon Project

### COURSE ACCESS:

1. Login myACU.
2. Navigate to [www.acu.edu/openclass](http://www.acu.edu/openclass) <https://dashboard.pearsonopenclass.com/index.html>
3. If asked to sign in again, use the Google App link similar to the one below instead of the login fields.



Sign in with Google Apps

See Module 0 for more complete instructions or if you have difficulty. Afterwards, if you are still having trouble, contact TEAM 55 at 325-674-5555.

### TEXTBOOKS/SUPPLEMENTAL READINGS

1. James Thompson, *Preaching Like Paul*. Westminster/John Knox Press.
2. Dave Bland & David Fler (eds). *Preaching Romans*. ACU Press, 2002.
3. *Reading Romans: A Literary and Theological Commentary* by Luke Timothy Johnson, Smyth & Helwys, 2001. Another good option is *Romans* by Frank J. Matera in the Paideia series, Baker 2010.
4. Not required reading but you may be interested in Augustine's *On Christian Doctrine: Book IV* located on the web @ <http://www.leaderu.com/cyber/books/augocd/ocdtoc.html>. Augustine's book IV describes many of the features discussed in Thompson's *Preaching Paul*.
5. Bibliography
  - a. See bibliography for homiletics in Module 1.
  - b. See bibliography of Pauline studies in Module 1.
  - c. Use your ACU user name and password to access databases the library subscribes to. You can click on the Off Campus Access link on the library homepage for Library proxy instructions and work with TEAM 55 on technical questions. Also: <http://www.acu.edu/academics/gst/resources.html>
6. Course Reader: Various reading assignments will be made weekly. Either pdf or .doc files of the readings will be attached within the Modules. Most readings are listed in the course calendar but I reserve the right to add additional readings weekly.

### GRADING

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|--|-----|
| 1. Weekly Class Assignments and Discussions    | 20% |
| 2. Module 2 Assignments for Ephesians 1        |     |
| • Exegetical Paper: <b>Due Oct 29</b>          | 20% |
| • Sermon Sketch: <b>Due Nov 5</b>              | 20% |
| 3. Sermon Project on Romans: <b>Due Dec 10</b> | 40% |

100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
69-60	D
below 60	F

- If a student drops the course during the semester, a “WP” will be given if the student is current with assignments and is receiving a passing grade. A “WF” will be given if assignments have not been completed or inadequate points have been received to attain a passing grade.
- Late assignments will be reduced 10% within the first week and another 10% within the second week. No assignments will be accepted after two weeks unless special permission has been granted due to uncontrollable circumstances.

### COURSE POLICIES

**Attendance Policy:** Postings will be required every week. Non-participation will greatly reduce your grade. No postings will be accepted past the designated Thursday of each week.

### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

(<http://www.acu.edu/campusoffices/provost>)

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Class Assignments:** There are 3 modules in the course.
  - a. Module 1 introduces reading strategies for Pauline literature
  - b. Module 2 uses Ephesians 1 as an example.
    - Exegetical Paper: **Due Oct 29**
    - Sermon Sketch: **Due Nov 5**
  - c. Module 3 introduces two homiletical strategies for preaching Pauline literature.
  - d. Format and due dates will be given when the assignments are made within the module each Monday. Students must post responses before Friday. Students must post replies if called for before the following Monday. No postings will be accepted after the designated date without prior approval.
2. **Sermon Project:** Email attachment **Due Dec 3**. Prepare 5 sermon sketches on 5 different pericopes from Romans. Each sketch should follow the design on page 4 of the syllabus.

## *Title of the Sermon*

Text

Rhetorical and theological argument of the text:

- Approximately 200 word summary. Identify the form and function of the genre.

Focus statement of sermon: A theologically oriented subject.

Function statement of sermon: To [strong behavioral or affective verb] [identify the audience] to [second verb] ...

Plot Line of Sermon: A paragraph consisting of the first sentences of each move.

First paragraph of the introduction:

Move 1 [Do not use a heading.]

- First sentence of the move [same as the first sentence of your plot line].
- Description of the move indicating development: argument, image, and/or story (50 words).
- Closing sentence [an inclusio of the first sentence of the move].

Move 2 [Do not use a heading.]

- First sentence of the move [same as the second sentence of your plot line].
- Description of the move indicating development: argument, image, and/or story (50 words).
- Closing sentence [an inclusio of the first sentence of the move].

Repeat the pattern for the remaining moves

- First sentence of the move [same as the next sentence of your plot line].
- Description of the move indicating development: argument, image, and/or story (50 words).
- Closing sentence [an inclusio of the first sentence of the move].

Last paragraph of the conclusion: The conclusion must cohere with the focus and function statements.

Bibliography: (Using at least three sources for each sketch. You can use the same source for different sketches).

Additionally, include analytical footnotes throughout the sketch explaining why you do what you do (specifically relating to, theology, exegesis, genre, and homiletical method).

## COURSE CALENDAR

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENTS
			See Modules for daily assignments
1	Aug 27	INTRODUCTORY MATTERS  <b>MODULE 1</b>  The Form of the Text	<b>Read</b> the syllabus and complete <b>MODULE 0</b> before August 27.  <b>Read</b> Sensing <i>After Craddock</i> ; Bartlett, “Texts Shaping Sermons, and Wardlaw, “Preaching Biblically.”
2	Sept 3	Reading Paul	<b>Read</b> <i>Preaching Like Paul</i> Introduction and chapters 1-2
3	Sept 10	The Argument of the Text  Focus and Function of the text	<b>Read</b> Romans, Witherington, “Paul as Rhetor”
4	Sept 17	Paul as Letter Writer	<b>Read</b> <i>Preaching Like Paul</i> ch. 3, Long, “Epistles”, Sensing, “Paraenesis.”
5	Sept 24	Paul as Rhetor	<b>Read</b> Thompson, “Preaching Philippians,” and Sensing “Preaching to Colossians.”
6	Oct 1	Narrative Structures & Narratival Sub-Structures	<b>Read</b> Two articles by Thompson; <i>Preaching Romans</i> ch. 2. Campbell “Discursive Sermon.”
7	Oct 8	<b>MODULE 2</b>  Ephesians 1	<b>Read</b> the set of articles on Ephesians
8	Oct 15	Ephesians 1	
9	Oct 22	Ephesians 1	
10	Oct 29	<b>MODULE 3</b>  Focus and Function of the sermon	<b>Email</b> Exegetical Working Paper on Eph 1 due on Monday <b>Oct 29</b> .
11	Nov 5	Sermon Moves	<b>Email</b> sermon sketch on Eph 1 due on Monday <b>Nov 5</b> .
12	Nov 12	Homiletical Modes: Plotting in the Mode of Immediacy	
13	Nov 19	Thanksgiving	Thanksgiving
14	Nov 26	Homiletical Modes: Plotting in the Mode of Reflection	<b>Read</b> <i>Preaching Like Paul</i> chs. 4-6, <i>Preaching Romans</i> ch. 5.

15	Dec 3	Example Sermons	<b>Read</b> <i>Preaching Like Paul</i> Appendix, <i>Preaching Romans</i> ch. 6. Course Evaluation
16	Dec 10	No Final	<b>Email</b> Sermon Project over Romans due <b>Dec 10</b>

\*I reserve the right to make changes to the course calendar and assignments as the semester progresses.