

Class Information		Instructor Information		First day of classes:	May 2, 2016
Days	May 2 - 6	Instructor:	Joyce Rees (BTh)	Last day to add/drop:	End of the first day
Time:	9:00 – 4:00	Email:	<a href="mailto:joyceaudreyrees@gmail.com">joyceaudreyrees@gmail.com</a>	Last day to request revised exam:	n/a
Room:	??	Phone:		Last day to withdraw from course:	1 pm on the 4 <sup>th</sup> day of classes
<b>Final Exam day</b>		Office:		Last day to apply for time extension for coursework:	One month before final due date
There are no final exams for spring classes.		Office Hrs:	By appointment	Last day of classes:	<b>May 6, 2016</b>

**Textbooks:** Giving Blood (Leonard Sweet); Preaching Re-Imagined (Doug Pagitt)

### Course Description:

In an era of profound story telling does preaching seem culturally obsolete? This course will explore ways to effectively communicate the overarching biblical story with folks in the real world. This course will teach both the art and craft of engaged preaching for today.

### Expected Learning Outcomes:

The overall goal of this course is to help learners become better preachers of God’s Word, with a particular focus on the art and craft of preaching through the use of story.

The course will enable the learner to:

- explore the biblical value of preaching
- better understand Jesus’ methodology as a preacher and apply his practices to preaching today
- learn to use story creatively to effectively connect the listener to the biblical text
- include a multiplicity of voices in preaching
- listen to the Spirit in discerning how and what to preach
- skilfully craft a sermon for every context

### Course Schedule:

To be distributed in class.

## Requirements:

- A. **Reading Reflection (25%):** Both required texts are to be read carefully and completely. In addition the student is to read an additional 500 pages from the recommended reading list included with this syllabus. The learner is to write a four to six page summary and response to ONE (1) of the required texts indicating ways in which you found the book helpful or unhelpful in addressing both why and how story is useful in preaching today.
- B. **Connecting Story Exercise (10%)** During the week of class the student is expected to find two relevant stories in cultural media and demonstrate their connection to a biblical text. Each story, and its biblical connectedness, will be presented in TWO one-page summaries and will be shared in class on the final day.
- C. **Preparation and Delivery of Sermons (30%):** The student is to prepare and deliver TWO (2) sermons, which are to be recorded and sent to the instructor through wetransfer. (See below for instructions on submitting recorded sermons). The ideal context in which to preach your sermons is an actual service or worship gathering. However, recognizing this may not be possible for all students, alternative provisions may include preaching to a small group or ad hoc group of family and friends, or recording your messages by means of an audio program on computer or other digital recorder. Each sermon is to be approximately 20 minutes in length, but no longer than 25 minutes.
- D. **Sermon Analysis (2 sermons) (15%)** The student is to listen to TWO (2) sermons, from recommendations the instructor will provide, and write a two- page critique of the sermon, particularly with regard to the effectiveness of the use of story in connecting the text to the listener, and the listener to the text.
- E. **Theological Summary paper (20%)** Reflecting on a story Jesus used to connect biblical truth to His culture, describe, in four to six pages, your own theology of preaching and the importance of the use of culturally applicable stories. A demonstration of reading done in this course is essential in this assignment.

## DUE DATE FOR ASSIGNMENTS:

All assignments must be submitted on or before June 30, 2016. Any submissions beyond this date will need to be negotiated with the Registrar.

## SUBMITTING WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS:

The preferred method of submission for assignments is electronically by email to the instructor. It is important that **all submissions be formatted as a Word document**, NOT PDF. Please ensure that your name is clearly marked on each assignment and that you number your pages.

## SUBMITTING RECORDED SERMONS:

Sermon files are too large to email. Instead upload your sermon file to wetransfer.com (a free service) and send it to the instructor's email address: [joyceaudreyrees@gmail.com](mailto:joyceaudreyrees@gmail.com) Wetransfer will confirm having sent the file, and the instructor will confirm having received your file.

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## Attendance:

We will miss you terribly if you are not here! Furthermore, if you miss more than 20% of the class (that is the equivalent of one full day) you will unfortunately forfeit credit for the course.

## Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform College-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

## Recommended Reading

Belcher, Jim. *Deep Church: A Third Way Beyond Emerging and Traditional!*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2009

Eswine, Zach. *Preaching to a Post-Everything World: Crafting Sermons that Connect with our Culture*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2008.

Jacks, G. Robert. *Just Say the Word!: Writing for the Ear*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co, 1996

Johnson, Darrell W. *The Glory of Preaching: Participating in God's Transformation of the World*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2009.

Henderson, David W. *Culture Shift: Communicating God's Truth to Our Changing World*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.

Keller, Timothy. *Preaching: Communicating Faith in an Age of Skepticism*. New York: Viking, 2015.

Pagitt, Doug. *Preaching in the Inventive Age*. Minneapolis: Sparkhouse, 2011

Wright, John W. *Telling God's Story: Narrative Preaching for Christian Formation*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2009

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## Policies:

### Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

### Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

### Exam Scheduling

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4)

extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

### Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

### Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at [privacy@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

### Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

### Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of

receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

### **Academic Integrity**

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

**Note:** Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.