

**ST. MARY'S ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE**  
**Fall 2018**

**Thursday**

**6:00 – 8:30 pm**

**PT719 Crafting the Sermon**

**Dr. Dave Greiser**

**Course Description:** This course will examine how to create a sermon from the selection of the scripture text to the delivery of the spoken message. This course is designed for those anticipate a preaching ministry as well as for those who want to become discerning listeners. We will explore the richness of cultural traditions and gender in the experience of preaching through reading and in-class viewing of sermons by outstanding preachers.

**Course Requirements:**

- **Reading:** Students should expect to read at most 1000 pages of required reading, including all handouts, and should come prepared to discuss readings in class.
- **Writing:** Students will hand in written manuscripts of a short and a full length sermon (10-12 pages double spaced in total; 15% and 35% toward final grade, respectively), as well as a hermeneutical journey report describing the process of preparation of the longer sermon from beginning to end (6 pages double spaced, 25% of final grade). Additionally, students will review 6 sermons of their own choosing and hand in one page reviews based on a model distributed in class (total of 15% toward final grade). Total writing for the semester will be no more than 24 pages.
- **Other:** quality class discussion (10%)

**Required Texts:**

1. Forbes, James. *The Holy Spirit and Preaching*. (Nashville: Abingdon Press) 1989. ISBN 0-687-17309-4.
2. Gilbert, Kenyatta. *Exodus Preaching: Crafting Sermons About Justice and Hope*. (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2018) ISBN 978-1-5018-3257-4.
3. Long, Thomas G. *The Witness of Preaching* (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 2016). ISBN 978-0664-261-429
4. Taylor, Barbara Brown. *The Preaching Life* (Lanham, MD: Cowley Publishing, 1993) ISBN 13: 978-1-56101-074-5.
5. Plus handouts distributed in class throughout the term.