



The University of Manchester



**School of Arts, Languages & Cultures, Faculty of Humanities
Course Unit Descriptor**

23.02.2016

GENERAL INFORMATION

Credit Rating	10
Course Unit Title	Worship and Preaching Skills
Unit Code	164
Unit Level	1
Contact Hours	22
FHEQ Level	4
Teaching Period	Flexible delivery
Teaching Staff	Rev. Dotha N. Blackwood
ECTS	5

EXTERNAL FACING COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

Students are introduced to the theology of public worship and the importance of the relationship between worship and doctrine. Attention is given to the value of different liturgical traditions and styles and the value of symbols and sacraments. The question of freedom and liturgy is discussed and help given in leading different styles of worship. There is opportunity to prepare for and critically analyse aspects of public worship. The unit also introduces a range of preaching models so that students may begin to identify their own preferred approaches. A holistic approach to the personal formation of the preacher is outlined, integrating knowledge, skills and character. Study of set passages of Scripture introduces students to the process of identifying the focus, function and form of the text. Recognition of these features provides a basis for a practical introduction to the process of sermon construction and effective communication skills.

COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

Students are introduced to the theology of public worship and the importance of the relationship between worship and doctrine. Attention is given to the value of different liturgical traditions and styles and the value of symbols and sacraments. The question of freedom and liturgy is discussed and help given in leading different styles of worship. There is opportunity to prepare for and critically analyse aspects of public worship. The unit also introduces a range of preaching models so that students may begin to identify their own preferred approaches. A holistic approach to the personal formation of the preacher is outlined, integrating knowledge, skills and character. Study of set passages of Scripture introduces students to the process of identifying the focus, function and form of the text. Recognition of these features provides a basis for a practical introduction to the process of sermon construction and effective communication skills.

AIMS

To examine and reflect on the practice of leading public worship and Christian preaching, to increase understanding of the nature of communication and public leadership and to begin to develop appropriate approaches and skills for these tasks.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge and Understanding

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Distinguish the critical elements in effective communication
- Demonstrate an understanding of the symbiotic relationship between doctrine and worship

Intellectual Skills

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Identify, explain and critically engage with significant issues raised by contemporary Christian public worship
- Explain the nature and purpose of preaching and its relevance in today's world

Practical Skills

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Prepare and lead public worship with confidence and practical skill
- Plan, prepare and deliver a sermon effectively with appropriate use of illustrative materials
- Reflect critically on their own and others' preaching and leading worship

Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Present information with clarity and confidence
- Engage in public leadership, planning and negotiating

Employability Skills

This unit helps graduates to increase their understanding of the nature of communication and public leadership and to begin to develop appropriate approaches and skills for these tasks.

SYLLABUS

1. Introduction: Worship and Doctrine – The importance of passing on the tradition through worship
2. Gathering Together: 'What on earth are we doing?'
3. Liturgy and Liberty (including the power of music) – the importance of liturgy
4. Symbol and Ceremony – using symbols in worship
5. Practical: Allowing Worship to Work; the role of the worship leader; planning and leading
6. Preaching: Introduction to the Basic Principles
7. Focus and Function in the Sermon – finding the main point of text and sermon
8. The Art of Preparation; the Form of the Sermon (Preparing different types of sermons)
9. Approaching Context (personal, church, social) – engaging with one's own context
10. Making it Live – effective use of language and means of communication
11. Practical Session and Summary

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

Interactive lectures

Unit materials are available at Spurgeon's *Online* to support student learning

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment task	Length	Weighting within unit
Formative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class presentation of service outline 	5 minutes	n/a
Summative: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A recording of leading worship* A recording of a sermon* A reflection on the practice of leading worship or preaching 	500 words (nominal) 500 words (nominal) 1500 words	30% 30% 40%
<p>* Students are required to pass these elements. So long as this element has been passed, they will be eligible for compensation if the overall unit mark is within the compensation zone (30-39%), and the compensatable credit allowance as set out in the Degree Regulations has not been exceeded.</p>		
<i>Alternative summative assessment for students who do not preach and lead worship:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An essay 	2500 words	100%

FEEDBACK METHODS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oral feedback in class Written feedback on formative and summative written submissions within 15 working days
--

REQUISITES

Available on which programme(s)?	BA in Theology
Available as Free Choice (UG) or to other programmes (PG)?	Available as Free Choice (UG)
Pre-requisite units	n/a
Co-requisite units	n/a

RECOMMENDED READING

<p>Bewes, Richard, <i>Speaking in Public Effectively</i> (Tain: Christian Focus, 1998)</p> <p>Brown, D., <i>Transformational Preaching: Theory and Practice</i> (College Station, Texas: Virtualbookworm.com, 2003)</p> <p>Carson, D.A. (ed.), <i>Worship: Adoration and Action</i> (Carlisle: Paternoster, 1993)</p> <p>Cherry, M., Constance, <i>The Worship Architect: A Blueprint for Designing Culturally Relevant and Biblically Faithful Services</i> (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2010)</p> <p>Day, David, <i>A Preaching Workbook</i> (London: Lynx, 1998)</p> <p>Ellis, Christopher, <i>Gathering: A Theology and Spirituality of Worship in Free Church Tradition</i> (London: SCM Press, 2004)</p> <p>Ellis Christopher, J., <i>Approaching God: A Guide for Worship Leaders and Worshippers</i> (Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2009)</p> <p>Leach J., <i>Living Liturgy</i> (Eastbourne: Kingsway, 1997)</p> <p>Parry, Robin, <i>Worshipping Trinity</i> (Milton Keynes: Paternoster, 2005)</p>

Peterson, D., *Engaging with God* (Leicester: Apollos, 1992)
Quicke, Michael, *360 Degree Preaching: Hearing, Speaking and Living the Word* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2003)
Wolterstorff, Nicholas, *The God We Worship: and exploration of liturgical theology* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2015)

SCHEDULED ACTIVITY HOURS

22 contact hours

PLACEMENT HOURS

n/a

INDEPENDENT STUDY HOURS

78 hours

ADDITIONAL NOTES

APPROVAL

Date approved by UGC	
Valid from Date (Publishing Date)	