PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY:
The full set of school regulations and procedures is contained in the Postgraduate Student Handbook which is available online at your MyAberdeen page. Students are expected to familiarise themselves not only with the contents of this leaflet but also with the contents of the Handbook. Therefore, ignorance of the contents of the Handbook will not excuse the breach of any School regulation or procedure.

You must familiarise yourself with this important information at the earliest opportunity.

COURSE CO-ORDINATOR
Rev Dr Ken Jeffrey
KCF2, Kings College, Old Aberdeen, AB24 3UB
E: ksjeffrey@abdn.ac.uk
T: 01224 274276 [Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday]

COURSE TEACHING TEAM
Rev Dr Ken Jeffrey
Rev Prof Phil Ziegler

Discipline Administration:
Mrs Lisa Evans
50-52 College Bounds
Room CB001
01224 273986
divrs@abdn.ac.uk
Students are asked to make themselves familiar with the information on key institutional policies which been made available within MyAberdeen (https://abdn.blackboard.com/bbcswebdav/institution/Policies). These policies are relevant to all students and will be useful to you throughout your studies. They contain important information and address issues such as what to do if you are absent, how to raise an appeal or a complaint and how seriously the University takes your feedback.

These institutional policies should be read in conjunction with this course guide, in which School specific policies are detailed. Further information can be found on the University’s Infohub webpage or by visiting the Infohub.

TIMETABLE

Students can view their university timetable
at http://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/study/timetables-550.php

CALENDAR

Week 1: 20 August: Reading
Week 2: 27 August: Reading
Week 3: 3 September: Reading

Week 4: 10 September – 14 September: Course at Aberdeen University

Week 5: 17 September:
Week 6: 24 September:
Week 7: 1 October:
Week 8: 8 October: historical / theological essay due on 12 October

Week 9: 15 October:
Week 10: 22 October:
Week 11: 29 October:
Week 12: 5 November: critical sermon report due 9 November
COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course engages students in a sustained exploration of the theology and practice of preaching in the context of Christian worship with a view to the wider horizon of public communication. Initial investigation of traditional and contemporary theologies of the Word prepares us to focus upon the theological and rhetorical analysis of actual sermons considered in video, audio and textual forms. We will critically examine the theological frameworks within which preaching is understood, various possibilities for understanding the relation of biblical text, contemporary context, and preached sermon, as well as questions concerning the interplay of form and content in the act of preaching. An overarching question for the course concerns the role of doctrinal and ecclesiological commitments in giving concrete shape to acts of Christian witness.

COURSE AIMS

This course aims to explore the theology and practice of preaching in the context of Christian worship with a view to the wider horizon of public communication. Focussing upon the critical analysis of actual sermons, in video, audio and textual form, students will examine the theological framework within which preaching is understood, the relation between biblical text and present context in the composition of sermons, the interaction of content and form, and the role of doctrinal and ecclesiological commitments in giving shape to acts of Christian witness.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course students should, at an appropriate level, be able to demonstrate the ability to:

To reflect critically and theologically upon the form, content and practice of Christian preaching;

To deepen understanding of the theology of the Word and its formative role in shaping the theories and practice of preaching;
To develop analytical capacities for conceiving preaching within the wider contexts provided by the field of Christian theology and the life and work of Christian communities.

**PRE COURSE READING AND TASK**

Please acquire and read the full text of:


Please find additional readings for each day’s seminar under Class Programme. These readings can be found on MyAberdeen.

Prepare a 15m sermon, on any biblical text or theme, to be delivered in King’s College Chapel during morning of Thursday 13 September

(The sermon will be assessed and is worth 10% of the course grade)

**CLASS PROGRAMME**

**Monday 10 September:**

9.00am-12n: What is Preaching? Rev Dr Ken Jeffrey

*Please note this seminar will be held in CB009, 50/52 College Bounds*

*An Introduction and a Vision*

Reading:


1.00pm-4.00pm: Why do we preach? Rev Prof Phil Ziegler

*History and Theology of Preaching*

Readings:


**Tuesday 11 September:**

9.00am-12n: When and where do we preach?  
Rev Dr Ken Jeffrey  
*Preaching in a Postmodern World*

Reading:
Richard Lischer, *The End of Words: The Language of Reconciliation in a Culture of Violence* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005), chapter 1, pp3-45

1.00pm-4.00pm: To whom do we preach?  
Rev Dr Ken Jeffrey  
*The congregation and the community*

Reading:


**Wednesday 12 September:**

9.00am-12n: How do we prepare to preach?  
Rev Dr Ken Jeffrey  
*Exegetical Skills*

1.00pm-4.00pm: How do we prepare to preach?  
Rev Dr Ken Jeffrey
Hermeneutical Skills

(Please note this seminar will be held in Room 711, on the seventh floor of the Sir Duncan Rice Library)

Readings:


Thursday 13 September:

9.00am-12n: Preaching in Practice

1.00pm-4.00pm: How do we deliver sermons?

Rev Dr Ken Jeffrey

Rhetorical Skills

Readings:

Atkinson, Max, *Lend me your ears* (London: Vermilion, 2004), pp177-245


Friday 14 September:

9.00am-12n: Who do we preach about, in whose power?

Rev Dr Ken Jeffrey

The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ through the seasons of the Christian year

The work of the Holy Spirit in preaching

Readings:

Wilson, Paul, *The Practice of Preaching* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2007), pp247-262

St Gregory the Great, *The Book of Pastoral Rule* (New York: St Vladimir’s Seminary Press, 2007), pp206-07

1.00pm-4.00pm: Who is the preacher?  
Rev Dr Ken Jeffrey  
*The Person and Character of the Preacher*

**Readings:**


**COURSE BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Adam Peter, *Speaking God’s Words: A Practical Theology of Preaching* (Leicester: IVP, 1996)


Craddock, Fred, *Preaching* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1985)


Fergusson, David and Main, Alan (ed), *Northern Accents: Aberdeen Essays on Preaching* (St Andrews: Theology in Scotland, 2001)


Green, Christopher and Jackman, David (eds), *When God’s Voice is Heard* (Leicester: Inter-Varsity Press, 1995)

Heywood, David, *Transforming Preaching: The sermon as a channel for God’s word* (London: SPCK, 2013)


Lischer, Richard, *The End of Words: The Language of Reconciliation in a Culture of Voilence* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005), chapter 1, pp3-45


Stuart, Cristina, *Effective Speaking: The essential guide to making the most of your communication skills* (London: Pan Books, 1988)


Stewart, James S, *The Strong Name* (Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1940)


Wilson, Paul, *Preaching and Homiletical Theory* (St. Louis: Chalice, 2004)

Wilson, Paul, *The Four Pages of the Sermon* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1999)


**FURTHER BIBLIOGRAPHY**


Achtemeier, Elizabeth, *Preaching As Theology and Art* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1984)


Barth K, *Preaching through the Christian Year* (Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1978)


Blackwood, Andrew, *Planning a Year’s Pulpit Work* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1942)

Blackwood, Andrew, *Preaching From the Bible* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1941)


Buttrick, George Arthur, *Preaching in These Times: Lyman Beecher Lectures, Delivered Before the Divinity School at Yale University* (New York: Scribner, 1940)


Campbell, Charles, *Preaching Jesus* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1997)


Chapell, Bryan, *Christ-centered preaching: Redeeming the expository sermon* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005)


Craddock, Fred, *As One Without Authority* (Nashville: Abingdon, 1979)

Daane, James, *Preaching With Confidence: A Theological Essay of the Power of the Pulpit* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980)


Davis, H. Grady, *Design for Preaching* (Philadelphia: Fortress, 1958)


Drakeford, John W, *Humor in Preaching* (Grand Rapids: Ministry Resources Library, 1986)

Dudley G. A and Pugh E, *How to be a Good Talker* (Marple, Cheshire: 1971)


Howard, J. Grant, *Creativity in Preaching* (Grand Rapids: Ministry Resources Library, 1987)


Kooienga, William H, *Elements of Style for Preaching* (Grand Rapids: Ministry Resources Library, 1989)


Knox, John, *The Integrity of Preaching* (Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1957)


McClure, John, *Other-Wise Preaching* (St. Louis: Chalice, 2001)


Ramsey, Lee, *Care-full Preaching* (St. Louis: Chalice, 2000)


Smith, Christine, *Preaching as Weeping, Confession, and Resistance* (Louisville: WJKP, 1992)


Unger, Merrill Frederick, *Principles of Expository Preaching* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1955)


Williams, Michael “Preaching as Storytelling,” in Robinson Wayne (ed.), *Journeys toward Narrative Preaching* (New York: Pilgrim, 1990)


**ASSESSMENT**

**PLEASE NOTE:** In order to pass a course on the first attempt, a student must attain a Common Grading Scale (CGS) mark of at least E3 on each element of course assessment. Failure to do so will result in a grade of no greater than CGS E1 for the course as a whole.
If you submit your work on time, you can expect that feedback will **normally be provided within three working weeks** (excluding vacation periods) of the submission deadline.

1st Attempt: 100% continuous assessment consisting of:

1. Seminar participation/contribution in the form of a fifteen minute sermon (10%)
2. A historical / theological essay (2500 words) (40%)
3. An extended critical sermon report (3500 words) (50%)

Essay lengths include quotations and footnotes, but not the bibliography.

Students should note that they will be penalised for work that is either too long or too short. They are encouraged to keep their word count within + or – 10% of the length required for each piece of work.

Resit: 100% continuous assessment consisting of a 6500 word essay on a topic to be set by the Course Coordinator

To view the CGS Descriptors please go to MyAberdeen- Organisations-Divinity, History, & Philosophy Student Information for Taught Postgraduates. The link to the CGS Descriptors is on the left hand menu.

**ASSESSMENT DETAILS**

**SERMON**

Prepare a 15m sermon, on any biblical text or theme, to be delivered in King’s College Chapel during morning of Thursday 13 September. This will be assessed according to:
1. Clear Theme and Content
2. Format and Structure
3. Presentation and Delivery

ESSAY

3000 Word Historical / Theological Essay

'If Christ be not raised then our preaching is in vain...' (1 Cor 15:14). Discuss the significance of Paul’s claim for a theological understanding of preaching.

REPORT

4000 Word Critical Sermon Report

You may base your sermon report upon ANY ONE SET of the following readings from the Revised Common Lectionary cycle for the season of Advent 2018:

Advent 1: Jeremiah 33 v14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3 v9-13; Luke 21 v25-36
Advent 2: Malachi 3 v1-4; Philippians 1 v3-11; Luke 3 v1-6
Advent 3: Zephaniah 3 v14-20; Philippians 4 v4-7; Luke 3 v7-18
Advent 4: Micah 5 v2-5a; Hebrews 10 v5-10; Luke 1 v39-45 (46-55)

You should prepare your sermon by making full use of the approaches set out in Wilson’s textbook and discussed throughout the course, paying particular attention to his model of 35 ‘exegesis’ questions found on pp18-25. The submission involves three elements:

A. The sermon itself should be written out in full and should be approximately 2000 words in length.
B. In an appendix of approximately 2000 words, describe the congregation to which you preach, and explain the approach you followed in composing the sermon with explicit reference to materials considered in the course generally, and Wilson’s textbook in particular.
C. A concise list of all sources used in preparation of the sermon, including the exegetical tools and resources used and other sources of material to which reference is made.

Please use normal bibliographical form and present your paper in accordance with a standard academic style guide, preferably the current edition of the Chicago Manual of Style.

ASSESSMENT DEADLINES

A fifteen minute sermon presentation worth 10%:
Thursday 13 September 2018

A 2500 word historical / theological essay worth 40%:
Friday 12 October 2018

A 3500 word extended critical sermon report worth 50%:
Friday 9 November 2018

SUBMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Submit one paper copy with a completed essay cover sheet to the drop boxes in CB008 in 50-52 College Bounds and one official electronic copy to TurnitinUK via MyAberdeen. Both copies to be submitted by 3.00pm on the due date.

Paper Copy: One paper copy, typed and double spaced, together with an Assessment cover sheet – this should have your ID number clearly written on the cover sheet, with NO name or signature but EVERYTHING ELSE completed, including tutor’s name – and should be delivered to the drop boxes in CB008, 50-52 College Bounds.

Electronic Copy: One copy submitted through Turnitin via MyAberdeen. (for instructions please see http://www.abdn.ac.uk/eLearning/turnitinuk/students/)

Students are asked to retain the Turnitin receipt so they are able to provide proof of submission at a later date if required.
In advance of uploading, please save the assignment with your student ID number listed in the filename, i.e. 59999999 DRxxxx Essay 1.

When asked to enter a title for the assignment, please enter a title identical to the name of your saved assignment, i.e. DRxxxx Essay 1.

Both copies to be submitted by 3.00pm on the due date.

Please note: Failure to submit both an electronic copy to TurnitinUK, and an identical paper copy, will result in a deduction of marks. Failure to submit to TurnitinUK will result in a zero mark.

**Distance Learning Students Only** – Please note that to submit a hard copy is not necessary; an electronic submission will suffice.

*N.B Turnitin doesn’t accept Mac documents in Pages. If using a Mac please go to File and export work as a Word document.*

**RESIT INFORMATION**

100% continuous assessment consisting of a 6500 word essay on a topic to be set by the Course Coordinator.

Access to the resit which is provisional on:

- All submitted coursework having been submitted and graded at CGS E3 or higher.
- Student having a valid Class Certificate. Students with C7’s are not eligible for resits.