

Western Seminary – Sacramento, California

YMS504M – COMMUNICATING TO YOUTH

One Credit Hour

January Intensive: January 5 – 6, 2009
9:00am – 4:30pm

INSTRUCTOR: Les Christie
William Jessup University
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

- You will gain proficiency in engaging contemporary youth issues from a biblical perspective.
- You will gain competencies in relating to, speaking to, and entering the world of a young person with the gospel of Jesus.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon successful completion of this course the student should:

- Gain practice in Biblical exegesis in preparation for talks
- Gain practice in crafting talks to adolescents
- Gain confidence and skill in speaking to teenagers
- Gain experience in giving presentations to adolescents
- Gain the ability to implement the technique of storytelling with a youth talk
- Gain helpful insights for future growth from critiques
- Gain creative ways of communicating
- Gain expertise in holding the attention of teenagers
- Gain practical ideas in working with small discussion groups

COURSE CONTRIBUTION TO STATED DEGREE OUTCOMES

The objectives of this course are tied directly to the desired outcomes constructed specifically for the four seminary degrees for which this course is a requirement. Below is an excerpt of the degree outcomes to which this course relates:

Upon completing the core curriculum, each student shall:

- 1) Be a person whose Christ-like character is worthy of being emulated, and whose integrity imparts credibility to his/her ministry
 - a) gratefully aware of his/her new identity and spiritual sufficiency in Christ (MFM 500)
 - b) motivated by genuine love for God, others and self (SFS 501)
 - c) reflects biblical balance and skill in life management, appropriately fulfilling the roles and responsibilities mandated by God (MFM 500; SFS 501, 502; overarching)
 - d) regularly practices spiritual disciplines to facilitate personal transformation and intimate fellowship with the Lord (SFS 502)
 - e) cooperates effectively with God's Spirit in the process of replacing sinful habits with godly virtue (SFS 501, 502)
 - f) cooperates effectively with God's Spirit in the process of replacing sinful habits with godly virtue (SFS 501, 502)
 - g) fosters healthy interpersonal relationships, including the ability to listen and speak with respect for the feelings and opinions of others (SFS 501)
 - h) thinks and acts ethically in areas of personal, professional and social responsibility (SFS 504)

- 2) Be able to think biblically and critically so that various truth claims can be effectively evaluated
 - a) has embraced a biblical world view (THS 501-3 overarching)
 - b) able to apply the basic elements of critical analysis and sound reasoning (MFM 500; overarching)
 - c) sensitive to cultural variations in styles of thinking (overarching)
 - d) reflects an appropriately humble and charitable spirit in applying biblical criteria for truth (overarching)

- 3) Be a true life-long learner, building upon his/her seminary training
 - a) committed to pursuing growth and learning in key areas of need (MFM 500; overarching)
 - b) able to access and manage information (including that available via computer/on-line resources) so that it is readily available when needed (overarching)

- 4) Know how to apply the principles of human learning to how people learn Bible truths

- 5) Be confident in the ability to teach the Bible effectively

- 6) Know how to design and implement an effective educational plan

- 7) Know how to promote effectively the spiritual growth of others

- 8) Know both the theory and the practice of ministry to youth and families

- 9) Be one who has formulated a written statement of youth and family ministry philosophy that incorporates Scripture and an awareness of key philosophical issues

Talk #2	200 points
Book response # 1	200 points
Book response # 2	200 points
Youth talk (outside of class)	200 points
Grading scale	
A+ 990-1,000	A 950-989
A- 940-949	B+ 910-939
B 880-909	B- 860-879
C+ 840-859	C 810-839
C- 790-809	D+ 770-789
D 740-769	D- 700-739

STANDARDS FOR WRITTEN WORK (MLA)

Papers must be written to a near-thesis standard. That is, minimum format standards must be met, as defined below. English grammar, idiom, and spelling must be up to graduate level. Always include a strong introduction paragraph (declare what you intend to show the reader) and conclusion paragraph. Qualities valued include clarity, succinctness, and precision.

This course employs the MLA (Modern Language Association) style guide. The basic elements are:

- Double-spacing, except for block quotes
- Single space block quotes
- Page numbers appear at the upper right on every text page
- Use footnotes rather than paragraph citations
- Footnotes follow a standard format.

Helpful web sites on MLA style include:

<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/index.html>

<http://www.english.uiuc.edu/cws/wworkshop/bibliography/mla/mlamenu.htm>

[These websites are expanded and pasted into Western Seminary's "How to Write a Research Paper"]

A good website with footnote/bibliography entries is

<http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/DocChicabgo.html>

For assignments that require the use of non-course texts and include a bibliography, of the resources mentioned in the bibliography for your project/paper, two must be from a physical library. Note the physical location of each book as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

All work must reflect master's level use of the English language. Plagiarism will result in failure of assignment.

CLASS POLICIES

Cover page: To safeguard confidentiality, provide a title page as a cover for all assignments. Include your student mailbox number in the upper right corner of the cover page.

Attendance and Late Assignments: Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Students who miss class are responsible for missed work, and are encouraged to ask another student to audiotape the class or take notes. Unexcused absences and tardiness will impact a student's grade. Students who anticipate an absence should discuss it in advance with the instructor. Students who report an absence in advance will be able to turn in work originally due the missed session, as late as the following session with no loss in grade, after which there will be the loss of one letter grade for that work. Students who do not report an absence in advance can turn in work later than the missed session with a loss of one letter grade for that work.

Students who miss two or more classes will not pass the course, unless they arrange with the teacher to complete additional assignments.

Incompletes: Faculty members determine their own procedures and due dates for the completion of course assignments. The instructor's expectations will be stated in the course syllabus. The latest possible deadline available to the professor for all course work is the last day of the school term (regardless of the date of the last class session) as noted in the Academic Calendar (see current class catalog). In the case of serious illness, family emergency, or other extenuating circumstances, the instructor may grant an extension **at the initiation of the student**. A temporary notation of "I" (incomplete) is assigned until a final grade can be determined. The maximum extension permissible is six weeks, **with all work due to the prof for grading on Fri, 5/29/09 at the latest**. All course assignments not completed by the extended deadline will be given a failing grade. Under no circumstances may this six-week period be extended except by petition and approval of the Administrative Committee.

The Availability of Disability Services at Western Seminary: Western Seminary is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Western students are assisted individually as their needs dictate. It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to identify themselves and the nature of the disability. Any student who has a disability should contact the seminary's Disability (Section 504) Coordinator, Ken Epp, at 503-517-1815/1-877-517-1800, ext. 1815. His office is at the Portland campus. Students at the northern California campuses may contact Carrie Priest (Student Services Coordinator – San José) or PJ Oswald (Director of Student Development – Sacramento), or they may contact Dr. Epp directly. Appropriate forms will be provided and must be submitted to the Disability Coordinator's office.

Enrichment Students: Enrichment students are encouraged, but not obligated, to participate in assignments and class discussions. Professors are not obligated to grade participation for these students, but may opt to do so depending on class size.

LIBRARY AND INTERNET RESEARCH

All class assignments with a research element require library research annotated as such in the bibliography. A minimum of two resources must be from a physical library. Note the physical location of each resource as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

For complete library information including: hours of operation, interlibrary loan, local library resources, etc., please:

- Visit www.westernseminary.edu .
- Click the link “Sacramento Campus” in the left navigation pane.
- Click the link “Library Resources” in the left navigation pane.

Reserve Collection

The library carries all required readings for this course.

Print Resources

Use the Western-Arcade Library catalog to find books and other materials. To search the library collection:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link “Search the Library Collection Online”.

Periodical & Research Databases

As you complete your assignments for this course, don't forget about the resources in the Western research databases. Remember to evaluate and cite your information too.

To access the Western research databases:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link “Research Databases” from the bottom menu.
- Click the link “Ebsco Host Research Databases”.
- Log in. [**User ID:** westsem / **Password:** seminary]
- Click the link “EBSCOhost Web”.
- Click the database(s) you wish to use. Start with *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*.

To cite your information, consider the following MLA composers:

<http://www.noodletools.com> and <http://www.citationmachine.net>

Western-Arcade Library offers a variety of ministry related software for student use including BibleWorks, Logos Bible Software, and SeminaryLibrary.

Course Packs (if applicable)

To access the course pack(s) for this course:

1. Go to the library homepage: <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC>
2. Click the link 'Course Packs'.

Reference and Research Contact Information

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TENTATIVE COURSE PLAN:

Monday, January 5 (9:00am – 4:30pm)

- Introduction/Orientation
- Some thoughts on the person giving the message
- Some consideration regarding your audience
- Preparation of the message
 - Organization
 - One point
 - Be brief
 - Illustrations
 - Visual aids
 - Opening and conclusion
- Present talk #1
- Delivering the message
 - Stage fright
 - Use of notes
 - Keeping their attention
 - Gestures
 - Voice
 - Eye contact
 - Humor
- The meeting room
- Present talk #2

Tuesday, January 6 (9:00am – 4:30pm)

- Present talk #3
- Why small group discussions
- Five common mistakes small group leaders make
- Personalities in your small group
- Starting a discussion group and keeping it going
- Asking questions that get responses

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL LIST (For speaking to youth):

We are happy to announce that Western Sacramento is now an Amazon Associate. Any purchases (not just books) you make on Amazon using this link will mean that a minimum of 4% of the purchase price comes to Western. Please support your seminary by using this link for all your Amazon purchases.

Click [here](#) to order texts and other products.

Preaching to Pluralists: How to Proclaim Christ in a Postmodern Age by Chris Altrock

Great Leader, Great Teacher: Recovering the Biblical Vision for Leadership by Gary Bredfeldt

Christ-Centered Preaching,,: Redeeming the Expository Sermon by Bryan Chapell

As One Without Authority by Fred B. Craddock

How to Speak to Youth . . . and Keep Them Awake at the Same Time by Ken Davis

Secrets of Dynamic Communication: Preparing and Delivering Powerful Speeches by Ken Davis

The Holy Spirit and Preaching by James Forbes

Preaching to a Postmodern World: A Guide to Reaching Twenty-first Century Listeners by Graham Johnston

The Homiletical Plot: The Sermon As Narrative Art Form by Eugene L. Lowry

Preaching & Preachers by D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Stewards of the Story: The Task of Preaching by James Earl Massey

Living Water for Thirsty Souls: Unleashing the Power of Exegetical Preaching by Marvin A. McMickle

Who Moved My Church by Mike Nappa

Words On Target by Sue Nichols

Preaching Re-Imagined by Doug pagitt

The Supremacy of God in Preaching by John Piper

Between Two Worlds: The Challenge of Preaching Today by John R. W. Stott

Biblical Preaching, : The Development and Delivery of Expository Messages by Haddon W. Robinson

Refining Your Style: Learning from Respected Communicators by Dave Stone

Preaching With Bold Assurance: A Solid and Enduring Approach to Engaging Exposition (Bold Assurance Series, 2) by Hershael York

Recommended website: <http://www.thesource4ym.com/howdoi/speak2youth.asp>

BIBLIOGRAPHY LIST (For leading small discussion groups):

The Big Book on Small Groups (Paperback) by Jeffrey Arnold

Small Group Leaders' Handbook: The Next Generation by Ann Beyerlein

Building a Church of Small Groups: A Place Where Nobody Stands Alone by Bill Donahue

Coaching Life-Changing Small Group Leaders: A Practical Guide for Those Who Lead and Shepherd Small Group Leaders by Bill Donahue

Leading Life-Changing Small Groups (Paperback) by Bill Donahue

The Seven Deadly Sins of Small Group Ministry: A Troubleshooting Guide for Church Leaders by Bill Donahue

Walking the Small Group Tightrope: Meeting the Challenges Every Group Faces by Bill Donahue

Biblical Foundations for Small Group Ministry: An Integrative Approach by Gareth Weldon Icenogle

How to Lead Small Groups by Neal F. McBride

Creating Community: Five Keys to Building a Small Group Culture (Hardcover) by Andy Stanley, Bill Willits