COURSE PROFILE

1.0 Course Description
This practical course on presiding and homiletics for Diaconal Formation includes instruction on the methods and skills necessary for presiding at liturgical rites and preparing a well constructed and well-delivered homily for that particular liturgy. This one-hour credit course will ground the student in the foundational principles of liturgical prayer to help in the development of effective leadership as presider as well as the basic principles and practical advice necessary to prepare a good homily. Emphasis is given to the interplay between the Scripture readings, the ritual, the presider, and the assembly. Students will prepare a ritual of the church and deliver an appropriate homily at the practice ritual, which, will be critically discussed and evaluated by the instructor and fellow students.

1.1 Course Goals
- To develop presidential skills necessary for effective leadership of public prayer, and to preach and acquire practice in speaking in front of a group
- To give students practice in developing and delivering homilies in an atmosphere of support and constructive criticism
- To give students familiarity with the Roman Catholic Lectionary
- To provide an opportunity for learning the dynamics of effective presidential leadership and preaching through observation and discussion
- To encourage personal reflection on the ministries of presider and preacher

2.0 Course Schedule
See Attached Course Outline & Suggested Readings

3.0 Required Textbooks
4.0 Format of Presentation
This very practical course is primarily a seminar course that will include a lecture on the presiding and preaching of the *Word of God*. However, since it is a practicum course, much of the time will be given to the students actually presiding at liturgy and delivering homiletic reflections. The student presiding and preaching will be critiqued in a small group setting by the other students and the student’s mentor. Students will be asked to evaluate their peers in class and be evaluated by them in turn. Promptness is expected of students for all regular class sessions and for all class assignments. The missing of two classes will result in a failing grade.

5.0 Course Requirements
5.a Regular class attendance and participation, especially in the evaluation process
5.b Presiding at a Funeral Vigil, Funeral outside of mass, Committal Service, or an RCIA Minor Rite with Liturgy of the Word
5.c Preparation and delivery of a written homily, 5-10 minutes in length, appropriate for the ritual (see Preaching Schedule)

6.0 Course Grading
6.a Class attendance and participation 20%
6.b Evaluation of presiding skill of ritual 40%
6.c Evaluation of homiletic skills for ritual 40%
6.d Course Grading is on a Pass/Fail basis

7.0 Academic Standards

7.1 Academic Honesty: All the work you do in this course is expected to be your own. *Absolutely no cheating or plagiarism (using someone else's words or ideas without proper attribution) will be tolerated.*

Any cases of cheating or plagiarism will be handled according to university policy and reported to the University's Academic Misconduct Committee. They will also be reported to appropriate ecclesiastical authorities where applicable. As stated in the Norms of Conduct for the University of St. Thomas, academic misconduct includes: (a) cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that improperly affect the evaluation of a student's academic performance or achievement; (b) assisting others in any such act; (c) attempting to engage in such acts.

Plagiarism is using the work of another person and claiming it as your own. The most common types of plagiarism include:
• sing a paper or portion of a paper prepared by someone else;
• Quoting someone else's language or words without proper quotation or citation; and
• Paraphrasing someone else's ideas, framework, or insights without giving credit to the original author in a citation.

Students are strongly urged to consult the following websites for additional information on plagiarism and how to avoid it:

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/plagiar.html
http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/polisci/integrity/quiz/

**Academic misconduct in any form is unacceptable and suspected violations will be pursued aggressively.**

### 8.0 Selected Bibliography


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