

Dr. Darleen Pryds
dpryds@fst.edu
<http://courseweb.fst.edu/Pryds/Public/Aquinas>

Aquinas Institute History of Christian Preaching, Summer, 2008 Syllabus

This class offers snapshots at the history of Christian Preaching. These snapshots provide an overview of Western Christian Preaching, with special attention given to issues related to the authority to preach and the role of preaching in shaping and responding to culture. The course also provides direction for further independent investigation into the history of Christian preaching especially for use to answer questions from parishioners and to use historical evidence in your own preaching with some amount of confidence.

Sunday: Early Christian Preaching: From Evangelists' Fervor to Ecclesial Concern for Doctrinal Instruction (c. 30 C.E.-6th c.)

Today we trace the earliest developments of Christian preaching from spontaneous, and at times ecstatic, evangelism by both men and women, to the progressively monitored and authorized religious instruction given by bishops.

Video Clips: *The Last Temptation of Christ; The Greatest Story Ever Told*

Background Information: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/asbook11.html>

Texts:

2 Clement: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/2clement-roberts.html>

Augustine, Homilies: <http://www.ccel.org/fathers/NPNF1-06/ecf15.htm>

and <http://www.ccel.org/fathers/NPNF1-07/ecf16.htm> [find the homilies on the left sidebar]

Monday: Medieval Preaching: Mass Media to Unify Christendom (c. 800-1450)

Today we examine the role of preaching in the political, ecclesiastical, and cultural unification of Western Europe. Topics include crusade preaching; regulations on preaching; the development of preaching handbooks and preaching aids

Video Clip: *Brother Sun, Sister Moon; The Messenger*

Audio Clip: The Preacherman of Oakland:

<http://www.searchingeveryday.blogspot.com/2008/05/street-preaching-in-21st-century.html>

Texts:

Crusading Preaching:

Accounts of Urban II's Preaching the First Crusade:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/urban2-5vers.html>

Eugenius II Call for Second Crusade:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/eugene3-2cde.html>

cf. Papal Bull of Innocent III on calling to Crusade, 1215

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/inn3-cdesummons.html>

Mendicants:

Dominican Order, History: <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/12354c.htm>

Franciscan Order, History: <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/06217a.htm>

Tuesday: Reforming the Christian Message (1200-1600)

Evangelical Movements that countered the efforts to unify Christian identity, devotional practices or were used to further these efforts, namely through the mendicant orders. We link these movements to the emergence of Protestant reform in the 16th century. This class looks at the persistent efforts expressed through preaching to reform the Church from the 12th-16th centuries.

Video Clip: *The Anchoress*

Texts:

Background: <http://www.iclnet.org/pub/resources/text/wittenberg/wittenberg-home.html>

Luther's Sermons: <http://www.orlutheran.com/html/mlserms.html>

Good Friday, On Christ's Sufferings: <http://www.orlutheran.com/html/mlcross.html>

Wednesday: Preaching Traditions Move to the Americas, 16th-19th centuries

This class focuses on the Great Awakening and the Second Great Awakening, the evangelical revivals of the 18th and 19th centuries, which at times included women preachers.

Video Clip: *The Apostle* [the selection of this film is anachronistic, but depicts a kind of Evangelical Preaching that was found in the 19th century South]

Background on The Great Awakening:

<http://www.wfu.edu/~matthetl/perspectives/four.html>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Awakening

Texts:

George Whitefield, sermons: <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/whitefield/sermons.html>

"The Seed of the Woman, and the Seed of the Serpent"

<http://www.ccel.org/ccel/whitefield/sermons.iii.html#iii-p0.3>

Jonathan Edwards: <http://www.ravenhill.org/edwards.htm>

Some Sermons of J. Edwards: <http://members.aol.com/jonathanedw/Edwards.html>

Seeking Salvation: <http://members.aol.com/jonathanedw/Seeking.html>

Justice of God: <http://members.aol.com/jonathanedw/Justice.html>

Thursday: Preaching a Universal Faith in the 20th century-The Challenge of Universal Media

In the post-war era, preaching is torn between embraced a multi-cultural message by tapping into the Christian wisdom of humble, faithful people, on the one hand, and embracing universalizing media such as television and the internet to deliver a hierarchically approved message.

Video, audio, and textual clips: of Fulton Sheen, Billy Graham, Martin Luther King, Jr.; *Gods of Time Square*; *Jesus Camp*;

MLK: Text of riverside speech: <http://www.searchingeveryday.blogspot.com/2008/04/applying-kings-words-to-iraq.html>; and audio of Riverside Church speech: <http://www.searchingeveryday.blogspot.com/2008/04/remembering-king.html>

Liberation Theology: Oscar Romero, Ernesto Cardenal

Oscar Romero: <http://www.silk.net/RelEd/romero.htm>

Compilations of Excerpts from Sermons: <http://www.justpeace.org/romero.htm>

Live Simply: <http://www.justpeace.org/romero1.htm>

The Gospel of Solentiname:

http://www.stanford.edu/group/arts/nicaragua/discovery_eng/history/solentiname.html

On Fulton Sheen: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fulton_J._Sheen

On Temptation: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AKcxm-VhxUw>

On Billy Graham: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billy_Graham

Graham, 1957 Sermon, NYC: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDqo2p3nPU>

Select Bibliography

General Histories of Preaching:

O.C. Edwards, Jr. *A History of Preaching* (Nashville, 2004) [with c.d. of representative texts of sermons] A good solid survey of the history of Christian Preaching.

Alligator Stewart-Sakes, *From Prophecy to Preaching. A Search for the Origins of the Christian Homily* (Leiden, 2001)

David Dunn-Wilson, *A Mirror for the Church. Preaching in the First Five Centuries* (Grand Rapids, 2005)

History of Lay Preaching:

Catherine Brekus, *Strangers and Pilgrims. Female Preaching in America, 1740-1845* (Chapel Hill, 1998)

Philippe Buc, "Vox clamantis in deserto? Pierre le Chantre et la prédication laïque," *Revue Mabillon* n.s. 4.65 (1993), 5-47.

Katherine Ludwig Jansen, *The Making of the Magdalen. Preaching and Popular Devotion in the Later Middle Ages* (Princeton, 2000)

Beverly Mayne Kienzle and Pamela Walker, *Women Preachers and Prophets through Two Millenia of Christianity* (Berkeley, 1998)

William Skudlarek, OSB, "Assertion without Knowledge? The Lay Preaching Controversy of the High Middle Ages," Ph.D. Dissertation (Princeton, Theological Seminary, June 1976).

Antoinette Clark Wire, *The Corinthian Women Prophets. A Reconstruction through Paul's Rhetoric* (Minneapolis, 1990)

Rolf Zerfass, *Der Streit um die Laienpredigt* (Freiburg, 1974)

Miscellaneous Videos:

Street Preaching vs. Joel Osteen: "repent" <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nu9k60-GgVk>

Boy preaching at lectern: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0NIW7mra2v8&feature=related>

Little boy preaching: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hL3VoFcxiz8&feature=related>

Rythmic preaching: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gRakr2dlNBY>

On-Line Lecture about preaching: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lhsiyxw5qpI>

Joel Osteen critique: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=di9-PebV634&feature=related>

Protestant preaches vs. Catholic attacks:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3mvdI VS7Wbs&feature=related>

Example of Catholic, liturgical preaching: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSRKOUW4CZE>

Gino Jennings v.Catholic baptism rite: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzankyA-sQc>

Recent preaching at Obama's church v. H. Clinton: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eotAHXQ0-Ck>

Lecture at DHS on preaching re: Humane Vitae:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u52KP0Km4D8>

--continuation of lecture: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVAhor5opho&feature=related>

Street preaching: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhYwAUdwJcE>

News story re: woman who protests at veterans' funerals:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5kF1J4s0dxM&feature=related>

English street preaching:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TRyfvUX69JY>

English street preaching II: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yaXxm qibOtE&feature=related>

Street Preaching in Las Vegas

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ORXxYoZEAoA&feature=related>

Las Vegas fight over preachers:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B88eI gKhCY0&feature=related>

**Hollywood Preacher: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=re7oeHtBbs0&feature=related>

Attack on street Preacher: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cVuiBEvHJHI&feature=related>

Preacher at USF: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvCnDxn4ZSM&feature=related>

Index for *Greatest Story Ever Told* clips: <http://www.youtube.com/user/vulle86>