



NEW COURSES SPRING 2012

Revised 10-07-11

PW3273 **Early Christian Liturgical Practices**

Instructor: Claudio Carvalhaes

This course seeks to work with the complexity of the *lex orandi*, *lex credenda* and *lex agendi* (law of prayer, law of belief, and law of agency/ethics). The course will engage Christian liturgical practices and issues from the first to the fourth centuries and help students see how these social-religious-economic-political-cultural practices shaped and informed these early communities. By engaging in these practices, students will be able to see that the liturgical practices of Christian churches today are also social-religious-economic-political-cultural practices that define notions of communities and help shape the world around them.

PW3233 **Preaching Contextually**

Instructor: Debra Mumford

This is an advanced preaching course which provides an overview of principles for developing and delivering sermons beyond the purview of Basic Preaching. Sermons the students will learn to create include: doctrinal, social justice, wedding, funeral, Advent and Lenten sermons. The basic premise of the course is that in order for preaching to be effective, the preacher must take time to understand the preaching context which includes the people to whom/for whom the message is being developed and circumstances in which they find themselves (or the occasion).

TH **Theology Seminar: “Wendell Berry’s Philosophy of Life”**

Instructor: Sean Hayden

This course will organize Wendell Berry’s work around nine “theological” themes: Vocation, Incarnation, Nature and Grace, Faith and Work(s), the Land, Community, Temporal Goods, Exile, and Home. In each section, his poems, fiction and essays will build up a perspective on the meaning of life with depth and coherence – a philosophy of life. Because learning with Berry involves “thinking” differently than we’re used to in the classroom setting, the assignments go somewhat afield from your usual requirements.