HOM 7310
Preaching for Transformation
January 14-18, 2013
Dr. George W. Murray (and others)
gmurray@ciu.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Four highly-regarded and experienced preaching practitioners will help you construct and preach sermons that will have a transformational impact on listeners of all ages. Aspects of sermon construction, homiletical theory, use of illustrations, effective application of truth, audience analysis, and the philosophy and theology of preaching will be balanced with the importance of being an authentic servant of God. You will be inspired to embrace preaching as a means to transform both yourself and the listener for the glory of God.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Four experienced instructors are bringing their expertise to this course, and each will take one day to teach in those areas for which he is especially qualified. Interaction with each teacher will be possible, but all four will not be in the class at the same time. The course coordinator is Dr. George W. Murray, who is the Stephen Olford Professor of Biblical Preaching at Columbia International University.

COURSE FACULTY

The four instructors in teaching order are: Kent Hughes, George Murray, David Cooper, Crawford Loritts, and George Murray (again). Dr. Murray will be with the class for the entire week.

George Murray is the Chancellor and former President of Columbia International University (CIU). Prior to coming to CIU in 2000, he served as the Executive Director of The Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM) from 1994 to 2000. From 1983-1993, Dr. Murray was the general director of the Bible Christian Union, a mission agency which merged with TEAM in 1994. Prior to that, he and his wife, Annette, were church planters in Italy, also with BCU, for 13 years.
A graduate of Columbia International University (BA 1967, MA 1981) and Trinity International University (DMiss 1995), George is an experienced missionary, teacher, preacher, writer and evangelist. Besides serving as CIU’s Chancellor, he occupies the Stephen Olford Chair of Biblical Preaching. Prior to the year 2000, he served for 15 years on the CIU Board of Trustees. He has ministered all across North America and in 75 foreign countries. Dr. Murray loves to read, write, hike, play tennis, and fish. He is married to Annette Brice Murray who is a graduate of Columbia International University (BA 1969) and Biblical Theological Seminary (MA 1994). The Murrays have four married children, Heather, Laura, Frank and Julie, as well as four grandsons, two step-grandsons, and a seventh grandchild on the way.

**Kent Hughes** has been in ministry for over 40 years, and is Senior Pastor Emeritus of College Church in Wheaton, Illinois where he served for 27 years. He is a graduate of Talbot School of Theology and Trinity International University. Dr. Hughes is the author of over 30 books, among them the best-selling *Disciplines of a Godly Man*. Pastor Hughes is a founder of the Charles Simeon Trust, which conducts expository preaching conferences throughout North America and worldwide. He is also the series editor of the projected fifty-volume “*Preaching the Word*” series, to which he has made numerous contributions. He and his wife, Barbara, have four children and 23 grandchildren.

**David Cooper** serves as Senior Pastor of the 10,000 plus member Mount Paran Church in Atlanta, Georgia. He has a unique manner of sharing biblical truth in a simple, down-to-earth style. His personal life mission is to give the world hope in Christ.

Dr. Cooper graduated from Lee University (BA Psychology), the University of Georgia (M.Ed Counseling), and Erskine Theological Seminary (D.Min). He serves as an adjunct professor in counseling at the Richmont Graduate University in Atlanta, Georgia. He has served as a member of the Church of God International Executive Council, is a member of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT), is an LAPC in the state of Georgia, and served on the Chaplain’s Prayer Committee for the Georgia State House of Representatives.

Dr. Cooper is the author of 13 books, including *For Better, Not Worse; Seven Stepping Stones to Success; Repurposing Your Life; Timeless Truths in Changing Times; Ten Steps Toward a Better Life*; and *Get A Grip*! He is a featured speaker for businesses, schools, conferences and churches where he speaks on leadership and success, motivating listeners to reach their full potential. He is also a musician (guitarist, singer and song-writer) and performs his original music with the band Open Door for churches, festivals and prisons. His solo CDs, *Stand!* and *Heartsongs*, are available at the iTunes Store.
Pastor Cooper’s messages are featured on the radio program Discover Life, on the Streaming Faith website, and are streamed live on Sundays at www.mountparan.com. He and his wife, Barbie, have two children, David Paul and Charlsi Lynn. His personal hobbies and interests include running, strength training, basketball, and jazz guitar study and performance.

**Crawford Loritts** is the Senior Pastor of Fellowship Bible Church in Roswell, Georgia. Crawford holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Philadelphia Biblical University, a Doctor of Divinity from Biola University, and a Doctor of Sacred Theology from Philadelphia Biblical University. He served for many years on the Board of Trustees of Columbia International University, and was Board chairman during Dr. Murray’s Presidency. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of Campus Crusade for Christ.

From 1972-1976 Dr. Loritts served as a national evangelist with American Missionary Fellowship, traveling throughout North America and the Caribbean. From 1976-1978 he was an evangelist and church planter with Urban Evangelistic Mission. He co-founded Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship in Dallas, Texas, and was the founder of Canton Bible Church in Canton, Mississippi. From 1978-2005, Dr. Lorritts, and his wife, Karen, served with Campus Crusade for Christ, reaching out to college students and the lay community. He eventually became the Associate Director of Campus Crusade for Christ, USA, providing leadership to the overall direction of Campus Crusade in the USA, mentoring younger leaders, and representing the organization through his speaking and writing ministry.

Dr. Loritts has a weekly radio broadcast, *Living A Legacy*, which is heard nation-wide via the Moody Radio Network. He is also the author of six books, including: *Leadership As An Identity*, *Never Walk Away*, *For A Time We Cannot See*, *Make It Home Before Dark*, and *A Passionate Commitment*.

The Loritts have four children and eight grandchildren.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING**


*3. Cooper, David C. *Preaching Through the Year, Volume 3*. Cleveland, TN: Pathway Press. 2011.  (Choose and read any 20 of the 53 sermons.)

4. Ryken, Leland and Todd Wilson, eds. *Preach the Word*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2007.  (Read Introduction, and chapters 1, 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 16.)  Note: This book is a *Festschrift* in honor of Dr. Kent Hughes, one of our course instructors.


**Notes:**

1) The above books may be ordered and purchased via Amazon.com or Christianbook.com. Also, at least one hard copy of each of the above books will be available at the CIU Atlanta extension site when you arrive.

2) Books marked with an asterisk (*) are post-course reading.

3) If you have already read one or more of the eight required books, your previous reading counts toward the required reading, but you will still need to review your past reading in order to write a report about each.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. To refine the student’s personal philosophy and theology of preaching, and to articulate the over-arching objective of preaching (transformed lives) and the processes by which that objective is achieved.

2. To clearly articulate the relationship between the student’s personal life/character and the role of preaching.

3. To help the student understand the essential elements of every memorable life-changing message and how to employ those elements.

4. To help the student recognize and store an adequate supply of sermon illustrations, both from personal experiences and from other sources.

5. To help the student better understand how to assess audience culture and needs, and to preach messages that are relevant to those cultures and needs.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>LEAD INSTRUCTOR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, January 14</td>
<td>Dr. Kent Hughes</td>
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<td>Tuesday, January 15</td>
<td>Dr. George Murray</td>
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<td>Wednesday, January 16</td>
<td>Dr. David Cooper</td>
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<td>Thursday, January 17</td>
<td>Dr. Crawford Loritts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, January 18</td>
<td>Dr. George Murray</td>
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ACADEMIC SUCCESS CENTER

Students with physical, emotional, ADHD, or learning disabilities who need academic accommodations should make requests through the CIU Academic Success Center. These requests shall be kept confidential and will be used only to provide academic accommodations. Because many accommodations require early planning, requests should be made as early as possible. You may contact the CIU Academic Success Center by phone at 803-807-5611, or by e-mail at academicsuccess@ciu.edu. If you already receive services through ASC, please contact that office so they can help make your academic experience in this course as successful as possible.

WORK LOAD DISTRIBUTION

Since this is a 7000 level course approximately 135 hours of course work is required. This will include 35 hours of in class instruction/discussion, 40 hours of pre-class assignments (see below), and 60 hours of post-class assignments (see below).

PRE-CLASS REQUIREMENTS

1. Obtain and read books 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 in the above list of required textbooks (Edwards, Rhea, Ryken/Wilson, Azurdia, Ash). Please note that in the case of Rhea and Ryken/Wilson, only a part of those books is required reading.

2. Write a 1-2 page report (double-spaced) about each of the five books listed in #1 above (Edwards, Rhea, Ryken/Wilson, Azurdia, Ash), and in your report include:
   A. Title, author, publisher, date
   B. Main thesis of the book
   C. Something new you learned from this book
   D. Something you plan to improve in, or add to, your preaching or ministry as a result of reading this book.

3. One good sermon illustration: Write out, word for word, with clear and descriptive language, an original 1-3 page sermon illustration (double-spaced) that illustrates a biblical truth. At the top of the first page, state clearly the biblical truth being illustrated (e.g., that God is in control of all circumstances; that God hears and answers prayer; that God wants us to be generous with our resources; that God wants us to share our faith with unbelievers; etc., etc.), followed by the illustration itself.

4. Write out a list of ten questions you would like to ask each of the four course instructors. These questions can be about preaching, or about ministry in general, or about the personal/family life of the instructor. (Note: Just one “common” list for all four instructors; not a separate list for each instructor.)

Please note: Each of the above written assignments (there are 7) should have your name on it and the name of the course (HOM 7310), and is to be completed by Monday morning, January 14, 2013 and will be requested by the course coordinator at the beginning of the first class that day.
POST-CLASS REQUIREMENTS

1. Obtain and *read* books 3, 7, and 8 in the above list of required textbooks (Cooper, Piper, Gordon). Please note that in the case of Piper, only a *part* of that book is required reading.

2. Write a 1-2 page report (double spaced) about each of the three books listed in #1 above (Cooper, Piper, Gordon), and in your report include:
   A. Title, author, publisher, date
   B. Main thesis of the book
   C. Something new you learned from this book
   D. Something you plan to improve in, or add to, your preaching or ministry as a result of reading this book.

3. Write a 2-3 page (double-spaced) reflection on the presentation of each of the four instructors, including something specific you learned (or were reminded of), and a specific action step you plan to take or implement in your own preaching or ministry in the future.

4. Write out, word-for-word (including all illustrations), an original message/sermon, which is based on a Bible text (may be a Bible phrase, a Bible verse, or a longer Bible passage). At the top of the first page, state clearly and succinctly the main purpose/focus of your message/sermon. At the end of your written message/sermon, list at least eight (8) bibliographic sources (commentaries, books, articles) that you consulted in crafting your message, whether or not you refer to or quote those sources in the message/sermon itself. Your message/sermon should include explanation, illustration and application, and should be as compelling as possible and aimed at life change in your audience. Your written message/sermon (including bibliography) must be double-spaced, 12-sized font, and must not exceed 24 pages.

   **Optional**: If possible, seek to preach your message/sermon (above) to a live audience and, in addition to your manuscript above, include a page or two describing how the message/sermon went (from your standpoint) and any audience feed-back you received (positive or negative).

All post-course requirements are due by February 22, 2013. Please send them to Dr. George Murray via e-mail (gmurray@ciu.edu) or mail: c/o CIU, P.O. Box 3122, Columbia, SC 29230.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADING</th>
<th>% of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pre-Class Requirements</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards book report</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rhea book report</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryken/Wilson book report</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Azurdia book report</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ash book report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Word-for-word sermon Illustration</td>
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<td>List of ten questions for course instructors</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>In class participation</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td><strong>Post-Class Requirements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooper book report</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Piper book report</td>
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<td>Gordon book report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflection paper re Murray</td>
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<td>Reflection paper re Hughes</td>
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<td>Reflection paper re Cooper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflection paper re Loritts</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Word-for-word Message/Sermon</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total grade =</strong></td>
<td>100 %</td>
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**Note re grading:** With the exception of class participation (10%) and the post-course word-for-word message/sermon (20%), all course requirements will be graded on an objective “all or nothing” basis. Class participation and the final post-course message/sermon will be graded subjectively by the course coordinator (Dr. Murray). The class participation grade will be based on each student’s involvement in interacting with instructors, the material, fellow classmates, etc. The final word-for-word message/sermon grading will take into consideration content, neatness, spelling, grammar and punctuation.

You will be able to see your final grade by going to CIUOnline. January grades are not due to be posted until May 1, 2013, but the HOM 7310 final grades will probably be posted much sooner.

For questions regarding your CIU on-line account, please contact the Registrar’s Office at (803) 807-5059 or registrar@ciu.edu.