

2.1.1.2.2 THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY - COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

(Department of Pastoral Theology)

last updated on June 26, 2019

PTH 501 - INTRODUCTION TO HOMILETICS

Offered 1st Theology Fall

Formation for preaching begins with learning how to use one's voice in terms of public speaking in a liturgical context. Emphasis will be placed on connecting pulpit and pew through prayerful preparation, dynamic delivery (pace, tone, energy, pitch), and illustrative storytelling. Practical experience will focus on vocal exercises and daily Mass meditations.

PTH 502 – HOMILETICS PRACTICUM, I

Offered 1st Theology Spring

Formation for preaching continues with learning how to find one's voice specifically as a preacher. Emphasis will be placed on integrating personal life, priestly spirituality, and homiletic craft through reverence for biblical truth and its actualization among the People of God. Practical experience will focus on delivering homilies about Saints and Solemnities.

PTH 601 - THEOLOGY OF HOMILETICS

Offered 2nd Theology Fall

Formation for preaching requires a critical understanding of the ecclesial and liturgical contexts that shape the distinctive character of the homily as a dialogic proclamation of the Good News. Emphasis will be placed on the study of Church documents related to preaching. Practical experience will focus on delivering Sunday homilies in the Advent and Christmas seasons.

PTH 602 - CONTEMPORARY HOMILETICS

Offered 2nd Theology Spring

Formation for preaching benefits from examining the work of those recognized as masters of sacred eloquence. Consideration will be given to some key figures in Church history, with emphasis placed on the contemporary teaching and example of Pope Francis. Practical experience will focus on delivering Sunday homilies in the Lent and Easter seasons.

PTH 701 - HOMILETICS PRACTICUM, II

Offered 3rd Theology Fall

Building on the foundations from previous courses in homiletics (PTH 501-502 and 601-602), seminarians will learn to practice different genres of preaching and to deal with contemporary issues in preaching. Emphasis will be placed on exploring multiple strategies for delivering effective homilies. Practical experience will focus on delivering Sunday homilies in Ordinary Time.

PTH 702 - DIACONAL HOMILETICS PRACTICUM

Offered 3rd Theology Spring

The final, formal course in homiletics prepares students for preaching in their diaconal internship. Emphasis will be placed on challenges the preacher faces in a secular age and in a diversity of parish settings. Practical experience will focus on preaching during other liturgical rites, including baptisms, weddings, and funerals, as well as on other special occasions.