A few ‘copied’ directions from the Luther Seminary preaching class syllabus

**Foundations of Biblical Preaching**

This course introduces the fundamentals of biblical preaching with the primary goal of helping students integrate their own unique voice with how biblical texts connect to the daily life of faith.

By nurturing the skills of effective and moving communication – including faithful biblical interpretation, consideration of the role of the sermon in congregational worship, use of language and imagery, and embodied delivery – this course helps students develop interpretive, creative, theological, homiletical, and practical disciplines that will inform and shape their preaching and lay the groundwork for lifelong learning and discovery.

**Masters of Divinity Curriculum Outcomes:**

1. Graduates will form and lead Christian communities gathered around Word and Sacrament for bold participation in God’s mission.
2. Graduates, together with the communities they lead, will read Scripture faithfully, critically and imaginatively.
3. Graduates, together with the communities they lead will confess the character, identity and work of the Triune God in the world God loves.
4. Graduates, together with the communities they lead, will live out their baptismal callings and nurture the ongoing life of faith, hope and love.

**Learning Objectives**

* Engage the Biblical Text toward faithful bible preaching.
* Engage the many contexts of preaching
* Engage the human condition and God’s response present in the Biblical text.
* Engage the breadth of theological imagination in the Bible with a view toward a theological imagination for the world.
* Engage the mind of the listener with focus and sermon design
* Engage the heart of the listener with attention to the function/oral communication.
* Engage orientation to life in God’s world suggested by the biblical text.

**Inclusive Language in Class Discussion and Assignments**

In order to cultivate an environment of inclusion and non-discrimination and to ensure clarity in written communication, students are expected to use non-gendered pronouns and nouns when referring to mixed-gender groups (e.g. “humanity’ instead of ‘man’ or ‘mankind’) or when the gender of a subject is unknown, fluid, or gender identified.

All language is insufficient to describe God. Moreover, Scripture uses both masculine and feminine metaphors to explain God’s relationship with God’s creation. Students are expected to avoid using gender-specific pronouns for God and to use male and female pronouns interchangeably. If the use of gender-specific pronouns is necessary to make an argument about a particular biblical text that usage and its justification should be acknowledged in a footnote.