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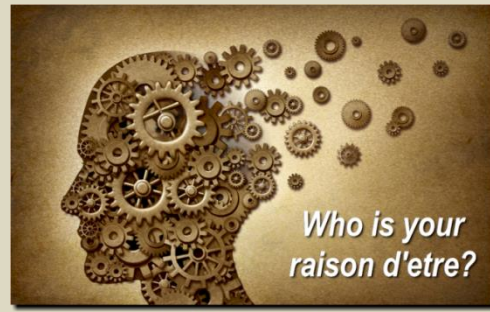
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<https://DThomasPorter.com/BibleStudies/SPT511>

Tuesday, August 13, 2024



COMMUNICATING THE WORD THEOLOGICAL & PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

SPT 101/511 – Behavioral Objectives

TO COMPLETE SPT 101/511 SUCCESSFULLY YOU WILL NEED TO...

1. Provide three Research Reports consistent with the principles described and prescribed in the class and its readings, in addition to relevant “technical” specifications.¹ All Reports shall be submitted via email as a “doc” or “pdf” file, as well as in typed form; i.e., “on paper.”

- ❖ For undergraduates, all Research Reports shall be at least 3 pages long, and no more than 5 pages long, excluding cover sheet and bibliography.
- ❖ For graduate students, all Research Reports shall be at least 5 pages long, and no more than 10 pages long, excluding cover sheet and bibliography.
- ❖ The first Research Report is due **September, 10, 2024** by 10pm; the third essay is due 1 week after the last class by 10pm. A 10% penalty is assessed for missing these deadlines (9/10 & 11/1).

The first of these Research Reports shall explore the following issue—

How should Christians deal with our culture’s treatment of transgender² people?

The second Research Report shall explore the following issue—

*The greatest threat to the church in America today is... **Due October 1, 2024, 10pm***

Due 10/29/24, 10pm, the third Research Report is more “open ended;” i.e., it shall be based on an issue the student finds important to their professional and/or personal lives. Like the second essay, the significance of the issue selected and explored shall play an important part in its evaluation.

All three Research Reports must conform, when relevant, to specifications addressed in Porter’s “ADVICE & MISCELLANEOUSLY CRITICAL TIPS FOR WRITING THE WORD.”³ Use it as your guide for writing in general, and for this course in particular.

¹Technical specifications for Research Reports are located at: DThomasPorter.com/BibleStudies/SPT511/EssaySpecs.pdf

²“[Transgender](#) is a general term that describes people whose gender identity, or their internal sense of being male, female, or something else, does not match the [sex](#) they were assigned at birth. By contrast, the term [cisgender](#) describes people whose gender identity aligns with the sex they were assigned at birth.” –From WebMd: <https://www.webmd.com/sex-relationships/what-is-transgender> as downloaded 7/3/2024.

³DThomasPorter.com/BibleStudies/SPT511/Fundamentals_of_Communicating_the_Word.pdf

2. Provide two oral presentations of at least 4 minutes and no more than 6 minutes in length. These presentations must be consistent with the principles and specifications described in the class and its readings. Oral presentations, unlike written essays of course, cannot be “turned in late.”

- ❖ The third Research Report may be based on the second presentation’s topic—efficiency of effort is suggested.
- ❖ All presentations should be adapted to listener feedback and professorial advice.
- ❖ Each presentation shall provide a brief set of notes (aka “handout”) for the listeners; e.g., a bullet list of key points,⁴ and/or illustrations relevant to the presentation and/or sources for additional thought and study.



3. Complete a final exam over communication principles described in the class and readings. Among these principal principles are—

A. The Introduction must manifest:

- 1) A reason for people to listen.
- 2) A preview of what will be said.
- 3) An explanation of why you are addressing the topic in question.
- 4) A tease for your audience to listen further.

B. The Body must manifest:

- 1) An identification of the point being made.
- 2) An illustration and/or clarification for each point.
- 3) A rationale for how each point fulfills the Introduction’s tease and rationale for “listening.”
- 4) A smooth transitions between each point.

C. The Conclusion must manifest:

- 1) A review of the points made in the Body.
- 2) Clarifying, if necessary, what points have NOT been proffered.
- 3) Avoiding signals the presentation is “over.”
- 4) Provide a rationale for the import of the points contained in the Body.
- 5) A “lollipop” to reinforce further exploration and/or acceptance of the Presentation’s central purpose.



D. Identifying & correcting grammatical, technical, and/or linguistic mistakes. An example—

If there are errors, correct the following sentences:

- ✓ Salvation is effected by obedience to the Word of God.
- ✓ Tampa Family Church, the church that cares.
- ✓ Then Jesus said to the woman, “Go and don’t sin no more...”

⁴Do not list “key points” if their disclosure “on paper” would interfere with the goals of your presentation. For example, one of your points may be a surprise, to be revealed only after a previous point or two. Your handout, then, might provide a space for listeners to write down “the surprise” when **you** want them to know said surprise.

JUST WHAT IS SPT 101/511

This 6 hour graduate/undergraduate course provides skills to “communicate the word” about the LORD God Almighty. This course purports to deal with the basics of oral communication and basic norms of written communication. While the written principles covered in SPT 101/511 will apply to most contexts, the specific goal is to improve writing sufficiently to succeed in academic and pastoral contexts. While assignments are identical, graduate students must meet more stringent standards.



CLASS TEXTS

Although other reading assignments will be made as requested and needed, these textbooks & readings will serve as the core of SPT 101/511—

- ℵ Porter, D. Thomas. *Communicating the Word*, online, © 2023. At: DThomasPorter.com/BibleStudies/SPT511/Fundamentals_of_Communicating_the_Word.pdf
- ℵ Gill, C. M. *Essential Writing Skills for College and Beyond*, © 2014, 2022. Penguin Random House, LLC. ISBN 978-1599637594. [Click here to order](#). (About \$12-\$14).

Some Additional Sources You May Find Useful

- ℵ Our Website for Accessing Additional Readings: DThomasPorter.com/BibleStudies/SPT511
- ℵ *A Pauline Approach to Christian Conflict Resolution: Philippians 4:1-9*, © 2008. At: DiggingDeeper.Life/content/APaulineApproachtoChristianConflictResolution.pdf
- ℵ *What Must I Do to Be Saved: An Exploration of a Scriptural Paradox*, © 2014. At: DiggingDeeper.Life/content/WhatMustIDoToBeSavedOnline.pdf
- ℵ *The Nature of Holy Spirit: Challenging Our Cultural Expectations*, © 2012. At: DiggingDeeper.Life/content/TheNatureofHolySpirit.pdf

ASSESSMENT PARAMETERS

A. Complete all required reading, affirmed via affidavit:

DThomasPorter.com/BibleStudies/Reading_Affidavit_031020.pdf

B. Grading for this course is assessed accordingly:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1) 10% Essay One | 6) 10% “An Exercise in the Power of the Word and Word” ⁵ |
| 2) 10% Essay Two | |
| 3) 15% Essay Three | 7) 20% Final Examination |
| 4) 10% Oral Presentation One | 8) 10% Attendance |
| 5) 15% Oral Presentation Two | |

⁵See website: DThomasPorter.com/BibleStudies/SPT511/WordThoughtExcercise.pdf

1. Why should there be an undergraduate course in communicating the Word?

2. Why should there be a graduate course in communicating the Word?

3. How do the principles of quality “written” versus “oral” communication differ?

4. Just what does it mean to “communicate the Word” well?

5. Which religious group does a good job in communicating the Word? Why?

6. Which religious group does **not** do a good job in communicating the Word? Why?

7. Besides credit hours toward your degree at Faith Theological Seminary and Christian College, what do **you** expect to gain by successfully completing SPT101/511?

