

Call for Papers
Conference on Sermon Studies: “The Technologies of Preaching”
Killashee Hotel, Dublin, Ireland
September 5-7, 2019

Submission Deadline: June 1, 2019

The Center for Sermon Studies at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia announces its third annual Conference on Sermon Studies, to be held September 5-7 at the Killashee Hotel in Dublin, Ireland.

The conference is multidisciplinary and interfaith. The organizers’ goal is to bring scholars, practitioners, and interested laypersons together to discuss sermon texts and the art of preaching from a variety of academic and religious perspectives.

The theme for 2019 is “The Technologies of Preaching.” We are defining “technology” quite broadly; topics related to the theme might include

- Manuscript culture (e.g., calligraphy and other arts)
- Print culture (e.g., the business of sermon publishing)
- Multimedia (e.g., preaching and presentation software)
- Broadcast media (e.g., adapting preaching for radio or television)
- The Internet age (e.g., livestreaming, podcasting, YouTube)
- Digital humanities (e.g. demonstrations of indexes, archives, and other online projects)

We are also interested in projects focusing on all aspects of the sermon, including

- Preaching in antiquity and the medieval period
- Preaching by women
- Jewish and Islamic preaching
- Preaching in areas other than Britain and the United States

In addition to traditional panels of papers, the program will include

- Poster sessions
- “Pop-up” or “unconference” sessions, in which the topic/agenda are determined during the conference
- Workshops and continuing-education opportunities. These could run longer than the typical conference session (from several hours to a half-day), with participants discussing “best practices” for sermon preparation and delivery, giving and receiving feedback on drafts, or even giving sample sermons.

Proposals

All proposals must be submitted online at http://mds.marshall.edu/sermon_conference/2019. Please provide the following information:

- *For individual papers* (20 minutes): Title, abstract (150-250 words), contact information, and a 1-2 sentence biographical sketch.
- *For complete panels* (Three 20-minute papers): A session title and abstract (150-250 words), titles and abstracts for each paper (also 150-250 words), and biographical and contact information for each participant.
- *For poster sessions*: Title, summary (150-250 words), contact information, and a 1-2 sentence biographical sketch.
- *For roundtables*: A session abstract (150-250 words), along with biographical and contact information for each participant.
- *For workshops*: An abstract stating the workshop’s topic and goals, along with biographical and contact information for each facilitator.

Publication

Accepted abstracts may be included in the online program. After the conference, participants will have the option of contributing their complete papers to the online proceedings; they will also be encouraged to submit revised/expanded essays for peer review and possible publication in a special issue of *Sermon Studies*, a peer-reviewed open access journal.

Inquiries

Please direct all inquiries to Robert Ellison, ellisonr@marshall.edu