

Student Preacher Application Guidelines

Wesley Theological Seminary

The Chapel and Community Life Committee welcomes students to lend their voices to the rich cadre of preachers for our weekly chapel services by applying to the Student Preacher Initiative. Our hope is that this initiative will afford students an opportunity to enhance their facility in “engag[ing] diverse cultural contexts sensitively, critically and constructively” and in developing sermons that reflect the biblical, theological, and cultural richness evident in the life and ongoing formation of the Wesley Community.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Guidelines & Frequently Asked Questions:

1. **Who is eligible to submit an application?** All applicants must meet the following criteria:
 - a. Enrolled as a student at WTS during the semester of the preaching event
 - b. An overall GPA of 3.0 or better
 - c. Successful completion of Foundations of Preaching and at least one (1) practicum in preaching with a grade of B+ or better for each course (PW 125 and one practicum).
 - d. Successful completion of at least one course in Old Testament Studies and one course in New Testament Studies with a grade of B or better for each course (BI 101, 102, BI 171, 172).
2. **How do I apply?** You may apply by submitting the following:
 - a. A written application via the Student Preacher application portal at <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/student-preaching-initiative/>
 - b. A one to two minute(s) video introducing yourself and why you desire to preach for chapel worship.
 - i. Please record and submit videos via *Kaltura* at the Student Preacher Blackboard site. (Log into Blackboard and the site should be visible on your page)
 - ii. One letter of Recommendation from a full or part-time WTS faculty member: Recommendations should be submitted via the online portal at <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/student-preaching-initiative/>

- iii. A faculty nomination may serve as the letter of recommendation.
Please see #3.
- c. The selection committee reserves the right to also request a video or audio-recorded sermon from a live worship service with sermon manuscript.
 - i. Please upload your video or audio-recorded sermon to Blackboard via *Kaltura* at the Student Preacher Initiative Blackboard site. (Login your Blackboard account and the Student Preacher Blackboard site should be visible on your page).

3. Must I be nominated by a faculty member in order to apply? No

- a. There are two methods by which the Student Preacher Selection Committee may become aware of your interest in preaching for chapel worship.
 - i. You may indicate your interest by beginning the application process as outlined in #2 above. The Committee will review your application upon receipt of the completed application.
 - ii. A faculty, staff, student or administrator may nominate you by completing the Student Preacher Nomination/Recommendation Form at <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/student-preaching-initiative/>. The Committee will notify you regarding the nomination and invite you to begin the application process.
 - 1. Nominations from Wesley faculty will serve as the faculty recommendation.

4. Who will comprise the Student Preacher Selection Committee (SPSC)? The 3 to 5 member SPSC will include faculty members from preaching and worship and biblical studies, the Chapel Elder or representative, and representatives as needed from the Worship Planning Committee, Student Leadership Council, and Community Life.

5. Who approves the SPSC 's recommendation? The Chapel and Community Life Committee.

6. How will selected students be notified? The chairperson of the Chapel and Community Life Committee will email selected students and coordinate the preaching date(s) with the Chapel Planning Committee.

7. Will all applicants receive notice that final selections have been made? Yes. All applicants should expect to receive an email regarding the resolution of their application.

8. SUMMARY:

- a. Complete the online application at <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/student-preaching-initiative/>
- b. Secure recommenders and direct them to online recommendations at <https://www.wesleyseminary.edu/student-preaching-initiative/>
- c. Record introductory video at the *Student Preacher* Blackboard site
- d. Upload sermon video if requested to the *Student Preacher* Blackboard site.
- e. Your application is complete!

Thank you for your interest in the Student Preacher Initiative at

Wesley Theological Seminary