



PREA5300 Proclaiming the Bible
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Fall 2021 (online)

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Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Course Description

This is a foundational course which considers the nature of preaching, principles of sermon construction, resources for preaching, methods of sermon preparation and delivery, and problems of the preaching ministry. While students are exposed to a variety of approaches to sermon development, primary emphasis is given to the expositional process which undergirds the preaching event [*Graduate Catalog*].

Student Learning Outcomes

Christian proclamation of the Bible has played a vital role in the spread of the Gospel and Christianity. While all Christians are to carry out the Great Commission as witnesses of Christ, not all are called to preach or are involved in a preaching ministry. However, this course can benefit all who communicate the Word of God (such as through preaching, teaching, writing, or witnessing) and those who listen to preaching. Therefore, the following learning outcomes will apply to all students in this course.

By the end of the course, students who satisfactorily fulfill the course requirements should:

1. Be able to apply their knowledge and comprehension of course content to communicating the Bible accurately and effectively through the scope of a preaching ministry including:
 - a. Concepts of preaching, principles of sermon preparation and organization, resources for sermon development, and critical issues encountered in a preaching ministry.
 - b. Concepts of pulpit communication, principles of sermon delivery, resources for sermon delivery, media technology and preaching, and problems of sermon communication.

2. Value the following:
 - a. The role of the Holy Spirit in sermon planning, development, and delivery.
 - b. The personal spiritual preparation of the preacher.
 - c. The disciplines of sermon planning and development.
 - d. The expositional process in the preaching event.

3. Be able to accomplish the following tasks:
 - a. Use the expositional process.
 - b. Prepare an expository sermon.

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies:

1. Recorded lectures, audio supplemented Power Point presentations, electronically published materials, and the course textbooks will present the principles and methods of preaching.
2. Assigned readings will summarize principles, perspectives.
3. Audios, videos, and web streaming will demonstrate examples.
4. Writing assignments will facilitate experiential learning of the course content and objectives.
5. Group discussion boards will stimulate personal insights.
6. Real time, interactive video sessions will clarify expectations, concepts, and answer questions.
7. Online reading quizzes and exams also will be used.

Textbooks

(Required)

Akin, Daniel L., David L. Allen, and Ned Mathews, eds. *Text-Driven Preaching: God's Word at the Heart of Every Sermon*. Nashville: B&H Publishing, 2010.

Smith, Steven W. *Dying to Preach: Embracing the Cross in the Pulpit*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2009.

Vines, Jerry, and Jim Shaddix. *Power in the Pulpit: How to Prepare and Deliver Expository Sermons*. Revised ed. Chicago: Moody, 2017.

(Supplemental)

Smith, Steven W. *Recapturing the Voice of God: Shaping Sermons Life Scripture*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2015.

Course Requirements

1. Weekly Learning Units: This online design is comprised of fourteen (14) learning units. Each learning unit contains one week of course work. The current learning unit closes at midnight (central time) on Monday and a new learning unit opens each week on Tuesday. Each student is encouraged to access the new unit as soon as possible in order to become aware of the classwork necessary for that week. Any assignments due as part of a learning unit are due by midnight (central time) Monday of the particular learning unit. The learning design is sequential and cumulative. Therefore, each student is encouraged to download the course content and materials

for each week in order to access for later assignments and prepare for any assignment and the final exam. Organizing the materials by learning unit number (i.e., 1, 2, 3, etc.) may prove helpful for later access and review.

2. Textbooks Assigned Readings: This requirement is composed of two components.

Reading Quizzes: You are responsible for completing weekly assigned readings from the *Power in the Pulpit* and the *Text-Drive Preaching* course textbooks and preparing to take quizzes from the readings as indicated in the unit designs. For the Units that contain a reading quiz, the quiz for the week will be released on Tuesday and remain accessible until Monday at midnight (Central Time) of the unit in which they are due. These are closed book quizzes. No make-up quizzes will be offered.

Annotated Analysis: Submit a typed, double-spaced, **three-page** (or less) **annotated analysis** of the *Dying to Preach* required course textbooks. **Format:** this analysis must give a **correct bibliographical listing** for the book followed by the annotation, which answers the following questions:

- a. What is a two-paragraph summary of the book?
- b. What is a two-paragraph discussion of the helpful features of the book concerning preaching?
- c. What is a two-paragraph discussion of how you will apply in your preaching (or Christian communication) of God's Word what you have learned from the book?

Reminder: this is an annotated analysis assignment—do not use the words, Book Review.

DUE: Unit 4

3. Theology and Philosophy of Preaching Paper: Prepare a typed, double-spaced, five page Theology and Philosophy of Preaching. The first three pages should give biblical references (i.e. 2-5 biblical references) and discuss each of these topics: the nature of preaching, the Bible as the Word of God, the calling to preach, the preacher and God's Word, and the role of the Holy Spirit in preaching. The final two pages should discuss and reflect on how the student's described Theology of Preaching (the topics listed above) informs and effects the students Philosophy of Preaching (how he preaches), paying special attention to the nature and role of the sermon in preaching.

Format: each topic is to be taken in the order cited herein and is to be listed as a heading followed by its respective biblical references and discussion. A cover page is required, but do not include an intervening blank page.

DUE: Unit 8

The first draft of the Theology and Philosophy of Preaching Paper will be submitted to the NOBTS Writing Center two weeks prior to the final due date of the assignment.

Information about the Writing Center and the process for submitting papers can be found at <http://www.nobts.edu/writing>. The Writing Center staff will review the paper and work with the student as necessary to improve it before the final paper is submitted.

DUE: Unit 7

4. EXPOSITORY PREACHING PROJECT:

These assignments are to be typed and double-spaced, using Times New Roman 12-pitch font, and cite appropriate original sources using the parenthetical option per current NOBTS/Leavell College Style Guide and Turabian format. Include your name, e-mail address, and title of the assignment on the front title page of the assignment. See descriptions and examples on course

Blackboard. Each assignment will be submitted on the course Blackboard, under “Assignments.” Coherence, clarity, relevance, form, accuracy, freshness of expression will be included as a part of the evaluation of these assignments.

Write an Expository Preaching Project on Colossians 1:24-29 consisting of the following:

- a. Text Analysis and Interpretation Section (see *Power in the Pulpit*, 139-79).
 - i. Initial Observations of the Book and Passage should include:
 1. an initial personal paraphrase of the passage based on reading the passage multiple times;
 2. state the apparent central idea of the text (CIT) and unifying theme;
 3. apparent emphasis(es) of the book will be listed;
 4. initial questions you have about the meaning and nature of the passage.
 - ii. Construct a **Structural Diagram** of the passage (see *Power in the Pulpit*, 159-61; 408).
 - iii. Three to Four Page “Exegesis and Exposition of the Passage.” This does not have to be a full exegetical paper but should include:
 1. A verse by verse or phrase by phrase interpretation of the passage including theological conclusions, a proposed meaning, and at least one study of a significant word/term in the passage;
 2. Propose a more accurate central idea of the text (CIT) and unifying theme of the passage;
 3. develop an exegetical outline of the pericope that includes the text being examined – interpretive in nature, based upon your structural diagram and analysis, reflecting the significance of ideas in context, and demonstrating a direct relationship to author’s intended purpose; consult necessary exegesis and language (grammar and syntax) tools and resources.
- b. Sermon Development and Design Section (see *Power in the Pulpit*, 181-214):
 - i. List the major emphases of the passage based upon the critical study.
 - ii. Provide “message implications,” listing implications of the passage for sermonic themes and possible applications, comparing devotional and pastoral commentaries (see *Power in the Pulpit*, 174–79).
 - iii. Deductive Sermon Brief: Write an expanded deductive sermon brief from Col 1:24-29. In addition to formal and functional elements, write out your introduction, summation, and invitation word-for-word exactly how you would say them. (Note students **must** use the Sermon Brief form provided in Blackboard. No other forms or templates will be accepted.)
- c. “Selected Bibliography”:
 - i. The Expository Preaching Project should reflect the use of at least 4 critical commentaries, 3 homiletical commentaries, one devotional commentary, one Testament survey, one Bible dictionary, one systematic theology book, one on-line source, one Bible encyclopedia, and 3 word study/language tools throughout the assignment.
 - ii. Include a “Selected Bibliography” for the resources used and consulted in your Expository Preaching Project of Colossians.

DUE: Unit 11

5. Sermon Manuscript: Students will prepare one typed sermon manuscript (not to exceed six pages double-spaced) on a passage from an Old Testament Narrative. You must include a Structural Diagram, an Exegetical Outline, and a Sermon Brief with your manuscript. (Note students must use the Sermon Brief form provided in Blackboard. No other forms or templates will be accepted).

DUE: Unit 14

6. Final Exam: will cover all of the material covered in the learning units, the textbook readings, and the video sessions throughout the entire semester.

DUE: see class calendar

Evaluation of Grade

All student learning outcomes will be evaluated through the grading of the course assignments and examination.

The student's final grade will be determined as follows:

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|-------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| • Participation (e.g. discussion board contributions) | 10% |
| • Textbook Reading Quizzes and Annotated Analysis | 15% |
| • Theology and Philosophy of Preaching Paper | 15% |
| • Expository Preaching Project | 25% |
| • Sermon Manuscript | 20% |
| • Final Exam | 15% |

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Writing Style Guide

A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Blackboard shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at:

<https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>

Netiquette: appropriate online behavior

Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on the Discussion Board. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.

Late Work

Assignments turned in past the date and time due will incur an initial late penalty of **ten** points followed by an additional point each day it is late, which will be deducted from the assignment grade. **Assignments will not be accepted more than one week past the date due** without approval by the professor.

Grading Scale: Your final grade will be based on your total accumulation of points as indicated under the *Assignments and Evaluation Criteria* section of this syllabus according to the grading scale in the NOBTS 2020-2021 catalog.

A 93-100 B 85-92 C 77-84 D 70-76 F 69 and below

Help for Writing Papers at “The NOBTS Writing Center”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to become better writers.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook and Graduate Catalog for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism. Students are given the task of writing in order to help them learn how to think critically about the ideas of others and to present the results of their analysis in a readable form. Plagiarism defeats these purposes by cheating the student out of an opportunity to grow. Plagiarism is a failure to distinguish between the work of the student and the work of others, either intentionally or unintentionally. Students that plagiarize will be reported to the Dean of Students and a grade of “F” will be assigned. Remember the words of the proverb: “Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out” (Prov 10:19).

Disclaimer

Flexibility is a critical attitude to ministry faithfulness. Therefore, the student will be expected to keep a good attitude when things change. This independent study proposes a course of study for a given time period. However, occasionally things change. The professor reserves the right to adjust the syllabus when he reasonably thinks that doing so will enhance the learning experience of the student.

In Case Of A Declared Campus Evacuation

Students are to check the NOBTS electronic Blackboard at www.nobts.edu within four days of evacuation.

Course Schedule

Date	Unit Content	Reading for <i>Power</i>	Reading for <i>Text-Driven</i>	Assignments Due
Unit 1 Aug 17	What is Preaching	pp. 17-58	pp.1-8	
Unit 2 Aug 24	Foundations for Exp. Preaching	pp. 59-93		
Unit 3 Aug 31	Preaching in Light of Its History	pp. 126-135	pp. 11-54	
Unit 4 Sep 7	Spiritual Preparation and the Role of the	pp. 95-126	pp. 55-98	Annotated Analysis of <i>Dying to Preach</i>

	Holy Spirit in Preaching			
Unit 5 Sep 14	Text Selection and Your Preaching Plan	pp. 139-144	pp. 101-134	
Unit 6 Sep 21	Text Analysis and Interpretation Part 1		pp. 135-161; 193-218	
Unit 7 Sep 28	Text Analysis and Interpretation Part 2	pp. 144-179		Draft of Theology and Philosophy of Preaching to Writing Center
Oct 4-8	Fall Break No Class			
Unit 8 Oct 12	Sermon Development and Sermon Design Part 1	pp. 181-214		Theology and Philosophy of Preaching Paper
Unit 9 Oct 19	Sermon Development and Sermon Design Part 2	pp. 215-247	pp. 269-293	
Unit 10 Oct 26	Developing an Effective Style	pp. 251-282; 313-349		
Unit 11 Nov 2	Sermon Delivery	pp. 283-311; 351-378	pp. 221-267	Exp. Preaching Project (EPP)
Unit 12 Nov 9	Preaching Narratives and Poetry		pp. 163-191	
Unit 13 Nov 16	Preaching and Ministry Leadership	pp. 378-385		
Nov 22-26	Thanksgiving No Class			
Unit 14 Nov 30	Contemporary Problems and Challenges	pp. 387-389	pp. 295-301	Sermon Series and Sermon Manuscript
Dec 2-8	FINAL EXAM WEEK			Final Exam – Due: Midnight CST Wednesday, Dec 8, 2021.

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