



PREA6300 PREACHING PRACTICUM
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Fall 2022 * Tues. & Thurs. * 8:00-9:20 AM
Plus NOLA2U Flex

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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

In this course, videotaped sermons as well as sermons preached by students in class will serve as the basis for a study of preaching content, structure, and style.

Prerequisite: PREA5300 Proclaiming the Bible.

Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, the student will:

1. Be able to apply homiletical concepts, principles, and resources helpful for effective oral interpretation of Scripture, sermon construction, and sermon delivery;
2. Value Christian proclamation as a vital part of personal ministry;
3. Demonstrate acceptable proficiency in performing Christian proclamation with the aid of an instructor or course resources, whether as one called to preach or as one with some other Christian calling.

Embedded Assignment

The New Testament sermon presentation is an embedded assignment that will be completed by all students for all sections of this course. The grading rubric for this assignment is attached to the syllabus (p. 9). Please complete the assignment according to the syllabus (p. 3) and the grading rubric.

Textbooks

The following textbooks are required (will be cited in class notes and/or in assignments):

Fasol, Al. *A Complete Guide to Sermon Delivery*. Nashville: B & H Publishers, 1996.

Heisler, Greg. *Spirit-Led Preaching*. Revised ed. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2018.

McDill, Wayne V. *The Moment of Truth*. Nashville: B & H Publishers, 1999.

Smith, J. Josh. *Preaching for a Verdict: Recovering the Role of Exhortation*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2019. (This book is out of print and no longer available in the print option except on Amazon and eBay. However, the eBook version is available through both B&H Academic and LifeWay and the Kindle Edition is available through Amazon. See links on the next page.)

<https://bhacademic.bhpublishinggroup.com/products/preaching-for-a-verdict-2/#flipbook-sampler/25>

<https://www.lifeway.com/en/product/preaching-for-a-verdict-P005799715#available-formats>

https://www.amazon.com/Preaching-Verdict-Recovering-Exhortation-Treasury-ebook/dp/B07YL37FBZ/ref=sr_1_1?crid=32AVKMOXBFGCC&keywords=preaching+for+a+verdict&qid=1657125003&s=books&sprefix=%2Cstripbooks%2C58&sr=1-1

The following textbooks are optional (i.e., will be helpful in sermon development and delivery):
Arthurs, Jeffrey D. *Devote Yourself to the Public Reading of Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2012.

York, Herschael W., and Bert Decker. *Preaching with Bold Assurance*. Nashville: B & H Publishers, 2003.

Course Teaching Methodology

Lectures will be utilized to review and teach important fundamentals about sermon construction, delivery, oral interpretation, and voice, as well as to present and discuss applicable print and other resources. Writing assignments will be required to facilitate experiential learning and skills development in sermon building and communication. Student preaching, feedback, and group discussions will be used to promote personal insights about oral interpretation and sermon delivery. The preaching laboratory and student self-study will be important instructional components. Listener feedback forms and personal critique forms will be utilized to aid personal analysis in assessing preaching competency needs and strengths of students in sermon construction and delivery.

Course Requirements and Schedule

Students are required to:

1. Submit a four-page single-spaced **annotated analysis for the four required textbooks**: i.e., the Fasol, Heisler, McDill, and Smith textbooks. Each book analysis should give a correct bibliographic listing of the book with its associated annotations, which answer the following questions:

- a. What is a two-paragraph (or less) summary of the book?
- b. What is one (or more) helpful feature(s) of the book for Christian proclamation?
- c. What is one difficulty, deficiency, or limitation in using the book for Christian proclamation?

This **one analysis** on the four textbooks should be submitted with a cover page on Blackboard by Midnight CST on **Thursday, November 3, 2022**.

2. Prepare and preach in class on the assigned day one **OT Sermon Presentation** of **ten to twelve minutes** in duration which is devotional in nature, based on an Old Testament text (selected by the student from any of the following Old Testament books: Genesis through Psalms). **Each student will provide the professor a sermon brief of his message**, following the format of the rhetorical sermon brief form in this syllabus (other formats will not be accepted). Students should dress appropriately for the preaching chapel setting. A recording of each student's devotional presentation will be made available on a course YouTube channel. The student will utilize this recording in preparing his Personal Critique/Feedback Evaluation of his message.

3. Prepare and preach in class on the assigned day one **Sermon Presentation based on a New Testament text** (selected by the student from any of the Gospels, Matthew through John, or from Acts). The sermon presentation is neither to exceed **eighteen minutes** nor to be less than **fifteen minutes** in duration. The sermon delivered is to be a rhetorical sermon outlined on the sermon brief form in this syllabus. **Each student will provide the professor a sermon brief of his NT sermon.** Students should dress appropriately for the preaching chapel setting. A recording of each student's sermon presentation will be made available on a course YouTube channel. The student will utilize this recording in preparing his Personal Critique/Feedback Evaluation of his message.

4. Complete:

- a. An **Audience Preaching Feedback Form** following each student's OT devotional and NT sermon presentations in class. The document will be made available in class for each student to copy the required number of forms for all preaching presentations. Upon completion, all students will submit their Feedback Forms to the student or students who preached that particular day.
- b. A **Personal Critique/Feedback Evaluation Form** for each of the student's two presentations **due one week after the student's in-class presentation.** The document will be made available in class for reproduction by each student.

5. Write a **Personal Critique and Reflection Paper**: Each student will submit a three to five page (double-spaced) personal critique and evaluation paper assessing his development and progress in Christian proclamation throughout the course. The final section of the paper should identify areas in which the student still desires to improve and specific actionable steps for doing so. **The assignment will be due one week after the student's final sermon delivery.** The student should base this personal critique and reflection on both the feedback given from his peers on the Audience Preaching Feedback Forms and the information on his Personal Preaching Critique/Evaluation Forms.

6. Take a **final exam**. The final exam will be a take home, open-book exam and will cover course notes, the required course texts, and reflection on the personal presentations and feedback given. The exam is due by Midnight CST on **Tuesday, December 6, 2022.**

If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Flex student, please note the following attendance policies:

1. You are required to be in class either through viewing the lectures live or viewing the recorded lectures on Canvas. When you view the recorded lecture, you will be considered present for that class. Regardless of if you watch the class live or recorded, you are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in this syllabus.
2. You will be asked to certify that you have been present for the live session or have viewed the recorded session. This certification will be done through sending the professor a message through Canvas or an email containing the key word, phrase, or sentence embedded in the lecture after having watched the class live or viewing the recorded session.
3. All video lectures are available for 7 days after the video is posted. If you are unable to view the video within that time frame, you will be considered absent for that class session.
4. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a lecture.

Evaluation of Grade

All course objectives will be evaluated through the grading of the annotated analysis assignment, Old Testament devotional presentation, New Testament sermon presentation, personal critique/feedback evaluation, and final examination.

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

1. Annotated textbooks analysis	15%
2. OT sermon presentation & personal critique/evaluation	20%
3. NT sermon presentation & personal critique/evaluation	30%
4. Personal Critique and Reflection Paper	20%
4. Final examination	15%

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Any student missing more than nine hours may receive an automatic grade of “F” for the course. Three tardies will count as one absence.

Course Topics

Introduction

Homiletics Review and Matters of Sermon Construction

Introduction to the Art and Craft of Preaching

Sermon Delivery and Communication

Specifics of Preaching OT Narratives, Psalms, and the Gospels

Oral Interpretation of Scripture

Fundamentals of Voice and Vocal Care

Using Technology in Preaching

Devotionals and Preaching Presentations

Concluding Matters

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. Canvas.NOBTS.com Click on the “Help” button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to Canvas@nobts.edu.
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.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer. A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas 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>

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 for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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

Arthurs, Jeffrey D. *Devote Yourself to the Public Reading of Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2012.

Brown, H. C., Jr, H. Gordon Clinard, Jesse J. Northcutt, and Al Fasol. *Steps to the Sermon: An Eight-Step Plan for Preaching with Confidence*. Revised. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1996.

Carter, Terry G., J. Scott Duvall, and J. Daniel Hays. *Preaching God's Word: A Hands-On Approach to Preparing, Developing, and Delivering the Sermon*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2018.

Cox, Richard H. *Rewiring Your Preaching: How the Brain Processes Sermons*. Downers Grove: IVP Books, 2012.

Eswine, Zack. *Preaching to a Post-Everything World: Crafting Biblical Sermons That Connect with Our Culture*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2008.

Fasol, Al. *A Complete Guide to Sermon Delivery*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1996.

Gordon, T. David, *Why Johnny Can't Preach*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2009.

Heisler, Greg. *Spirit-Led Preaching: The Holy Spirit's Role in Sermon Preparation and Delivery*. Revised ed. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2018.

McDill, Wayne V. *The Moment of Truth: A Guide to Effective Sermon Delivery*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1999.

_____. *12 Essential Skills for Great Preaching*. 2nd ed., Revised and Expanded. Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2006.

Smith, J. Josh. *Preaching for a Verdict: Recovering the Role of Exhortation*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2019.

Smith, Steven. *Recapturing the Voice of God*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2015.

Stott, John. *Between Two Worlds: The Challenge of Preaching Today*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982.

Vines, Jerry. *Progress in the Pulpit: How to Grow in Your Preaching*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2017.

York, Hershael W. and Bert Decker. *Preaching with Bold Assurance: A Solid and Enduring Approach to Engaging Exposition*. Nashville: B&H, 2003.

SERMON BRIEF
Rhetorical Sermon Outline

A. Foundational Elements

1. Sermon Title (in quotation marks; headline capitalization style):
2. Text:
3. Subject (in one or two words--or as a short phrase):
4. CIT/ETS (Central Idea of the Text/Essence of the Text in a Sentence; State in the past tense.):
5. Proposition/ESS (Proposition/Essence of the Sermon in a Sentence; Do not state in the past tense.):
6. Sermon Objective/OSS (Objective of the Sermon in a Sentence: State in terms of what hearers will **do** as a result of this sermon.): Hearers will....

B. Formal Elements

Introduction (Note: Use three to five sentences to gain attention, raise the “so what,” and lead to/state the CIT/Proposition of the sermon. You may also use an Interrogative/Key Word to lead to your main divisions.)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Body (Note: The number of main points may vary in the Body outline below. Also, for the **Functional Elements** of Explanation, Illustration, Argumentation, and Application, you may simply use a summary statement or two to indicate what information you will include in your sermon.)

I.

EXP:
ILL:
ARG:
APP:

II.

EXP:
ILL:
ARG:
APP:

III.

EXP:
ILL:
ARG:
APP:

Conclusion (Note: The number of key summary sentences may vary in the Conclusion outline below.)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

C. Notes

1. The number of points may **vary** within the formal elements from the numbers shown above.
2. All main points (i.e., I, II, etc.) in the sermon body outline **must** be referenced to the text (e.g., I. The Motive of Salvation, John 3:16a; II. The Means of Salvation, John 3:16b).
3. Write all sermon body main points in headline capitalization style (e.g., I. The Motive of Salvation).

D. Sermon Brief Form

Students **must use** the attached sermon brief form for the **sermon brief** required in the Old Testament and New Testament presentation assignments for this course. Students may **not** substitute other forms. Please read and follow the notes and examples given in the form. Frequently made mistakes that cost points in the sermon brief assignment include the following:

1. Not writing the CIT/ETS, Proposition/ESS, or Objective/OSS in **complete** sentences.
2. Not writing the CIT/ETS in the **past** tense.
3. Writing the Proposition/ESS in the **past** tense (instead of the present, future, or imperative tenses).
4. Not **following** the required Sermon Objective/OSS form: Hearers will...
5. Not citing a biblical reference for **each** main point heading.
6. Not following the specified format for the sermon title.
7. Writing the sermon subject as a sentence or clause.

PREA6300 New Testament Sermon Assignment Grading Rubric

Student: _____ Date: _____

Total Points for the Assignment: _____ Assignment Grade: _____

Grading Rubric: New Testament Sermon Assignment of PREA6300 Preaching Practicum

Criteria	Points Possible	Points Awarded
Sermon ETS/CIT is derived from the sermon text & is stated clearly, concisely (8-10 words), & correctly.	15 points	
Sermon ESS/Proposition is a contemporary statement of the ETS/CIT & is stated clearly, concisely (8-10 words), & correctly.	15 points	
Sermon OSS is related to the ESS & is stated in terms of what hearers will do.	10 points	
Sermon Introduction includes the ETS/CIT & ESS/Proposition & connects with hearers.	10 points	
Sermon Body has main points referenced to the text correctly & has application to hearers.	10 points	
Sermon Conclusion includes transition, summation, ESS/Proposition, & application.	10 points	
Sermon Delivery included eye contact, correct articulation, natural nonverbals, direct address, oral style, & few distractions (if notes used).	15 points	
Biblical Text was read clearly & with proper interpretative emphasis.	5 points	
Overall Impact was interesting, informative, & spiritually moving/motivating.	10 points	
Total Points:	100	

Grading Points Scale: Excellent—A (100-93); Good—B (92-85); Acceptable—C (84-77);

Unsatisfactory—D (76-70) or F (below 70);

Grading Feedback:

What to Maintain: _____;

What to Improve: _____;

What to Avoid: _____.