



PREA5300 Proclaiming the Bible
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Fall 2023 Online

W. Andrew “Ted” Williams, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Expository Preaching
Associate Vice President of Auxiliary Services and Operations
Dodd 111; 504-816-8033; twilliams@nobts.edu
Office Hours by Appointment

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.

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.

Textbooks

Choose 1 to Review

Option 1: Lloyd-Jones, Martyn. *Preaching and Preachers*: 40th Anniversary Edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011. (ISBN 978-0-310-33129-2)

Option 2: Mohler, Jr., R. Albert, James Montgomery Boice, Derek W. H. Thomas, et al, eds. *Feed My Sheep: A Passionate Plea for Preaching*. 2nd ed. Sanford, FL: Ligonier, 2020. (ISBN 164289317x)

Option 3: Meyer, Jason C. *Preaching: A Biblical Theology*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2013. (ISBN 978-1-4335-1971-0)

Required

Gilbert, Greg. *What is the Gospel*. 9Marks. Wheaton: Crossway, 2010. (ISBN 978-1-4335-1500-2)

Stott, John. *Between Two Worlds: The Challenge of Preaching Today*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982. (ISBN 0-8028-0627-9)

Gallaty, Robby, and Steven Smith. *Preaching for the Rest of Us: Essentials for Text-Driven Preaching*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2018. (ISBN 978-1-4627-6162-3)

Charles, Jr., H. B. *On Preaching: Personal and Pastoral insights for the Preparation and Practice of Preaching*. Chicago: Moody, 2014. (ISBN 978-8024-1191-4)

Course Teaching Methodology

1. Lectures, 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 will stimulate personal insights.
6. Reading quizzes and exams also will be used.
7. Conferences with the professor or graduate assistant are invited, to promote learning and application of course principles and concepts, and may be accomplished via telephone, e-mail, or office visits.

Course Requirements

1. **Discussion Boards:** Each student will engage with the professor and other students in discussion via the discussion board assignments. Therefore, assigned readings must be completed prior to class completion of discussion boards. **This assignment is ungraded but failure to participate will result in a failure of the class.**
2. **Book Review:** Each student will write a 2–3 page review of one of the three options listed in the textbooks above. Components of the review should include: ½ page summary, 1–2 page evaluation of strengths and weaknesses, ½ page conclusion with summary of the argument and value of work. All reviews should include a cover page (not included in count) and be written double spaced, 12-point font (10 point footnotes), according to SBL style. **This assignment is 5% of the total grade.**
3. **Theology and Philosophy of Preaching Paper:** Each student will write a 5 page “Theology and Philosophy of Preaching” research paper. Components should include 1–2 pages introducing philosophy with sources noted that advocate that theology/philosophy, 2–3 pages of exegetical work with biblical references used to support your position, 1–2 pages discussing how the act of preaching should be carried out along with challenges or perceived objections (from research primarily). All papers should include a cover page (not included in count) and be written double spaced, 12-point font (10 point footnotes), according to SBL style. **This assignment is 15% of the total grade.**

4. **Old Testament Sermon Preparation:** Each student will select with the professor's guidance a passage from the Old Testament on which a sermon could be prepared. The components of the assignment will include:
- Exegesis- Students will prepare a 5–7 page exegetical paper which includes the following sections:
 - Genre- 1/2–1 page explaining the genre and unique features of that genre.
 - Immediate Literary Context- 1/2–1 page explaining the immediate context (surrounding chapters); make sure to note any literary structures and/or motifs in the immediate context.
 - Larger Literary Context- 1/2–1 page explaining the larger literary context of the book; make sure to note any literary structures and/or motifs of the book and how your passage fits within that.
 - Textual Elements- 3–5 pages explaining the passage noting important aspects within the text including but not limited to intertextuality, allusions, etc. Though not a commentary, this section should read similarly to commentary like that found in the NAC series.
 - Historical Elements- 1–2 pages explaining any historical considerations surrounding the events and/or composition of the passage.
 - Exposition- Students will prepare a Sermon Brief (see below) based on the exegetical paper.
 - Preaching Helps- Students will prepare a 2–4 page paper with helpful related commentary, sermon, and inspirational quotes. Each quote should clearly be tied to the passage and exegesis.

All papers should include a cover page (not included in count) and be written double spaced, 12-point font (10 point footnotes), according to SBL style. **This assignment is 15% of the total grade.**

5. **New Testament Sermon Preparation:** Each student will select with the professor's guidance a passage from the New Testament on which a sermon could be prepared. The components of the assignment will include:
- Exegesis- Students will prepare a 5–7 page exegetical paper which includes the following sections:
 - Genre- 1/2–1 page explaining the genre and unique features of that genre.
 - Immediate Literary Context- 1/2–1 page explaining the immediate context (surrounding chapters); make sure to note any literary structures and/or motifs in the immediate context.
 - Larger Literary Context- 1/2–1 page explaining the larger literary context of the book; make sure to note any literary structures and/or motifs of the book and how your passage fits within that.
 - Textual Elements- 3–5 pages explaining the passage noting important aspects within the text including but not limited to intertextuality, allusions, etc. Though not a commentary, this section should read similarly to commentary like that found in the NAC series.
 - Historical Elements- 1–2 pages explaining any historical considerations surrounding the events and/or composition of the passage.
 - Exposition- Students will prepare a Sermon Brief (see below) based on the exegetical paper.
 - Preaching Helps- Students will prepare a 2–4 page paper with helpful related commentary, sermon, and inspirational quotes. Each quote should clearly be tied to the passage and exegesis.

All papers should include a cover page (not included in count) and be written double spaced, 12-point

font (10 point footnotes), according to SBL style. **This assignment is 15% of the total grade.**

6. **Sermon Manuscript:** Each student will prepare one 5–7 12-point, double spaced font sermon manuscript based on one of Old/New Testament Sermon Preparations of the student's choosing. The manuscript should reflect a sermon that is twenty to twenty-five minutes in duration and must demonstrate an aural/oral composition.

All foundational, functional, and formal elements should be evident within the manuscript. Each element must be identified by a bolded bracket with the correct abbreviation of the element placed before the element (i.e., **[EXP]**). This assignment is an embedded assignment that will be completed by all students for all sections of the course. **This assignment is 20% of the total grade.**

7. **Special Occasion Sermon Manuscript:** Each student will select to write a 3–5 page sermon manuscript for either a wedding or funeral of a world leader or US president. The sermon manuscript should include each of the foundational, functional, and formal elements and should be marked as in the assignment above. **This assignment is 15% of the total grade.**
8. **Final Exam:** Each student will complete a final exam which will cover all of the material covered in the learning units, the textbook readings, and the video sessions throughout the entire semester. **This assignment is 15% of the total grade.**

Evaluation of Grade

All student learning outcomes will be evaluated through the grading of the course assignments and examination. Student participation and behavior in class and small-group discussions will also be factors in evaluation and grading.

Discussion Boards	0%	A: 93–100
Book Review	5%	B: 85–92
Theology and Philosophy of Preaching Paper	15%	C: 77–84
Old Testament Sermon Preparation	15%	D: 70–76
New Testament Sermon Preparation	15%	F: 69 and below
Sermon Manuscript	20%	
Special Occasion Sermon Manuscript	15%	
Final Exam	15%	

Additional Course Information

1. *Attendance Policy:* Students are expected to engage regularly with course content through the learning management system and other course delivery methods. Students who fail to participate consistently in course activities may receive a grade of "F" for the course.
2. *Policy for Late Submissions:* The professor reserves the right to accept or decline late or make-up work. In most cases, late work will be reduced fifty percent (50%) of the earned points. **Students should appropriately schedule since exceptions are unlikely.**
3. *Plagiarism Policy:* A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, utilizing any form of artificial intelligence to compose or research any projects, and committing other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. *Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited.* Any infraction may result in failing the assignment and the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary for further action.

4. *Classroom and Online Decorum:* Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of the others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times. Electronic devices should be used only for classroom purposes as indicated by the professor.
5. *Special Needs:* If you need accommodations for a disability, please set up a meeting with the professor for consideration of any modifications you may need.
6. *Emergency Plan:* In the event the NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event, go to the seminary's website for pertinent information. Class will continue as scheduled through the Blackboard site. Please note announcements and assignments on the course's Blackboard site.
7. *Technical Assistance:* For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:
 - a. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu or My.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
 - b. Canvas@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Canvas Learning Management System (Faculty/Students/Staff) Canvas.NOBTS.edu.
 - c. Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Bluejeans & NOBTS Bluejeans classrooms (On and Off-Campus)
 - d. TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS On-Campus Phone system.
 - e. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests in the Flex classrooms and for general technical questions/support requests. If you are not sure who to contact, use this email address!
 - f. [504.816.8180](tel:504.816.8180) - Call for any technical questions/support requests. (Currently available Mon-Thurs 7:00am-9:00pm & Fri 7:00-7:00pm Central Time)
 - g. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.
8. *Writing Style Guide:* 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.

Course Schedule

Date	Reading Assignments	Assignments Due
Unit 1 Aug 14–19		
Unit 2 Aug 21–26	<i>What is the Gospel?</i> , 1–122	
Unit 3 Aug 28–Sept 2	<i>Between Two Worlds</i> , 1–91	
Unit 4 Sept 4–9	<i>Between Two Worlds</i> , 92–134	Book Review Due 9/9
Unit 5 Sept 11–16	<i>Between Two Worlds</i> , 135–210	
Unit 6 Sept 18–23	<i>Between Two Worlds</i> , 211–261	Theology and Philosophy of Preaching Paper Due 9/23
Unit 7 Sept 25–30	<i>Between Two Worlds</i> , 262–340	
Fall Break Oct 2–7	No Class	No Class
Unit 8 Oct 9–14	<i>Preaching for the Rest of Us</i> , 1–98, <i>On Preaching</i> , 1–49	
Unit 9 Oct 16–21	<i>Preaching for the Rest of Us</i> , 99–166, <i>On Preaching</i> , 50–107	
Unit 10 Oct 23–28	<i>On Preaching</i> , 108–127	Old Testament Sermon Preparation Due 10/28
Unit 11 Oct 30–Nov 4	<i>On Preaching</i> , 128–151	New Testament Sermon Preparation Due 11/4
Unit 12 Nov 6–11	<i>On Preaching</i> , 152–56	
Unit 13 Nov 13–17		Sermon Manuscript Due 11/17
Thanksgiving Break Nov 20–25	No Class	No Class
Unit 14 Nov 27–29		Special Occasion Sermon Manuscript Due 11/29
Final Exams Nov 30–Dec 6		Final Exam Due 11/6

SERMON BRIEF
Rhetorical Sermon Outline

Name:

Assignment:

Date Due:

Foundational Elements

1. Sermon Title: In quotation marks, headline capitalization style
2. Text of Sermon:
3. Subject: One or two words or a short phrase
4. Central Idea of the Text (CIT): This is the main idea of the biblical text in a sentence; state in the past tense.
5. Proposition: This is a present tense statement of the CIT in a sentence; do not state in the past tense.
6. Objective: This is a sentence about what hearers will do as a result of the sermon.

Formal Elements

1. Introduction
2. Body: Each point must include at least 3 **Functional Elements** with subpoints used to describe the elements of explanation, argumentation, application, and illustration.

I.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

II.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Conclusion

Important Notes

1. The number of points will vary within the formal elements from the numbers shown above depending on the main points of the selected biblical text.
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., The Motive of Salvation). Write all lesser points under the main points in sentence capitalization style (e.g., The personal motive).

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Akin, Daniel L., David L. Allen, and Ned L. Matthews, editors. *Text-Driven Preaching: God's Word at the Heart of Every Sermon*. Nashville: B&H, 2010.
- Akin, Daniel L., Bill Curtis, and Stephen Rummage. *Engaging Exposition*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2011.
- Allen, David L. and Peter Lumpkins, editors. *Preach the Word! A Collection of Essays on Biblical Preaching in Honor of Jerry Vines*. Carrollton: Free Church Press, 2013.
- Anyabwire, Thabiti M. *The Faithful Preacher: Recapturing the Vision of Three Pioneering African-American Pastors*. Wheaton: Crossway Books, 2007.
- Arthurs, Jeffrey D. *Preaching with Variety: How to Re-create the Dynamics of Biblical Genres*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2007.
- Bailey, James & Lyle Vander Broek. *Literary Forms in the New Testament*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1992.
- Bounds, E. M. *Prayerful and Powerful Pulpits*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1994.
- Broadus, John A. *On the Preparation and Delivery of Sermons*. 4th ed. Revised and edited by Vernon L. Stanfield. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1979.
- Chapel, Brian. *Christ-Centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.
- Clowney, Edmund. *Preaching and Biblical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1961.
- Dever, Mark and Greg Gilbert. *Preach: Theology Meets Practice*. Nashville: B&H, 2012.
- Fasol, Al. *A Complete Guide to Sermon Delivery*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1996.
- _____. *Essentials for Biblical Preaching: An Introduction to Basic Sermon Preparation*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989.
- Fénelon, François. *Dialogues Concerning Eloquence*. Classic Reprint Series. XXX: Forgotten Books, 2012.
- Fish, Roy. *Giving a Good Invitation*. Nashville: Broadman, 1974.
- George, Timothy, James Earl Massey, and Robert Smith Jr., editors. *Our Sufficiency is of God: Essays on Preaching in Honor of Gardner C. Taylor*. Macon: Mercer University Press, 2010.
- Gibson, Scott M., ed. *Making a Difference in Preaching: Haddon Robinson on Biblical Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.
- _____. ed. *Preaching Points: 55 Tips for Improving Your Pulpit Ministry*. Wooster, OH: Weaver, 2016.
- _____. Gibson, Scott M. *Preaching for Special Services*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.
- Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.
- Greidanus, Sidney. *The Modern Preacher and the Ancient Text*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989.
- _____. *Preaching Christ from the Old Testament: A Contemporary Hermeneutical Method*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.
- Heisler, Greg. *Spirit-Led Preaching*. Nashville: Broadman, 2007.

- Holbert, John C. *Preaching Old Testament: Proclamation and Narrative in the Hebrew Bible*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1991.
- Kaiser, Walter C., Jr. *Toward an Exegetical Theology: Biblical Exegesis for Preaching and Teaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981.
- Keller, Timothy. *Preaching: Communicating Faith in an Age of Skepticism*. New York: Penguin Books, 2015.
- Kuruvilla, Abraham. *Privilege the Text: A Theological Hermeneutic for Preaching*. Chicago: Moody, 2013.
- _____. *A Vision for Preaching: Understanding the Heart of Pastoral Ministry*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2015.
- Mathewson, Steven. *The Art of Preaching Old Testament Narrative*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.
- McDill, Wayne V. *The Moment of Truth: A Guide to Effective Sermon Delivery*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 1999.
- _____. *The Twelve Essential Skills for Great Preaching*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1994.
- Merida, Tony. *Faithful Preaching: Declaring Scripture with Responsibility, Passion, and Authenticity*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2009.
- _____. *The Christ-Centered Expositor*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2016.
- Old, Hughes Oliphant. *The Reading and Preaching of the Scriptures in the Worship of the Christian Church*. 7 Volumes. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2007, 2010.
- Piper, John. *The Supremacy of God in Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2004.
- Robinson, Haddon W. *Biblical Preaching: The Development and Delivery of Expository Messages*. 2nd ed. 2001.
- Shaddix, Jim. *The Passion Driven Sermon*. Nashville: Broadman-Holman, 2003.
- Smith, Steven W. *Dying to Preach: Embracing the Cross in the Pulpit*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2009.
- _____. *Recapturing the Voice of God*. Nashville: B&H Publishing, 2015.
- Spurgeon, Charles H. *Lectures to My Students*. Series 1-3. 1894. Reprint. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1955.
- Street, R. Alan. *The Effective Invitation*. Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell, 1984.
- Turnbull, Ralph G. *A History of Preaching*. Volume 3. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1974.
- Vines, Jerry. *A Practical Guide to Sermon Preparation*. Chicago: Moody, 1985.
- Vines, Jerry and Adam B. Dooley. *Passion in the Pulpit: How to Exegete the Emotion of Scripture*. Chicago: Moody, 2018.
- Vines, Jerry and Jim Shaddix. *Power in the Pulpit: How to Prepare and Deliver Expository Sermons*. Revised. Chicago: Moody, 2017.
- Wiersbe, Warren. *Preaching and Teaching with Imagination: The Quest for a Biblical Ministry*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1994.
- York, Herschel W. and Bert Decker. *Preaching with Bold Assurance: A Solid and Enduring Approach to Engaging Exposition*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2003.