



PREA6200-0001 Preaching Practicum (Mentoring)
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Spring 2022

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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, video sermons preached by students 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. 10). Please complete the assignment according to the syllabus (pp. 2-3) and the grading rubric.

Textbooks

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

Arthurs, Jeffrey D. *Devote Yourself to the Public Reading of Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2012
Bounds, E.M. *Preacher and Prayer*. Any edition.
Fasol, Al. *A Complete Guide to Sermon Delivery*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1996.
Heisler, Greg. *Spirit-Led Preaching Revised Edition*. Nashville: B&H Publishing, 2018.
McDill, Wayne V. *The Moment of Truth*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1999.

The following textbook is **optional**:

York, Herschel W., and Bert Decker. *Preaching with Bold Assurance*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003.

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies:

- A. Online content notes, discussion, mentor interaction, and other instructional methods will be utilized to review and teach important fundamentals and principles about sermon construction, delivery, oral interpretation, and voice, as well as to present and discuss applicable print and other resources.

- B. Writing assignments will be required to facilitate experiential learning and skills development in sermon building and communication.
- C. Student preaching, feedback, and discussion will be used to promote personal insights about oral interpretation and sermon delivery.
- D. The online preaching laboratory and student self-study will be important instructional components.
- E. 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

Students are required to complete the following course assignments/requirements

1. Annotated Analyses: Submit a *one-page single-spaced annotated analysis* for each of the **required** textbooks by Arthurs, Bounds, Fasol, Heisler, and McDill. Each 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?

Each analysis should be a complete single-spaced page of content. The assignments should be completed and posted to the Assignment Menu labeled in each session according to the course schedule. Each of the above sessions will have a discussion board question for the student to discuss with his mentor concerning the book.

2. Interview: The student is to interview three senior pastors regarding sermon preparation and delivery. The interview is to include questions regarding the pastors' sermon development process and steps to sermon delivery. The student is to write a *five-page (double-spaced)* paper reflecting on the discussions. The student should use the following questions for the interview:

- a) Why is spiritual preparation for preaching important? How do you spiritually prepare for the sermon development process and preaching moment?
- b) What is the process through which you go each time you prepare a sermon? How does that look regarding your weekly schedule?
- c) What part of the sermon development process do you spend the most time studying/researching and also preparing?
- d) What sources do you consult for illustrations?
- e) What is your process for the application of sermon points/truths?
- f) How do you make the transition from considering the sermon to considering the audience's reception of the sermon?
- g) What is the most important element of sermon delivery?
- h) What have been some weaknesses you have discovered in your sermon delivery, and how have you worked to improve in these areas?

Note: The reflection paper should serve as the student's synthesis of the ideas and responses from the interviews with the three pastors, rather than just a list of responses to the questions. However, the student should include the responses to the questions as an appendix or attachment to the reflection paper. These attached responses will not count toward the page requirement for the reflection paper. (The attached responses may be single-spaced, while the body of the reflection paper is to be double-spaced.) The reflection paper for the interviews should be completed and posted to the Assignment Menu according to the course schedule below.

3. **Devotion:** Prepare and video **one** devotional presentation of **10-12 minutes** in duration, based on an **Old Testament** passage (selected by the student from any of the following Old Testament books: Genesis through Psalms). The student is also to submit a sermon brief in the format of **the rhetorical sermon brief form in this syllabus**. This devotion is to be presented before an audience, preferably at least 6 people.

The student is to:

- have their “*Peer Preaching Group*” **ONLY** (listed under Course Documents) complete and submit a sermon feedback form to the student, who will discuss the devotion and the sermon feedback forms with the mentor.
- meet with the mentor, who has filled out a sermon feedback form, and discuss the sermon.
- The student is then to complete and submit a personal summary critique form along with the mentor’s feedback form to the professor.

The summary critique form should include a summation of the feedback from the listeners and the mentor. The *Sermon Feedback Form* that the listeners and mentor will complete and the *Personal Summary Critique Form* are available under the Course Documents menu on Blackboard. **Instructions for uploading the devotion video will be posted on Blackboard.** The OT devotion video, sermon brief, and critique form should be completed and posted to the Assignment Menu according to the course schedule below

4. **Sermon:** Prepare and video **one** preaching presentation of a **New Testament** passage (selected by the student from any of the Gospels: Matthew through John or from Acts). The preaching 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**. The student is to present this message in a local church setting. A minimum of at least 12 people (preferably twenty or more) must be present.

The student is to:

- have their *Peer Preaching Group* **ONLY** complete and submit a *Sermon Feedback Form* to the student, who will discuss the sermon and the sermon feedback forms with the mentor.
- The student must also meet with the mentor, who has filled out a *Sermon Brief Form*, and discuss the sermon.
- The student is then to complete and submit a personal summary critique form as well as the mentor’s feedback form to the professor. The summary critique form should include a summation of the feedback from the listeners and the mentor.

The *Sermon Feedback Form* that the Peer Preaching Group and mentor will complete, along with the *Personal Summary Critique Form*, are available under the Course Documents menu on Blackboard. **Instructions for uploading the sermon video will be posted on Blackboard.** Remember that the New Testament Sermon is an embedded assignment.

5. **Mentoring:** The student will be required to fulfill the requirements of the mentorship, including a minimum of **30 hours** working in the ministry setting during the semester. These specified hours do not include the weekly scheduled times for worship and Bible study. The student will meet with the mentor each week to discuss personal spiritual formation, course content, ministry issues, and hours worked. The student will submit weekly reports of the mentorship and ministry experiences. **The reports should contain two sections: one paragraph devoted to the mentorship experiences of the week, and one paragraph devoted to the ministry experiences of the week.** The student will submit the weekly reports in two stages. The first 6 units of weekly mentor reports are due at the end of Week 8, and the final 6 units of weekly mentor reports are due at the end of Unit 14, according to the course schedule below.

6. **Final exam:** The final exam will cover class notes, the required course texts, reflection on the personal presentations, and feedback. The exam will be posted online and is due to be posted under the Assignment Menu for Unit 14.

Evaluation of Grade

All course objectives will be evaluated through the grading of the annotated analysis, devotional presentation, preaching presentation, critique/feedback evaluation, and final examination. **Responses on discussion boards should adhere to the rules of grammar. The responses should not include the use of abbreviations and texting type responses.**

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

1. Annotated textbooks analysis	20%
2. Devotional presentation/critique/evaluation and responses	20%
3. Preaching presentation/critique/evaluation and responses	25%
4. Interviews	15%
5. Final examination	10%
6. Mentoring Reports	10%

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.

Policies:

Academic Honesty Policy: All graduate and undergraduate NOBTS students, whether on-campus, internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.

Assignment Formatting: Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are to follow the latest edition of Turabian. All written assignments must be Word documents, written in third person unless otherwise instructed, and created in 12 pt. Times New Roman font and converted to a PDF file format.

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 catalog:

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

Late Work: Assignments are due by midnight on Mondays on the specific dates listed. Assignments turned in past the date due will incur a minimum penalty of **one letter grade per day**. **Assignments will not be accepted more than two weeks past the date due without express prior permission of the professor.** In such cases a grade of D will be the maximum grade given. Note: In order to receive credit for the class, all assignments must be completed.

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior: Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion promotes 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.

Disclaimer

Flexibility is a critical attitude to ministry faithfulness. Therefore, students will be expected to keep a good attitude when things change. This syllabus proposes a course of study for a given time period. However, occasionally things change. The professors reserve the right to adjust the syllabus when they reasonably think doing so will enhance the learning experience of the students.

Withdrawal from the Course: The administration has set deadlines for withdrawal. These dates and times are published in the academic calendar. Administration procedures must be followed. You are responsible to handle withdrawal requirements. A professor cannot issue a withdrawal. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure you will not receive a final grade of “F” in the course if you choose not to attend once enrolled.

Additional Information

Blackboard and SelfServe: You are responsible for maintaining current information regarding contact information on Blackboard and SelfServe. The professor will utilize both to communicate with the class. Blackboard and SelfServe do not share information so you must update each. Assignment grades will be posted to Blackboard. You will be need to enroll in the course on Blackboard.

In Case of a Declared Campus Evacuation

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

NOBTS Emergency Text Messaging Service: Once you have established a SelfServe account you may sign up for the NOBTS emergency text messaging service by going to <http://nobts.edu/NOBTSEmergencyTextMessage.html>.

Special Needs: If you need an accommodation for any type of disability, please set up a time to meet with the professor(s) to discuss any modifications you may need that are able to be provided.

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>

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.

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.

Course Schedule

Dates:	Topics:	Assignments due:
Unit 1 Jan 19-25	Foundational, Formal, and Functional Elements	
Unit 2 Jan 24-Jan 31	Basic Homiletical Forms & Rhetorical Forms; Oral vs. Literary Form	Mentor Authorization Forms due Feb 1
Unit 3 Jan 31-Feb 7	An Overview; Improving Sermon Delivery; Oral Interpretation; Preaching and Technology	Bounds due Feb 7
Unit 4 Feb 7-15	Oral Communication in Preaching a Sermon	McDill due Feb 15
Unit 5 Feb 14-21	Sermon Delivery	Fasol due Feb 22
Unit 6 Feb 21-Feb 28	The Holy Spirit in Sermon Development and Delivery	Heisler due Feb 28
Unit 7 Feb 28–Mar 8	The Prominence of Scripture in Worship	Arthurs due by Mar 8
Unit 8 Mar 8-20		Interview due Mar 20 6 Mentor Reports due
Mar 14-18	SPRING BREAK	NO ASSIGNMENTS
Unit 9 Mar 21-28		Review feedback for the OT Devotions with your mentor.
Unit 10 Mar 28-Apr 4	The Role of Audience Analysis in the Sermon Preparation and Delivery Process	OT Devotion Summary Critique Form due Apr 4
Unit 11 Apr 4-11	Sermon Preparation and Presentation	
Unit 12 Apr 11-18	The Relationship between Pastoring and Preaching	NT Sermon Video and Sermon Brief due Apr 18
Unit 13 Apr 18-25	Preaching and Ministering “when I don’t feel like it”	Review feedback for the NT Sermons with your mentor.
Unit 14 Apr 25-May 2		NT Summary Critique Form due May 2nd 6 Mentor Reports due May 3
Final Exam May 3-9	Final Exam	Available May 3rd - May 10th.

Selected Bibliography

- Adler, Ronald B., and Neil Towne. *Looking Out/Looking In: Interpersonal Communication*. Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace College Publishers, 1996.
- Bounds, E.M. *Preacher and Prayer*. Any edition.
- Briscoe, D. Stuart. *Fresh Air in the Pulpit: Challenges and Encouragement from a Seasoned Preacher*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1994.
- Cahill, Dennis M. *The Shape of Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2007.
- Capp, Glenn R., Carol C. Capp, and G. Richard Capp Jr. *Basic Oral Communication*. 5th ed. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 1990.
- Cothen, Joe H. *The Pulpit Is Waiting*. Gretna: Pelican, 1998.
- Davis, Ken. *Secrets of Dynamic Communication: Preparing & Delivering Powerful Speeches*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1991.
- Dever, Mark, and Greg Gilbert. *Preach: Theology Meets Practical*. Nashville: B & H, 2012.
- Doriani, Daniel M. *Putting the Truth to Work*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R Publishing Company, 2001.
- Duduit, Michael, ed. *Handbook of Contemporary Preaching*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1992.
- Edwards, J. Kent. *Deep Preaching*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2009.
- Eswine, Zack. *Preaching to a Post-Everything World*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2008.
- Farris, Stephen. *Preaching That Matters*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998.
- Fisher, David. *The 21st Century Pastor*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996.
- Galli, Mark, and Craig Brian Larson. *Preaching That Connects: Using the Techniques of Journalists to Add Impact to Your Sermons*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994.
- Gibson, Scott, ed. *Preaching to a Shifting Culture*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2004.
- Gericke, Paul. *Prince of Preachers: The Apostle Paul*. New York: University Press of America, 2006.
- Harvey, John D. *Anointed with the Spirit and Power*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2008.
- Koller, Charles. *Expository Preaching without Notes*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1962.
- Johnston, Graham. *Preaching to a Postmodern World: A Guide to Reaching Twenty-first Century Listeners*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2001.
- Larson, Craig Brian, ed. *Interpretation and Application*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2012.
- _____. *Inspirational Preaching*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2012.
- _____. *Prophetic Preaching*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2012.

- _____. *Sermon Preparation*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2012.
- Lee, Charlotte I. *Oral Reading of the Scriptures*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1974.
- Litfin, Duane. *Public Speaking: A Handbook for Christians*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1992.
- Lybrand, Fred R. *Preaching on Your Feet*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2008.
- MacArthur, John, Jr. *Rediscovering Expository Preaching*. Dallas: Word Publishing, 1992.
- Mawhinney, Bruce. *Preaching with Freshness*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1997.
- McDill, Wayne V. *The Moment of Truth*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1999.
- Merida, Tony. *Faithful Preaching*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2009.
- Miller, Calvin. *Preaching: The Art of Narrative Exposition*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2006.
- Mohler, R. Albert. *He Is Not Silent: Preaching in a Postmodern World*. Chicago: Moody, 2008.
- Overdorf, Daniel. *Applying the Sermon: How to Balance Biblical Integrity and Cultural Relevance*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2009.
- Shaddix, Jim. *The Passion-Driven Sermon*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2003.
- Turner, Timothy A. *Preaching to Programmed People*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Resources, 1995.
- Vines, Jerry, and Jim Shaddix. *Power in the Pulpit: How to Prepare and Deliver Expository Sermons*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1999.
- Willhite, Keith, and Scott M. Gibson. *The Big Idea of Biblical Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.
- Witmer, Timothy Z. *The Shepherd Leader*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R Publishing, 2010.
- York, Herschael W., and Bert Decker. *Preaching with Bold Assurance*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2003.

SERMON BRIEF
Rhetorical Sermon Outline

Name:

Assignment:

Date Due:

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 (Main Idea of the **biblical Text** in a Sentence--state in the past tense):

5. Proposition (present tense statement of the Main Idea of the **Sermon** in a Sentence; do not state in the past tense):

6. Objective (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

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

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.

II.

- 1.
- 2.

III.

- 1.
- 2.

Conclusion

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

D. 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., The Motive of Salvation). Write all lesser points under the main points in sentence capitalization style (e.g., The personal motive).

Sermon Brief Form

Students **must use** the attached sermon brief form for the **sermon brief** required in the Old Testament and New Testament classroom 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 E.T.S., E.S.S., or O.S.S. in **complete** sentences
2. Not writing the E.T.S. in the **past** tense
3. Writing the E.S.S. in the **past** tense
4. Not **following** the required O.S.S. 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

PREA6200 New Testament Sermon Assignment Grading Rubric

Student: _____ **Date:** _____

Total Points for the Assignment: _____ **Assignment Grade:** _____

Grading Rubric: New Testament Sermon Assignment of PREA6200 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: _____.