



PREA6322/PHIL6322 Pulpit Apologetics
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Pastoral Ministries and
Theological and Historical Studies Defend
Conference for Christian Apologetics
January 2-6, 2023

Faculty Instructors

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Seminary Mission Statement

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

Course Description

This is an advanced course which considers the role of apologetics in expository preaching. Students are exposed to a variety of homiletical approaches aimed at demonstrating the truth and relevance of God's Word in contemporary culture. Emphasis is given to proclamation aimed at forming a Christian worldview in the minds and hearts of hearers. Recommended prerequisites: PREA5300 Proclaiming the Bible and PHIL5301 Christian Apologetics.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and describe various issues in contemporary culture which can be addressed by apologetic expository preaching.
2. Understand and articulate effective apologetic responses to contemporary challenges to the Christian faith.
3. Value the role of Christian apologetics in expository preaching aimed at demonstrating the truth and relevance of God's Word in culture today.
4. Apply the principles of expository preaching to the development of apologetic sermons and sermon series through a variety of homiletical approaches.

Textbooks

Copan, Paul. *When God Goes to Starbucks: A Guide to Everyday Apologetics*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.

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

Loscalzo, Craig. *Apologetic Preaching in a Postmodern World*. Grand Rapids: IVP Academic, 2000.

Course Teaching Methodology

This course utilizes the following methodologies:

- Lecture
- Research
- Book reviews
- Developing a sermon series

Course Requirements

Pre-workshop Assignment: Book Reviews of the Texts

Read the Copan, Eswine, and Loscalzo texts carefully, and write a book review of about 5 single spaced pages each. Your book review should include two key elements:

- (a) an annotated summary of the content of the book, especially with regard to apologetic preaching, and
- (b) your evaluation of what you found helpful/contributions/strengths in the book, as well as its weaknesses. The content summary should be about four pages and the evaluation about one page. References within the books may be references in parentheses; other references should be footnoted. Ideally, these should all be read and reviewed before the conference. However, the last date they can be accepted are:

Copan text review: due 1/6

Eswine text review: due 1/13

Loscalzo text review: due 1/20

Workshop Assignment: Plenary Session Notes (Due 1/27)

Take notes on 5 of the conference sessions (plenary or breakout sessions, heard either in person or by recording). Turn in a one page single spaced summary for each plenary session. Your notes should outline or overview --

- (a) the content of the Apologetic issue presented,
 - (b) your brief evaluation of the relevance of the issue in your current or intended ministry setting, and
 - (c) your brief reflections on what you learned about presenting this issue in a public forum.
- You are strongly encouraged to be present for the Pulpit Apologetics sessions.

Post-Workshop Assignment: Sermon Series on Apologetics (Due 2/17)

Students will prepare a sermon series which addresses issues in contemporary culture from a perspective of Apologetics, and which demonstrates the truth and relevance of God's Word. The series is to consist of 6 sermons. The series might involve all of the sermons addressing a single issue or cluster of issues, or six different topics. The student must submit:

- (1) a one-page overview of the entire series, including texts, titles, and summaries of each sermon;
- (2) a sermon brief and sermon study notes for each sermon to be preached;
- (3) one sermon manuscript from a particular sermon in the series; and
- (4) a single-spaced Selected Bibliography of resources useful for the preacher in implementing this preaching plan in a preaching ministry. The professors will provide the sermon brief form and other form guides.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to exercise the highest of ethics and integrity in keeping with the character of Christ when completing all assignments, especially regarding the Seminary’s standards regarding plagiarism (see NOBTS catalog). The grading scale and attendance requirements will be those outlined in the current *Academic Catalog*. The value of assignments will be as follows below for each course.

Copan Book Review	100 points
Eswine Book Review	100 points
Loscalzo Book Review	100 points
Session Notes	50 points
Sermon Series	150 points (100 for sermons, 50 for manuscript)

Note: Late work is penalized at the rate of two points per school day.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend class and cannot miss any workshop days. Because of the nature of the intensive, students who miss any portion of the class may receive a grade of “F” for the course. Please inform the professors if emergency issues affecting attendance arise.

Tentative Class and Defend Schedule

When	Assignment
	<i>Before the conference --</i> Obtain the three texts & start reading the Copan text. Ideally read at least two of the texts before the conference. The book reviews for these are due 1/6, 1/13, & 1/20.
January 2-6, 2023	<i>Defend Conference --</i> Attend your choice of the plenary & breakout sessions in the conference (schedule has not yet been released). However, attend in person or listen to the recording of all presentations by Dr. Newsom or Dr. Lemke about Pulpit Apologetics. Take notes to submit later for five presentations.
January 6, 2023	Copan book review due
January 13, 2023	Eswine book review due
January 20, 2023	Loscalzo book review due
January 27, 2023	Five Defend Conference summaries due
February 17, 2023	Apologetics Sermon Series due

Technical Assistance

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

1. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/- Email for general technical questions/support requests.
2. Selfserve@nobts.edu- Email technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu or My.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, Faculty portal, etc.)
3. Canvas@nobts.edu Click on the “Help” button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to Canvas.nobts.edu / nobts.instructure.com.
4. Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu - Email technical questions/support requests with Bluejeans and NOBTS Bluejeans classrooms (On and Off-Campus).
5. TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu- Email technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Nextiva Phone system. [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).

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(Dr. Lemke has a couple of small articles in it about environmental issues).

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