



PREA6300 PREACHING PRACTICUM
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Hybrid Spring 2023 (March 10-11, 2023)

Bo Rice, Ph.D.

Dean of Graduate Studies

Associate Professor of Preaching and Evangelism

Occupying the Gurney Chair of Evangelism and Church Health

Office: First Floor of the Frost Administration Bldg

Phone: 504.282.4455, ext. 8266

Email: brice@nobts.edu

Brad Baxter

NOBTS Adjunct Instructor

Email: baxterbrad16@gmail.com

Teaching Assistant: Andrew Wilson asw113@gmail.com

Admin. Assistant: Margie Butler mbutler@nobts.edu

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 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.

Koller, Charles W. *How to Preach Without Notes*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2007.
McDill, Wayne V. *The Moment of Truth*. Nashville: B & H Publishers, 1999.

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, Hershael 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 one-page single-spaced **annotated analysis for each of the four required textbooks**: i.e., the Fasol, Heisler, Koller, and McDill 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?

Each analysis on the four textbooks should be submitted with a cover page on Canvas by midnight on **March 31**.

2. Prepare and preach one **OT sermon presentation of fifteen to eighteen minutes** in duration 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 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 setting. **This sermon will be preached and recorded on the first day of the hybrid weekend (Mar. 10)**. The student will utilize this recording in preparing his Personal Critique/Feedback Evaluation of his message.

3. Prepare and preach 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 **twenty-five minutes** nor to be less than **twenty 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 a sermon brief of his sermon**. Students should dress appropriately for the preaching setting. **This sermon will be preached and recorded on the**

second day of the hybrid weekend (Mar. 11). The student will utilize this recording in preparing his Personal Critique/Feedback Evaluation of his message.

4. Prepare and preach one **sermon presentation from a New Testament Epistle** (selected by the student from any of the following New Testament books: Romans through Jude). The sermon presentation is neither to exceed **twenty-five minutes** nor to be less than **twenty 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 a sermon brief of his sermon.** Students should dress appropriately for the preaching setting. A recording of each student's sermon presentation will be made available on a course YouTube channel by midnight on **April 14**. The student will utilize this recording in preparing his Personal Critique/Feedback Evaluation of his message.

5. Complete:

a. An **Audience Preaching Feedback Form** following each student's OT and two NT sermon presentations. The documents will be made available in class and Canvas for each student. Upon completion, all students will submit their Feedback Forms in class and the appropriate Canvas locations.

b. A **Personal Critique/Feedback Evaluation Form** for each of the student's three presentations **due one week after the student's presentation**. The document will be made available in Canvas.

6. 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 by midnight April 28**. 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.

7. 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. **Due in Canvas by midnight May 5**.

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 analyses	15%
2. OT sermon presentation & personal critique/evaluation	15%
3. NT sermon presentation & personal critique/evaluation	20%
4. NT sermon presentation & personal critique/evaluation	20%
5. Personal Critique and Reflection Paper	15%
6. Final examination	15%

Attendance

Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Because of the nature of the intensive, students who miss any portion of the class may receive a grade of “F” for the course.

Course Topics

Introduction

Homiletics Review and Matters of Sermon Construction

Introduction to the Art and Craft of Preaching

Sermon Delivery and Communication

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.

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: _____.