



## **PMPR8305 Preaching Through the Genres**

**Professional Doctoral Seminar**

**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**

**Summer Semester, July 22-24, 2025**

**Tuesday (1:00-9:00 pm);**

**Wednesday-Thursday (8:00 am – 4:00 pm)**

### **Professors:**

#### **Dr. Adam Hughes**

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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**

This seminar will lead students to examine the connection between the practice of expository preaching and the various genres of both testaments of the Bible. Attention will be given to methods of interpreting and proclaiming narrative, law, poetry, proverbs, prophecy, letters, and apocalyptic. Students will also apply their knowledge to their own preaching in a way that is relevant to the contemporary church and culture.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

This course has been designed so that students might achieve the following:

1. As a result of this seminar, students will be able to discuss the major approaches/methods of preaching from the various literary genres of the Bible.
2. As a result of this seminar, students will be able to state the names and views of writers and preachers who have explored the relevance of literary genre to expository preaching.

3. As a result of this seminar, students will heighten their competence in interpreting all the biblical genres.
4. As a result of this seminar, students will be able to preach expository sermons from all the types of literature in the Bible.
5. As a result of this seminar, students will be able to preach Christ-centered sermons from every literary genre of the Bible.
6. As a result of this seminar, students will be able to plan and preach series of sermons from every biblical genre.
7. As a result of this seminar, students will grow in their ability to learn from others in ministry as they interact with one another and with professors by sharing and listening to ministry ideas and practices.

## Required Textbooks

1. Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.
2. Greidanus, Sidney. *The Modern Preacher and the Ancient Text*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.
3. Kaiser, Walter C., Jr. *Toward an Exegetical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1981.
4. Smith, Steven W. *Recapturing the Voice of God: Shaping Sermons Like Scripture*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2015.

## Course Requirements:

1. Students will read all the required textbooks for the course prior to the course meeting. Based on the required readings, students will write a one-page, single-spaced summary sheet on how to preach from each of the following genres. Each summary page should include specific keys for interpreting that genre, as well as specific considerations for preaching from the genre. In class, each student will present their findings on at least one of the genres. The student will teach the class how to interpret and preach from that genre. Assignments for each student's presentation will be handled through Canvas prior to the class meetings. Student presentations on their genre will address the following questions. Why should preachers preach from that genre? What are some cautions in preaching from that type of literature? What are some positive outcomes that can result from preaching from that genre of Scripture? What is a method preachers can use in preaching from that genre? What human needs are especially exposed by preaching from that genre? How may a preacher preach Christ from the selected genre?
  - narrative
  - law
  - poetry
  - prophecy
  - wisdom

- apocalyptic
- gospel
- parable
- epistle

2. Students will listen to nine sermons spanning these genres. Below you will find video links to each of the nine sermons. Students will write a 1-page single spaced summary/evaluation of each sermon and will be prepared to present one of their evaluations in the seminar. Students should evaluate the form, content, and presentation of the sermon. In their evaluations, students will bring to bear what they have learned from the assigned reading on the various biblical genres. Further questions that should guide the evaluation are included below. The same questions will be used to evaluate student sermons.

Steven W. Smith (link to a sermon on a parable — [Luke 15](#))

David Allen (link to a sermon on an epistle — [My Anchor Holds](#))

H. B. Charles (link to a sermon on law — [The Lord's Passover](#))

Mark Dever (link to a sermon on apocalyptic — [Our Prayers Are Answered](#))

Bryan Loritts (link to a sermon on a psalm — [Good Grief](#))

Josh Wredberg (link to a sermon on wisdom — [Keeping Up with the Joneses](#))

Kevin DeYoung (link to a sermon on OT narrative — [God Is in Our Midst](#))

Juan Sanchez (link to a sermon from a Gospel — [Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath](#))

Tony Merida (link to a sermon from the prophets — [I Will Pour Out My Spirit](#))

### **Questions for Sermon Evaluation**

1. How well did this sermon explain the biblical text under consideration?
2. How well did the preacher address and explain theological issues related to the preaching text?
3. How well did the preacher apply and illustrate the biblical text being considered? Was the sermon particularly relevant to the audience being addressed?
4. How did the preacher's appearance and voice contribute and/or detract from the message (posture, eye contact and facial expressions, clothing and appearance, mannerisms, voice and inflection)?
5. How did the sermon point to Christ and our need for Him? (Adam, what do you think of this question)
6. How well did the preacher hold the attention of the people?

3. Students will submit one of their own sermons via video after the seminar. The sermon will be pre-recorded and the link to the sermon posted in Canvas. Students will preach a sermon from the biblical genre the student presented on during the seminar.
4. Students will attend all sessions of the seminar and participate in class discussions in an effort to create an environment in which students learn both from the professor and from one another.

### **Course Grading Assignment Weight**

- Genre presentations – 30%
- Sermon reviews – 30%
- Post-Seminar Sermon – 30%
- Class participation/discussion – 10%

### **Class Schedule**

#### Tuesday

- Welcome and orientation
- Submit written reports on preaching from each genre
- Student presentations on preaching from OT genres
- Class discussion of preaching from OT genres

#### Wednesday

- Student presentations on preaching from NT genres
- Class discussion of preaching from NT genres

#### Thursday

- Submit student evaluations of sermons from each genre
- Each student will present on a sermon from at least one genre
- Class discussion of sermons from each genre

## Course Policies

**Academic Policies:** Academic policies relate to absences, grading scale, final examination schedules, and other topics can be found in the current online catalog: [New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Graduate Catalog](#).

**Absences:** Absences are not permitted unless an extenuating circumstance arises. Students must contact the professor immediately if such circumstance arises. Additional work may be assigned to make up for the missed seat time.

**Academic Honesty Policy:** All NOBTS students, whether on-campus or Teams participants, 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.

**Assignment Formatting:** Unless otherwise noted, all assignments are to be created in Turabian format. All written assignments must be Word or PDF documents and created in 12 pt. Times New Roman font. Limited use of first person in written assignments is acceptable.

**Consult the ProDoc website Resources page, *Writing Helps and Turabian 8 Resources*, for assistance in document formatting. Should you desire personal assistance in Turabian formatting, contact Phyllis Garrett, ProDoc Writing Assessment and Project Coordinator, for a list of free-lance Style Readers.**

**Assignment Submission:** All assignments are to be submitted to Canvas prior to the starting date and time for the seminar meeting. Do not send files as attachments via email to the professor.

**Cell phones:** Phones must be silenced during class time. The use of a cell phone for the purposes of texting, email or other social media is not permitted. Anyone who is observed text messaging or using an electronic device during class may be asked to drop the course

**Classroom Decorum:** Your participation is required for every session. You are expected to:

- Come to the sessions with a constructive point of view, prepared to interact with the readings and resources related to the course topic.
- Dress appropriately and in accordance with the NOBTS Student Handbook.
- Turn off cell phones and not accept any calls and/or text messages during class.
- Utilize laptops and other technology for class purposes only.

- Maintain confidentiality when someone shares personal information.
- The Classroom Decorum also applies to Teams participants.

**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 2019-2020 catalog.

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

**Late Assignments:** Only under extreme circumstances, and with prior approval, will a late assignment be accepted. Late assignments will be assessed an initial 10-point penalty and 1 point for each day after the due date. No assignments will be accepted more than two weeks after the original due date. Missed presentations may not be made up.

**Netiquette:** Netiquette refers to appropriate online behavior in Canvas or other online discussions. Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on Discussion Boards or whenever interaction occurs through web, digital, or other electronic medium. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote 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.

**Plagiarism:** 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.

**Revision of the Syllabus:** The course syllabus is not a legal contract. Any syllabus revision will be preceded by a reasonable notice to students. The standards and requirements set forth in this syllabus may be modified at any time by the professor. Notice of such changes will be by announcement in class or by email.

**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 can't issue a withdrawal. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in the course if you choose not to attend once you are enrolled.

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

- [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support request for help with the site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.).
- [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) – Email for general technical questions/support requests.
- [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - View general NOBTS technical help information on this website.
- **Student Guide to Canvas:** <https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Student-Guide/tkb-p/student>
- **Canvas Tutorial Videos:**  
<https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Video-Guide/tkbp/videos#student-videos>