



PREA6200 Preaching Practicum
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Fall 2020 * Wednesdays * 8:00-9:50 AM

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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.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is *Mission Focus*: We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Curriculum Competencies

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The course will address the competencies of biblical exposition, spiritual and character formation, interpersonal skills, and worship leadership.

Course Description

In this course, videotaped sermons as well as sermons preached by students in class 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. 28). Please complete the assignment according to the syllabus (rf., 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.

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, Herschael 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 three-page (or less) single-spaced annotated analysis for the three required textbooks: i.e., the required textbooks by Fasol, Heisler, and McDill. 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?

This **one analysis** on the three textbooks should be submitted with a cover page on Blackboard by Midnight CST on **Wednesday, November 4, 2020**.

2. Prepare and preach in class on the assigned day one devotional presentation of **ten to twelve 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 the professor a sermon brief of his devotional 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 chapel setting. A recording of each student's devotional presentation will be made available on a course YouTube channel. The student will utilize this recording in preparing his Personal Critique/Feedback Evaluation of his message.

3. Prepare and preach in class on the assigned day 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 **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. Each student will provide the professor a sermon brief of his NT sermon. Students should dress appropriately for the preaching chapel setting. A recording of each student's sermon presentation will be made available on a course YouTube channel. The student will utilize this recording in preparing his Personal Critique/Feedback Evaluation of his message.

4. Complete:

a. An Audience Preaching Feedback Form following each student's OT devotional and NT sermon presentations in class. The document will be made available in class for each student to copy the required number of forms for all preaching presentations. Upon completion, all students will submit their Feedback Forms to the student or students who preached that particular day.

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

5. 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. The exam is due by **Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 11:00 AM**.

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	25%
2. OT devotional presentation & personal critique/evaluation	25%
3. NT sermon presentation & personal critique/evaluation	30%
4. Final examination	20%

Late Assignments Penalty

Assignments turned in past the date due will incur a late penalty of ten points, which will be deducted from the assignment grade. Assignments will not be accepted more than one week past the date due (but assignments may be submitted before the due date). All assignments must be submitted as specified.

Course Topics

Course topics will be selected from the following topics:

Introduction
Homiletics Review and Matters of Sermon Construction
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. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
2. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
3. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

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 NOBTS Style Guide (see page 5 of the course syllabus). The latest edition of the Turabian Manual may be consulted for any issues not addressed in the Style Guide. All written assignments must be submitted in Blackboard as PDF documents unless otherwise instructed, written in third person, and created in 12 pt. Times New Roman font.

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 2020-2021 catalog.

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

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 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.

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 professor reserve the right to adjust the syllabus when they reasonably think that 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 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.

Additional Information

In Case of a Declared Campus Evacuation

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

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.

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.

NOBTS Style Guide

Writing assignments should follow the **NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style** (*revised August 2019*). 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>

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 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 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 (instead of the present, future, or imperative tenses)
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 or clause

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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. ETS/CIT (Essence of the Text in a Sentence--also called the CIT, Central Idea of the Text; state in the past tense):
5. ESS/Proposition (Essence of the Sermon in a Sentence--also called the Proposition; do not state in the past tense):
6. 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: the number of key summary sentences may vary in the Introduction outline below.)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Body (Note: the number of main points and key sub-points may vary in the Body outline below.)

- I.
 - 1.
 - 2.
- II.
 - 1.
 - 2.
- III.
 - 1.
 - 2.

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).
Write all **lesser** points under the main points in sentence capitalization style (e.g., 1. The love of God for the world).

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: _____.