



PREA6213/6313 Contemporary Bible Exposition

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Division of Pastoral Ministries

Spring 2017

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Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

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 Characteristic Excellence – What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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 curriculum competencies addressed in this course is: Biblical Exposition.

Course Description

This advanced course addresses the practice of expository preaching in the contemporary culture by treating subjects such as current resources for biblical exposition, the use of multimedia and other creative delivery formats, the ministries of selected contemporary Bible expositors, and the relationship between the history of expository preaching and contemporary practice. Emphasis is given in the course to meeting the tension between time-tested principles of biblical exposition and the nature of contemporary listeners. Prerequisite: PREA5300 Proclaiming the Bible.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course the student should:

1. Be able to identify significant implications of the history of preaching for contemporary practice;
2. Be able to analyze and interpret selected characteristics of modern culture which have implications for contemporary preaching;
3. Be able to evaluate selected sermonic and delivery forms for doing creative Bible exposition, including the use of multimedia and other technological resources;
4. Understand the philosophy and practice of selected contemporary expositors;
5. Have a working knowledge of selected resources available to aid the minister in preaching and teaching the Bible.

Textbooks

Required Textbooks

Johnston, Graham. *Preaching to a Postmodern World: A Guide to Reaching Twenty-First Century Listeners*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

Smith, Steven W. *Dying to Preaching: Embracing the Cross in the Pulpit*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2009.

Supplemental Textbooks

- Eswine, Zack. *Preaching to a Post-Everything World*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.
- Gibson, Scott, ed. *Preaching to a Shifting Culture*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2004.
- Kalas, J. Ellsworth. *Preaching in an Age of Distraction*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2014.
- 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.
- Stott, John. *Between Two Worlds: The Challenge of Preaching Today*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982.

Course Teaching Methodology

This course will be composed of class lectures and discussions led by the professor, independent study on the part of the students, and class presentations by the students.

Course Requirements

1. Submit a two-page (or less) single-spaced **annotated analysis** for each of the two required textbooks and one book chosen by the student from the supplemental textbooks. Each analysis should give a correct bibliographic listing of the book with its associated annotations, which answer the following questions:

- a. What is a concise summary of the text?
- b. What is the significance of this text concerning contemporary preaching?
- c. What are one or more significant developments in the text concerning contemporary preaching?
- d. What, if any, criticism can be made of the text's usefulness in understanding contemporary preaching?

Each analysis should have a cover page. **The analyses are due March 7th.** The student should be prepared to discuss the required and supplemental textbooks in the class sessions.

2. Oral Report: Each student will do a brief oral report on a contemporary Bible preacher (specific preacher must be cleared with the professor). The report should address the preacher's philosophy and practice of preaching with a special emphasis on how he meets the tension of biblical integrity and contemporary relevance in his preaching. The student may conduct a face-to-face interview or a phone interview with the particular preacher whom he selects as well as glean insight from any published material or recorded messages of the preacher which he has chosen to study. **The oral report will be conducted in class and should be approximately twenty minutes in length. Students will sign up to deliver his or her report on one of the dates listed in the course schedule.**

3. Major Project & Presentation: Each student taking PREA6213 will complete the research paper, assignment "3a." Each student taking PREA6313 will complete both of the following assignments.

- a) Write a 15-25 page **research paper** on one cultural issue, doctrinal issue, or contemporary situation which must be considered by contemporary Bible expositors (specific subject should be cleared with instructor). The paper should address the nature of the issue or situation and offer suggestions as to how the expositor should respond to the specific issue or situation, perhaps citing the method and influence of the contemporary Bible preacher on whom the student reported in class. Based on the research, prepare a **preaching series** made up of 6-8 sermon briefs. The briefs should consist of summary material of the foundational elements (text, CIT, proposition, purpose, title, etc.), main points and sub points, a verbatim introduction and conclusion, and should bear some influence of the homiletic of the contemporary Bible preacher on whom the student reported. Careful exegesis, sermon form, and creative elements will be assessed. The sermon briefs must be solid biblical exposition and follow the the sermon brief form in this syllabus. **One of the sermons will be chosen by the student and delivered in class (approximately 30 minutes in duration).** The form of the paper should be according to Turabian (8th edition), including a title page, table of contents, and bibliography of resources used in the study. The paper should be submitted via email to the professor no later than **April 18th. Students will sign up to deliver the sermon on one of the dates listed in the course schedule.**

- b)** Write a 15-25 page **paper** that discusses one preacher from the past (must be approved by professor). The paper is to consist of four main parts: (1) a life and times sketch of the historical pastor/preacher and historical context, (2) a philosophy of pastoral/preaching ministry section of the historical pastor/preacher, (3) the implications for contemporary preachers, (4) comparison of similarities and differences between the approach of the historical pastor/preacher and the contemporary preacher discussed from assignment #2, noting their approaches to biblical preaching in their specific contexts. The form of the paper should be according to Turabian (8th edition), including a title page, table of contents, and bibliography of resources used in the study. This assignment is due no later than **May 2nd**.

Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Course Participation	10%
Book Analyses	25%
Oral Report	25%
Major Project/Presentation	40%

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 Turabian 8th edition. All written assignments must be Word documents, written in third person unless otherwise instructed, and created in 12 pt. Times New Roman font. PDFs will not be accepted.

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 2015-2016 catalog.

A 93-100	B 85-92	C 77-84	D 70-76	F 69 and below
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Late Work: Assignments are due by midnight on the 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 professors.*** 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 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 professors 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

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.

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:
Jan 24	Syllabus Overview Class Introduction	
Jan 31	A Philosophy of Biblical Exposition: Biblical and Historical Foundations	
Feb 7	Library/Reading Day	
Feb 14	Review of the Foundations of Biblical Exposition: Text-Driven Preaching	
Feb 21	Understanding Genre-Sensitive Preaching: Text-Driven Creativity	
Feb 28	Authority, Eloquence, and Application in Biblical Exposition	
Mar 7	Creativity in Delivery and the Use of Multimedia in Biblical Exposition	Annotated Analysis Due
Mar 13-19	SPRING BREAK	
Mar 21	Contemporary Bible Expositors Presentations: Student Oral Presentations (in-class)	
Mar 28	Contemporary Bible Expositors Presentations: Student Oral Presentations (in-class)	
Apr 4	Understanding Contemporary Issues: Characteristics of a Postmodern Culture	
Apr 11	Addressing Contemporary Issues: Strategies or Approaches to Preaching to a Postmodern Culture	
Apr 18	Student Sermons (in-class)	Major Project Research Paper and Sermon Series Briefs Due
Apr 25	Student Sermons (in-class)	
May 2	Discussion of Resources for Contemporary Biblical Exposition and Concluding Matters	Major Project Historical Preacher Research Paper Due (for 6313 Students)
May 5-11	FINAL EXAM WEEK	

Selected Bibliography

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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 (Essence of the Text in a Sentence--state in the past tense):
5. ESS (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

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Body

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

Conclusion

- 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., 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 briefs** required in the creation of the sermon series (6-8 sermons) and the classroom sermon delivery for the major project 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