

**BCPR5500 BCPP Preaching Seminar**  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Division of Pastoral Ministries  
**Adam L. Hughes, PhD**  
Assistant Professor of Expository Preaching  
Dean of Chapel  
Director, Adrian Rogers Center for Expository Preaching  
Phone: 504-816-8443      Email: ahughes@nobts.edu  
July 16-20, 2018

### **Seminary Mission Statement**

The mission of the 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 Servant Leadership. Servant Leadership is defined as “we follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.”

### **Curriculum Competencies**

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following 7 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 are: Biblical Exposition, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership.

### **Course Description**

The seminar is designed to augment the student’s knowledge of preaching concerning the nature of preaching, principles and methods of sermon construction, principles and methods of sermon delivery, resources for preaching, and problems of the preaching ministry, as considered in PREA5300 Proclaiming the Bible and PREA6200 Preaching Practicum. While students are exposed to a variety of approaches to sermon development and sermon delivery, emphasis is given to the expositional process which undergirds the sermon and to the communication dynamics which enhance the preaching event. The prerequisites for participating in this seminar are the completion of at least five undergraduate course hours with a “B” average in each course in the subject areas of preaching and sermon delivery, as well as the approval of the Director of the Baptist College Partnership Program for admission into the seminar.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the seminar, the student will:

1. Describe in an acceptable way the nature of preaching, biblically and historically;
2. Be able to apply principles, methodologies, and resources regarding preaching to sermon development, sermon delivery, and the effective oral interpretation of Scripture;
3. Demonstrate acceptable proficiency in developing and delivering expository sermons based on selected biblical texts, as well as proficiency in doing competent research on assigned topics;
4. Be able to discuss some problems and challenges facing a Christian preaching ministry today;
5. Value the function of the Holy Spirit and personal spiritual formation in preaching.

## Textbooks

The following textbooks are required for this seminar:

Fasol, Al. *A Complete Guide to Sermon Delivery*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1996.

Heisler, Greg. *Spirit-Led Preaching: The Holy Spirit's Role in Sermon Preparation and Delivery*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2007.

McDill, Wayne V. *The Moment of Truth*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1999.

Vines, Jerry, and Jim Shaddix. *Power in the Pulpit: How to Prepare and Deliver Expository Sermons*. Revised ed. Chicago: Moody, 2017.

The following textbooks are recommended reading but are optional for this seminar:

Akin, Daniel L. , David L. Allen, and Ned Mathews, eds. *Text-Driven Preaching: God's Word at the Heart of Every Sermon*. Nashville: B & H Publishing, 2010.

Merida, Tony. *Faithful Preaching: Declaring Scripture with Responsibility, Passion, and Authenticity*. B & H Academic, 2009.

Smith, Steven W. *Recapturing the Voice of God: Shaping Sermons Like Scripture*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2015.

York, Herschel W., and Bert Decker. *Preaching with Bold Assurance: A Solid and Enduring Approach to Engaging Exposition*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2003.

## Course Methods

1. Lectures and other methods will be utilized to teach the principles and methodologies of preaching, as well as to present various resources available.
2. Research and writing assignments will be required to facilitate experiential learning regarding the course content and objectives.
3. Class and small-group discussions will be used to stimulate personal insights about preaching.
4. Oral reports and the preaching of one sermon will be done in the seminar by students.
5. Conferences with the instructor are invited, in order to promote learning and application of course principles and concepts, and may be accomplished via telephone, e-mail, or office visits.

## Course Requirements

Students are required to do the following assignments:

1. Compile a typed selected bibliography of at least **25** preaching resources: 5--books on preaching (books not listed in this syllabus), 5--biblical study aids for text study and sermon development, 5--books on sermon delivery, 5--periodical articles on preaching, and 5--Internet resources on preaching. **Format:** entries must be in correct Turabian form and are to be listed **alphabetized** under the applicable resource heading (and **headings must be in the order listed herein**).
2. Submit a typed, single-spaced, **five-page** (or less) **annotated analysis** on the four required course textbooks by Fasol, Heisler, McDill, and Vines and Shaddix, plus one book on preaching selected by the student. **Format:** the analysis **must give a correct bibliographical listing** of each of the five books, with each book's 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?

A cover page is to be used, but do not include an intervening blank page.

3. Prepare a typed, single-spaced, **two-page** (or less) **theology of preaching**, which gives **biblical** references (i.e., 2-5 biblical references per topic) **and** discusses these topics: the calling to preach, the nature of preaching, the Bible as the Word of God, the preacher, the nature of the sermon, and the role of the Holy Spirit in preaching. **Format:** each topic is to be taken **in the order** cited herein and is to be listed as a heading followed by its

respective **biblical references** and **discussion**. A cover page is required, but do not include an intervening blank page.

4. Prepare a typed, single-spaced, **two-page** (or less) **philosophy of preaching**, which discusses these topics: biblical text selection, sermon study, sermon development, sermon delivery, preaching with or without notes, audience analysis, preaching resources, and spiritual preparation for preaching. **Format**: same as the theology paper, **except** that **biblical** references are **not** to be cited and discussed. A cover page is required, but do not include an intervening blank page.

5. Prepare and deliver **one** preaching presentation of **fifteen to eighteen minutes in duration**, based on an **Old Testament** passage (selected by the student from any of the following Old Testament books: Genesis through Psalms) or based on a **New Testament** passage (selected by the student from any of the following New Testament books: Matthew through Acts). Twenty-four hours prior to their scheduled classroom presentation, students are also to post a sermon brief of their preaching presentation in the Assignment menu on Blackboard following the format of **the rhetorical sermon brief form in this syllabus (other formats will not be accepted)**. On the day assigned for their classroom presentation, students are to bring a printed copy of their sermon brief to class to give to the professor and may dress in business casual attire (as described by the professor). The preaching presentation grade will be an average of the student's presentation, critique of student feedback forms, and sermon brief.

6. Submit a typed (single-spaced) **preaching project** on the biblical book of Colossians, consisting of the following:

a. Sermon Study Section.

(1). Personally developed, typed, **one-page outline** of Colossians (by chapters and verses).

(2). Personal **study notes** typed on each chapter of Colossians (not to exceed four pages total).

b. Sermon Development Section.

(1). **Four** typed **sermon briefs** based on sermon texts from **four different** chapters in Philipians (and in accordance with the Sermon Brief form attached herein).

(2). **Four** completed **sermon study notes forms**, one for **each** of the four sermon briefs in Colossians (please see the attached Sermon Study Notes form attached herein). **Note**: students may use this form to submit the personal study notes required on each chapter of Colossians.

(3). One typed **sermon manuscript** (not to exceed six pages **double-spaced**) developed from one of the three sermon briefs.

**Preaching Project Format**: The preaching project should be prepared as a composite paper with each section and the required components clearly identified. A cover page is required, but do not include an intervening blank page.

Information regarding the development of the personal **study notes** component and the study notes form will be given in class. Information is also provided in Vines and Shaddix, pp. 139-79.

7. Prepare and video record **one** preaching presentation of **fifteen to eighteen minutes in duration**, based on a passage from Colossians (i.e., developed by the student from one of the four sermon briefs in the Colossians preaching project). Students are free to choose either casual attire or a suit for the presentation. The presentation must be recorded as a video and posted on YouTube, in accordance with instructions provided by the professor. The preaching presentation grade will be an average of the student's presentation, critique of student feedback forms, and sermon brief.

### **Course Final Exam**

Students must take a final exam in accordance with the course schedule. The final exam will be an open-book, take-home exam, and questions will come from the class presentations, required textbooks, and assignments. The exam will also include an individual assessment by students of the personal accomplishments by students of two course learning outcomes from the syllabus.

### **Evaluation of Grade**

Students will be provided with some handouts and verbal instructions by the course instructor to aid their development of the course assignments. Sermon briefs must follow the attached syllabus form, and **all major points of**

**sermons must be referenced to Scripture** and show the Scripture reference associated with each main point on each sermon brief. All course objectives will be evaluated through the grading of the course assignments and examinations. Student participation and behavior in class and small-group discussions will also be factors in evaluation and grading.

The student's final grade will be determined as follows:

1. Selected bibliography	10%
2. Annotated analysis	10%
3. Theology of preaching	10%
4. Philosophy of preaching	10%
5. Classroom preaching presentation	15%
6. Preaching project	20%
7. Colossians video sermon	15%
8. Final exam	10%

### **Absences and Late Assignments**

The NOBTS policy on absences (rf., current Graduate Catalog) will be followed during the course. When emergencies exist, the student may petition the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies for permission to remain in class with an excessive absence.

Assignments are due to be submitted in class or by e-mail on the date specified in this syllabus. Those 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** without permission. Note: the final exam may **not** be submitted late.

### **Course Schedule and Assignments**

Course topics will be as follows:

Introduction

The Nature of Preaching: Biblically and Historically

Preparation for Preaching: Role of the Holy Spirit, Spiritual Preparation, and Preaching Resources

The Process of Expository Preaching: Sermon Study and Sermon Development

Oral Interpretation of Scripture

Fundamentals of Voice and Vocal Care

Proclamation of Expository Sermons: Audience Analysis, Sermon Delivery, and Media Technology

The Christian Preaching Ministry: Contemporary Problems and Challenges

Course Conclusion

The following **pre-seminar assignments** are due on the first day of class (at the beginning of class):

1. Theology of Preaching
2. Philosophy of Preaching

The following assignments are due **during the seminar** on these days (at the beginning of class):

1. Classroom Preaching Presentation—due as assigned by the professor\*
2. Selected Bibliography—due Friday, July 20

The following **post-seminar assignments** are due on these days (no later than midnight):

1. Annotated Analysis— due July 28 (submit only by email to [ahughes@nobts.edu](mailto:ahughes@nobts.edu))
2. Preaching Project—due August 4 (submit only by email to [ahughes@nobts.edu](mailto:ahughes@nobts.edu))
3. Colossians Video Sermon—due to be posted on YouTube no later than August 11.

**\*Note:** the schedule for student preaching presentations will be available on the second day of class.

The **final exam** will be available on **August 7** and will be **due** no later than **midnight, August 14, only** by email to [ahughes@nobts.edu](mailto:ahughes@nobts.edu).

## Selected Bibliography

- Akin, Daniel L., David L. Allen, and Ned L. Matthews, eds. *Text-Driven Preaching: God's Word at the Heart of Every Sermon*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2010.
- Akin, Daniel L. Bill Curtis, and Stephen Rummage. *Engaging Exposition*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2011.
- Allen, David L. *Preaching Tools: An Annotated Survey of Commentaries and Preaching Resources for Every Book of the Bible*. Fort Worth: Seminary Hill Press, 2014.
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- Arthurs, Jeffrey D. *Devote Yourself to the Public Reading of Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic, 2012.
- Awbrey, Ben. *How Effective Sermons Begin*. Scotland: Mentor, 2008.
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- Edwards, J. Kent. *Deep Preaching: Creating Sermons That Go Beyond the Superficial*. B & H Academic,

- Ennis, Paul. *The Moody Handbook of Theology: Revised and Expanded*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2014.
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- Eswine, Zack. *Preaching to a Post-Everything World: Crafting Biblical Sermons That Connect with Our Culture*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.
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- Farris, Stephen. *Preaching That Matters*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998.
- Fasol, Al. *A Complete Guide to Sermon Delivery*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1996.
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- Galli, Mark, and Craig Brian Larson. *Preaching that Connects: Using the Techniques of Journalists to Add Impact to Your Sermons*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1994.
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- \_\_\_\_\_. *Preaching with a Plan*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2012.
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- Johnston, Graham. *Preaching to a Postmodern World: A Guide to Reaching Twenty-First Century Listeners*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2001.
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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 (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).

## SERMON STUDY NOTES

Sermon Text (Bible Book/Chapter/Verse or Verses):

Text Analysis:

1. Biblical literature type (prose, poetry, parable, etc. and provide an explanation as to how the characteristics of the genre impact interpretation and the preaching of the text):
2. Structural Diagram (Movement or Scenes for Narratives):

Initial Ideas from Reading the Text:

Subject:

“First Look” ETS/CIT:

Development or Exegetical Outline:

Working Title:

Scripture Cross References:

1. To the sermon text:
2. To individual verses and/or key words of the sermon text:

Word Studies (list text word and verse, explain why you chose the word, give meaning of the word and how it impacts the understanding of the passage, please use parenthetical citation for resources consulted):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Study Aids Notes (list by text verse and study aid resource used):

Insights and Illustrations:

“Final Look” ETS/CIT:

ESS/Proposition:

Sermon Title:

Homiletical or Preaching Outline: