



**BEXP9404 American Preaching**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Pastoral Ministries Division**  
**Fall Semester 2019 (8/30, 10/4, 11/8, 12/6) Fridays 8am-5pm cst**

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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.

**We are here not 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.**

### **Core Value Focus**

The seminary has five core values.

- 1. Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
- 2. Spiritual Vitality:** We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
- 3. 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. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
- 4. 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. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.
- 5. Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom deportment.

The core value focus for this academic year is **Spiritual Vitality**.

## Curriculum Competencies

NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following areas:

1. **Biblical Exposition:** to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
2. **Christian Theological Heritage:** To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
3. **Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.
4. **Interpersonal Skills:** To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.
5. **Servant Leadership:** To serve churches effectively through team ministry.
6. **Spiritual and Character Formation:** To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.
7. **Worship Leadership:** To facilitate worship effectively.

The Curriculum Competencies to be addressed include Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, and Spiritual and Character Formation.

## Student Learning Outcomes

1. To gain an understanding of the theory and practice of the preaching of selected American preachers, as well as the various influences upon their lives and ministries.
2. To assess the primary contributions of selected American preachers to the field of preaching, to their churches, and to their communities.
3. To evaluate the cultural context of various period of American preaching.
4. To discover the unique contributions of American preaching to the field of preaching.

## Course Methods

1. The primary course method will involve student research and the reporting of that research in papers and seminar presentations.
2. Lectures and small-group dialogue will be utilized to enhance and promote personal assimilation and integration of course concepts and content.
3. Student interaction with peers, pastoral ministry resource persons, seminary faculty members, and the course professors are encouraged during the duration of this seminar to facilitate insights about preaching. Conferences with the professor are invited and may be accomplished via telephone, email, or office visits.

## Required Textbook

Witham, Larry. *A City Upon a Hill: How Sermons Changed the Course of American History*. New York: HarperCollins, 2007.

## Supplemental Textbooks

Fant, Clyde, and William Pinson, Jr., *20 Centuries of Great Preaching* (reprint, *A Treasury of Great Preaching*).

Holland, DeWitt T. *Preaching in American History*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1967.

\_\_\_\_\_, *Sermons in American History*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1971.

Larsen, David L. *The Company of the Preachers: A History of Biblical Preaching from the Old Testament to the Modern Era*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1998.

Turnbull, Ralph G. *A History of Preaching*, Vol. 3. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1974.

Wiersbe, Warren and Lloyd Perry. *The Wycliffe Handbook of Preaching and Preachers*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1984.

Wilson, Paul Scott. *A Concise History of Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1992.

## Schedule of Seminar Sessions

**Because the seminar will only meet four times during the semester, students should take careful note of the assignments and the corresponding due dates. All Assignments are to be posted on Blackboard in the appropriate Link and Forum created in Discussion Board. Students are to bring a hard copy of all assignments for Dr. Rice.**

August 30, 2019, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Intro to the Seminar

Critical Analyses of *A City Upon a Hill* (Assignment 1)

October 4, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Book Reviews and Discussion (Assignment 2)

Informal Reports (Assignment 3)

November 8, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Informal Reports (Assignment 3)

Major Papers (Assignment 4)

December 6, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Major Papers (Assignment 4)

Discussion of Insights from American Preaching

Submission of Final Exam

## Seminar Assignments

Each seminar participant will complete **ALL** of the following:

1. Each seminar member is to write a **Critical Analysis** of *A City Upon a Hill*, three-page single-spaced paper typed in seminar Turabian format which utilizes parenthetical references. A cover page is to be used, but a blank page is not to be included. The analysis should include the following:
  - a. Complete bibliographic listing and author sketch
  - b. A summary of the book's contents, not to exceed three paragraphs
  - c. A discussion of the main contributions of the book for American Preaching
  - d. A discussion of the five most surprising insights of the book regarding American Preaching.
2. Each seminar member is to read **two** other books pertaining to American preaching from the seventeenth through twenty-first centuries, write a critical analysis **for each**, and report on **one** of those books (please see supplemental textbooks and the syllabus bibliography pertaining to American Preaching). Oral reports are to consist of a *twenty-minute* (or less) presentation, accompanied with a three-page single-spaced paper typed in seminar Turabian format which utilizes parenthetical references. The paper should consist of the components listed above. A cover page is to be used, but a blank page is not to be included. **\*\*The book you report on will be approved by the instructor on a first come basis.**
3. **Informal Reports** on four (4) of the *Special Issues of American Preaching*, selected from the list below, with no more than two (2) from the same century. Each Informal Report is to be 3-4 pages, single-spaced, a space between each single-spaced paragraph, informal writing style, but no first person. References using footnotes, at least 6 sources consulted with bibliographic entries attached. Each Informal Report should include:
  - a. the historical and cultural context of the issue.
  - b. key personalities (2 or 3) involved in the issue and a brief biographical profile on each
  - c. major implications of the issue in American Preaching

**Note: Choices of the four special issues are to be emailed to Dr. Rice for approval, first-come, first-served basis. Informal reports will be presented as oral reports of approximately twenty (20) minutes in length. A list of special issues begins on p.6 of this syllabus.**

4. Each seminar member is to present an oral and written analysis of **one** significant American preacher. Oral reports are to be *thirty minutes* (or less), while written papers are not to exceed thirty double-spaced pages and are to be typed in correct Turabian term-paper format with footnotes. The paper should consist of these components: life and times sketch (including educational background and pastorates), theology, preaching, and contributions to the field of preaching. The professor must approve each student's selection of a preacher to research.

**Note: Choices of preachers are to be emailed to Dr. Rice for approval, first-come, first-served basis. Dr. Rice will make the assignments according to the date and time chronology of the email.**

\*\*Each seminar member will serve as the primary reviewer for one of the other papers (requirement 4). Assignments will be made on the first day of the seminar. **All seminar members** are required to submit a 2 page review of each paper, with the following issues addressed: form/style/grammar, bibliography, organization, logic flow, and quality of research/content. A copy goes to the paper's author and to the professor.

5. Each seminar member is to submit a typed (single-spaced) final exam on the last seminar day. The final exam is to consist of the following components:
  - a. A two-page (or less) discussion of two or more transferable concepts and principles for contemporary preaching theory from this seminar study of American preaching;
  - b. A two-page (or less) annotated bibliography of five books which supplement the seminar syllabus bibliography on American preaching during the seventeenth and earlier, eighteenth, nineteenth centuries, and twentieth centuries. Each book's annotation should summarize and evaluate in no more than one to two paragraphs.
  - c. A two-page (or less) listing of helpful print and electronic resources pertaining to American preaching during the seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth, and twenty-first centuries. The listing must include a minimum of five print resources (i.e., journals and/or periodicals—but not books) and five electronic resources (e.g., electronic books, journals, or newsletters; audio or video tapes; CD-Rom or other diskettes; preaching websites—but no more than three such websites).

### **Research and Writing Guidelines**

1. All research should be documented from original sources as much as possible.
2. The use of secondary sources for documentation should be limited to reputable writers, researchers, and publishers (e.g., be careful concerning Internet websites).
3. Dissertations and theses may be referenced, but they should not constitute the majority of the resources consulted nor of the content formulated in written reports (except in the dissertation abstract assignment).
4. Interviews may be utilized for content formulation and documentation with regard to original and secondary documentation, but should not constitute the majority of the resources consulted nor of the content formulated in written reports without permission of the professors.
5. Written papers should conform to the eighth edition of *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* by Kate L. Turabian, except as noted in the delineation of individual seminar assignments.

## **Grade Determination**

Critical Analysis	10%
Second and Third Analysis	20%
Informal Reports	20%
Major Paper	30%
Final Exam	20%

## **SPECIAL ISSUES IN AMERICAN PREACHING**

### Eighteenth Century:

- Impact of Preaching on the American Revolution
- Emergence of Theological Schools
- Influences of Puritanism on American Preaching
- Preaching in the First Great Awakening
- Election Day Sermons

### Nineteenth Century:

- Preaching in Second Great Awakening (contrast with preaching in the First Great Awakening)
- Slavery and Preaching
- North Carolina Baptists and Slavery
- The Baptist Farmer Preacher
- The Origin and Development of the Southern Baptist Convention
- Mass Evangelism (Finney, Moody)
- Darwinism and Preaching
- Horace Bushnell and Christian Nurture
- The Social Gospel
- Contributions of John A. Broadus

### Twentieth Century:

- Fundamentalism and Modernism (Fosdick, McCartney)
- Psychological Preaching (Peal, Oates, Shuler)
- The Electronic Church (Falwell, Shuler, Sheen)
- Televangelism and the influence of Billy Graham
- Women in the Pulpit
- African-American Preaching
- The Holy Spirit and Preaching (Olford)
- Civil Rights Preaching (King)
- End Times Preaching (Lindsey, Hagee)
- The Issue of War on American Culture (Claypool, Graham)

## Twenty-first Century

- Post Modernism
- The New Homiletic
- The Prominence of Megachurches
- Podcasts and Web-based Sermons
- Downloadable Sermons for Preaching
- Catastrophic Crises /Global Tensions
- Preaching and American Politics
- Moral/Legal issues and Family Values
- Preaching in the New Millennium
- Apologetic Preaching
- The Multi-site Movement
- The Expanse of Church Planting
- The Urgency of Church Revitalization

## **SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Andrews, Charles M. *The Colonial Period of American History*, 1934.

Beard, Charles A. *History of the United States*, 1933.

Hart, Albert B. *Epochs of American History*, 1926

Jameson, Franklin P. *The American Revolution Considered as a Social Movement*, 1951.

Johnson, A. and D. Malone, editors. *A Dictionary of American Biography*. 21 Vols. 1928-1940.

Johnson, Paul M. *A History of the American People*, 1999.

Marty, Martin E. *Pilgrims in Their Own Land: 500 Years of Religion in American*, 1985.

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## **II. Religion in American**

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Albanese, Catherine. *America: Religions and Religion*, Third Edition, 2006

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### **III. American Preaching**

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- Jones, Edgar D. *American Preachers of Today*, 1933.
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