



**BEXP9401 Patristic and Reformation Preaching**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Division of Church Ministry**  
**Fall 2020**  
**(Class meets 9/4, 10/2, 11/6, 12/4)**

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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.

- 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 **Mission Focus**.

**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 addressed in this course are: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, and Interpersonal Skills.

### **Purpose of the Course, Core Value Focus, and Curriculum Competencies Addressed**

The purpose of this seminar is to provide quality theological education for students in the discipline of pastoral ministries. The core value focus of the course will emphasize Mission Focus.

### **Course Description**

In this seminar, significant developments in preaching during the Patristic and Reformation periods will be explored through contextual and biographical research as well as analysis of sermons. Attention will be given to such preachers as Augustine, Chrysostom, Luther, and Calvin.

### **Student Learning Objectives**

By the end of the seminar, the student will:

1. Be able to articulate an understanding of the important contextual issues related to preaching in the Patristic and Reformation periods in church history;
2. Be able to isolate the critical transitional factors in preaching associated with each period;
3. Master the prevailing theories of preaching of each period;
4. Develop an instrument for analyzing sermons from each period that reflects sensitivity to the prevailing theories of preaching;
5. Critique the sermons of selected Patristic and Reformation preachers; and
6. Be able to interpret transferable principles from research for contemporary preaching theory.

### **Course Methods**

1. The primary course method will involve student research and the reporting of that research in papers and seminar presentations. Students are expected to be knowledgeable of basic research methodologies and to hone their research skills beyond the basic level.

2. Historical background papers will be presented as a means to providing a context for the study of prevailing preaching theories and representative preachers.
3. Research papers on selected preachers of each period will be presented in order to propose transferrable principles for contemporary preaching theory.
4. Small-group discussions will be utilized to enhance and promote personal assimilation and integration of course concepts and content. Students are expected to be active participants in seminar discussions.
5. Student interaction with peers, preaching resource persons, seminary faculty members, and the course instructor are encouraged during the duration of this class to facilitate insights about the use of style in contemporary preaching. Conferences with the instructor are invited and may be accomplished via telephone, e-mail, or office visits.
6. Library and other resources will be referenced in seminar sessions and in the reporting of research.

### **Textbooks**

Due to the varied texts available in the scope of seminar study, no particular texts will be required. Students are encouraged to explore the variety of resources pertaining to Christian preaching during the Patristic through Reformation periods. However, students should examine a number of resources (books, journal articles, and dissertations) on the preaching during these periods. Students are expected to have read appropriate sections in:

Augustine of Hippo. *On Christian Doctrine*

Brilioth, Yngve. *A Brief History of Preaching*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1965.

Broadus, John. *Lectures on the History of Preaching*. New York: Sheldon & Co., 1876.

Dargan, Edwin Charles. *A History of Preaching*. Vol. 1. New York: Hodder & Stoughton, 1905.

\_\_\_\_\_. *A History of Preaching*. Vol. 2. New York: Hodder & Stoughton, 1912.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Art of Preaching in the Light of its History*. NP: Forgotten Books and BiblioLife, 2012.

Dodd, C. H. *The Apostolic Preaching and Its Developments*. New York: Harper & Row, 1964; reprint Grand Rapids: Baker, 1980.

Dunn-Wilson, David. *A Mirror for the Church: Preaching in the First Five Centuries*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005.

Edwards, O.C. Jr. *A History of Preaching*. Vol. 1. Nashville: Abingdon, 2004.

Fant, Clyde E., Jr., and William M. Pinson Jr. *Twenty Centuries of Great Preaching*. 13 Vols. Waco: Word, 1976; now published as *A Treasury of Great Preaching*. Dallas: Word, 1995.

Goodspeed, Edgar J. *A History of Early Christian Literature*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1942.

Holland, DeWitte T. *The Preaching Tradition: A Brief History*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1980.

Irenaeus. *Demonstration of the Apostolic Preaching*. NP: CreateSpace, 2007.

Jones, Edgar Dewitt. *The Royalty of the Pulpit*. New York: Harper, 1951.

Kerr, Hugh Thomson. *Preaching in the Early Church*. New York: Revell, 1942.

Lake, Kirsopp. *The Apostolic Fathers*. Vol. 2. New York: Macmillan Co., 1912-1948.

- 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.
- Lischer, Richard, ed. *The Company of Preachers*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 2002.
- Mounce, Robert. *The Essential Nature of New Testament Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1960; reprint Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2005.
- Old, Hughes Oliphant. *The Reading and Preaching of the Scriptures in the Worship of the Christian Church*. Vols. 1-5 (of 7). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998, 1999, 2002, 2004.
- Pattison, T. Harwood. *The History of Preaching*. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society, 1903.
- Stanfield, V.L. *Notes on the History of Preaching*. New Orleans: NOBTS, 1963.
- Turnbull, Ralph G. *A History of Preaching*. Vol. 3. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1974.
- Wainwright, Geoffrey and Karen B. Westerfield Tucker, eds. *The Oxford History of Christian Worship*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006.
- Wells, C. Richard and A. Boyd Luter. *Inspired Preaching: A Survey of Preaching Found in the New Testament*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2002.
- Wiersbe, Warren W. *Listening to the Giants*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1980.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Walking with the Giants*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1976.
- Wiersbe, Warren, and Lloyd M. Perry. *The Wycliffe Handbook of Preaching and Preachers*. Chicago: Moody Press: 1984.
- Wilson, Paul Scott. *A Concise History of Preaching*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1992.

The books listed in the Selected Bibliography may be helpful for specific periods, cultures, and preachers.

### **Seminar Requirements**

1. Each student will prepare a detailed, annotated bibliography of primary resources for one of the Ancient through Reformation periods of preaching, including the major social conditions; political, theological, and congregational issues; theories of homiletics; biographical, as well as sermonic materials and collections. Selections of the specific period will be on a first-come first served basis and will be the responsibility of the student in consultation with the professor. The student will deliver a 45-minute presentation using appropriate adult learning aids, teaching the content and conclusions of his research.

PRESENTATION: Sept 4

2. Each student will present a 2500-word research paper on the historical background of a segment of the above period of preaching. The research will include the major social conditions; political, theological, and congregational issues; and theories of homiletics. The student will deliver a 60-minute presentation using appropriate adult learning aids, teaching the content and conclusions of his research.

PRESENTATION: Oct 2

3. Each student will present a 3500-word research paper on two selected preachers from his previously researched period of preaching. The research will include biographical, as well as specific sermonic research; analysis of the preacher's engagement with the prevalent social, political, theological, and congregational issues; observations of the preacher's use or neglect of

the contemporary homiletical theories; and possible transferrable principles for contemporary preaching theory. Selection of the preacher will be the responsibility of the student in consultation with the professor. The student will deliver a 90-minute presentation using appropriate adult learning aids, teaching the content and conclusions of his research.

PRESENTATION: Nov 6 and Dec 4

\*\*Electronic Copies of each student's work will be distributed to everyone in the seminar at least **ONE WEEK PRIOR** to the student's presentation via Discuss Boards in Blackboard. Each student is expected to have read and become familiar with the research scheduled for the day's presentation and come to the seminar prepared to engage in thoughtful, informed discussion in response to the paper and presentation. All papers and in-class presentations will also be posted in the appropriate sections of the course Blackboard.

\*\*Each seminar member will serve as the primary reviewer for one of the other papers (requirements 2 and 3). 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.

4. Each member of the seminar 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 discussion of six to eight significant historical preachers from the Ancient through the Reformation periods and the contribution of each to the field of preaching and theories of homiletics;
  - b. A two-page discussion of transferable concepts and principles for contemporary and future development of the art of preaching from the Patristic and Reformation periods in regards to the use of homiletical theories in expository preaching and in addressing political, theological, and congregational issues, which reflects an assimilation and integration of seminar concepts, principles, and research regarding the field;
  - c. A three-page (or less) annotated bibliography of ten helpful books on Patristic and Reformation Preaching which supplements the syllabus bibliography (each annotation should summarize and evaluate);
  - d. A three-page (or less) annotated bibliography of eight journal articles and two dissertations helpful regarding Patristic and Reformation Preaching (each annotation should summarize and evaluate).

### **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 NOBTS Manual of Form and Style and the ninth 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. 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:

<https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>

### **Seminar Grade**

The final grade for each seminar participant will be determined as follows:

Annotated Bibliography	20%
Historical/Contextual Paper and Presentation	25%
Biographical/Homiletical Paper and Presentation	35%
Paper Reviews	10%
Final Exam	10%

Participation of members will also be a factor considered in the determination of the final grade.

### **Schedule of Seminar Sessions**

September 4 8-11am; 1-5pm	Introduction to the Seminar Syllabus Overview Review the nature of professional research Presentations of Annotated Bibliographies
September 25	DUE: Historical/Contextual Papers
October 2 8-11am; 1-5pm	Presentations: Historical/Contextual Papers
October 30	DUE: Biographical/Homiletical Papers (Group 1)
November 6 8-11am; 1-5pm	Presentations: Biographical/Homiletical Papers (Group 1)
November 27	DUE: Biographical/Homiletical Papers (Group 2)
December 4 8-11am; 1-5pm	DUE: Final Exam Submissions Presentations: Biographical/Homiletical Papers (Group 2)

## Technical Assistance

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

1. [BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System [NOBTS.Blackboard.com](http://NOBTS.Blackboard.com).
2. [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
3. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

## 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.

## Selected Bibliography

(An extensive, annotated bibliography will be developed by each student.)

- Adams, Jonathan and Jussi Hanska, eds. *The Jewish-Christian Encounter in Medieval Preaching*. New York: Routledge, 2015.
- Atwood, Ray E. *Masters of Preaching*. Lanham, MD: Hamilton Books, 2012.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Masters of Preaching: Vol. 2*. Lanham, MD: Hamilton Books, 2014.
- Bailey, Lisa Kaaren. *Christianity's Quiet Success: The Eusebius Gallicanus Sermon Collection and the Power of the Church in Late Antique Gaul*. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 2010.
- Caravale, Giorgio. *Preaching and Inquisition in Renaissance Italy: Words on Trial*. Leiden: Brill, 2016.
- Cole, Penny J. *The Preaching of the Crusades to the Holy Land, 1095-1270*. Cambridge, MA: The Medieval Academy of America, 1991.
- Crew, Phyllis Mack. *Calvinist Preaching and Iconoclasm in the Netherlands 1544-1569*. London: Cambridge University Press, 1978.
- Driver, Martha and Veronica O'Mara, eds. *Preaching the Word in Manuscript and Print in Late Medieval England*. Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2013.
- Hunter, David G. *Preaching in the Patristic Age: Studies in Honor of Walter J. Burghardt, S.J.* Mahwah, NJ: Paulist, 1989.
- Jansen, Katherine L. and Miri Rubin, eds. *Charisma and Religious Authority: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Preaching, 1200-1500*. Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2010.
- Ker, John and A.R. Macewen. *Lectures on the History of Preaching*. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1888; reprint NP: Forgotten Books and BiblioLife, 2009.
- Lesnick, Daniel R. *Preaching in Medieval Florence: The Social World of the Franciscan and Dominican Spirituality*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2012.

- Maier, Christoph T. *Crusade Propaganda and Ideology*. Cambridge: University Press, 2000.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Preaching the Crusades: Mendicant Friars and the Cross in the Thirteenth Century*. Cambridge: University Press, 1994.
- McCullough, Peter. *Sermons at Court: Politics and Religion in Elizabethan and Jacobean Preaching*. London: Cambridge University Press, 1998.
- McGowen, Andrew B. *Ancient Christian Worship*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2014.
- Muzzarelli, Maria Giuseppina. *From Words to Deeds: The Effectiveness of Preaching in the Late Middle Ages*. Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2014.
- Neale, J.M. *Mediaeval Preaching and Mediaeval Preaching*. London: Aeterna Press, 2014.
- Owst, G.R. *Preaching in Medieval England: An Introduction to Sermon Manuscripts of the Period c. 1350-1450*. London: Cambridge University Press, 2010.
- Sanlon, Peter T. *Augustine's Theology of Preaching*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2014.
- Satterlee, Craig Alan. *Ambrose of Milan's Method of Mystagogical Preaching*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2002.
- Siggins, Ian D.K. *A Harvest of Medieval Preaching: The Sermon Books of Johann Herolt, OP (Discipulus)*. Bloomington, IN: Xlibris, 2009.
- Taylor, Larissa J. ed. *Preachers and People in the Reformations and Early Modern Period*. Leiden: Brill Academic, 2003.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Soldiers of Christ: Preaching in Late Medieval and Reformation France*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.
- Wabuda, Susan. *Preaching During the English Reformation*. Cambridge Studies in Early Modern British History. London: Cambridge University Press, 2002.
- Wenzel, Siegfried. *The Art of Preaching: Five Medieval Texts and Translations*. Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America, 2013.
- \_\_\_\_\_, transl. *Preaching in the Age of Chaucer: Selected Sermons in Translation*. Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America, 2008.