



BEXP9406 The Art of Biblical Exposition
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Fall 2021
(Class meets 9/2, 9/30, 11/4, 12/2)

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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.

Course Description

A study is made of the development of the art of preaching, giving special attention to definitive works.

Seminar Learning Outcomes

By the end of the seminar, the student will:

1. Be able to list significant homiletical advancements, definitive works, and important preachers contributing to the development of the art of preaching;
2. Be able to discuss knowledgeably the historic context, preaching, and published works of significant preachers and teachers of preaching and their contributions to the art of preaching;
3. Be able to describe transferable concepts and principles for contemporary and future development of the art of preaching;
4. Value the historic and contemporary development of the art of preaching.

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. 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.
3. Student interaction with peers, preaching resource persons, seminary faculty members, and the course instructor are encouraged during the duration of this course to facilitate insights about the art of preaching and its development. Conferences with the instructor are invited and may be accomplished via telephone, e-mail, or office visits.
4. Library and Internet resources will be referenced in seminar sessions and in the reporting of research.

Textbooks

Students are encouraged to explore the variety of resources pertaining to historic and contemporary preaching. Due to the large number of texts available in the field of study, no particular texts will be required. However, students should examine a number of resources (books, dissertations, and journal articles) on the art of preaching. The texts listed in the Selected Bibliography will be helpful.

Seminar Requirements

1. Each seminar member is to read **two** books important to the development of the art of preaching, submit a typed analysis paper of **five** pages (or less) on each book, and report on **one** of those books (please see the syllabus bibliography). The reports are to be both oral and written. Oral reports are to consist of a **twenty-minute** (or less) presentation, accompanied with the **five-page** paper (or less). The paper should be single-spaced and consist of these components: heading (complete bibliographic listing), author sketch, book purpose, historic context, content summary, and personal evaluation of the book's contribution to the art of preaching. Copies of the written reports are to be distributed to the seminar participants by the time of presentation. A cover page is to be included, but blank pages are not to be included. Parenthetical citation is allowed for this assignment
PRESENTATION: Sept 2
2. Each seminar member is to present **one** minor paper on a topic related to the art of preaching and its development. Topic possibilities include (but are not limited to) the following: the sermon text and its selection, sermon forms in the history of preaching, the classification of sermons, the relationship of text form to sermon form, the relationship of sermon delivery to sermon development, the relationship of pastoral ministry to preaching, functional sermon elements, media-aided preaching, architecture and preaching, open-air preaching, the audience and preaching, culture and preaching, rhetoric and preaching, communication theory and preaching, the Holy Spirit and preaching, the relationship and influence of worship on the art of preaching, the influence of preaching lectureships on the art of preaching, the influence of homiletical texts and journals on the art of preaching, seminary education and the art of preaching, and the preacher's personality and gifts. Oral reports are to be **twenty minutes** (or less), while written papers are to be **fifteen** pages (or less) and typed double-spaced. Papers should include both classical and contemporary resources, when appropriate. Copies of the report with a cover page are to be distributed to all seminar participants one week prior to the time of presentation.
PRESENTATION: Sept 30
3. Each seminar member is to present **one** major research paper on the life and preaching of a significant preacher. The paper is to present research on the preacher's life and times (including educational background and preaching positions), any published sermons and other works related to preaching, an analysis of **five** sermons (note: the analysis of the sermons must utilize a research guide approved by the professor and based on a recognized and respected homiletics text), and contributions to the art of preaching. The major paper should include a cover page, blank page, contents page, selected bibliography, and at least three chapters (introduction, body, and conclusion). The paper should be typed, double-spaced, and less than **forty** pages in total page count. The oral presentation of the paper should be **forty minutes** (or less), and copies of the paper are to be distributed to all seminar participants one week prior to the time of presentation.
PRESENTATION: Nov 4 and Dec 2

Electronic Copies of each student's work will be distributed to everyone in the seminar at least **ONE WEEK PRIOR (except requirement 1) 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 significant homiletical advancements, definitive works, and important preachers contributing to the development of the art of preaching;
 - b. A two-page (or less) discussion of transferable concepts and principles for contemporary and future development of the art of preaching, 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 key books (or six key books and four key Internet sources) on the art of preaching which supplements the seminar syllabus bibliography (each annotation should summarize and evaluate);
 - d. A three-page (or less) annotated bibliography of five key dissertations on the art of 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.
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:

Two Book Reports and Presentation Average	15%
Minor Paper and Presentation	20%

Major Paper and Presentation	40%
Paper Reviews	10%
Final Exam	15%

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

Schedule of Seminar Sessions

September 2 8-11am; 1-5pm	Introduction to the Seminar Research Review/Preliminary Assignments Lecture Discussion: The Art of BE Presentations: Book Reports
September 23	DUE: Minor Papers
September 30 8-11am; 1-5pm	Presentations: Minor Papers
October 28	DUE: Major Papers (Group 1)
November 4 8-11am; 1-5pm	Presentations: Major Papers (Group 1)
November 25	DUE: Major Papers (Group 2)
December 2 8-11am; 1-5pm	DUE: Final Exam Submissions Presentations: Major Papers (Group 2)

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.

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.

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