

**NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
**PREA9401**  
**PATRISTIC AND REFORMATION PREACHING**  
**Spring 2005**  
**1/26, 2/16, 3/9, 3/30, 4/20, 5/11**  
**9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**  
**Argile Smith, Ph.D., Professor**  
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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 VALUES/COMPETENCIES**

Core values addressed: characteristic excellence, spiritual vitality  
Competencies addressed: biblical exposition, worship leadership

**SEMINAR 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.

**SEMINAR OBJECTIVES**

At the conclusion of the seminar, the students should be able to:

1. Articulate an understanding of the important contextual issues related to preaching in the Patristic and Reformation periods in church history.
2. 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

6. Interpret transferable principles from research for contemporary preaching theory

## **SEMINAR METHODOLOGY**

Historical background papers will be presented as a means of providing a context for the study of prevailing preaching theories and representative preachers. Research papers on selected preachers of each period will be presented in order to propose transferrable principles for contemporary preaching theory.

## **SEMINAR TEXTBOOKS**

Although a wide variety of sources will be consulted in the seminar, no specific textbook is assigned.

## **SEMINAR REQUIREMENTS**

1. Each student will present a 2500-word research paper on the historical background of a segment of the Patristic period of preaching. Specific assignments for each paper will be made by the professor.

**Presentation Date: February 16**

2. Each student will present a 3500-word research paper on a selected Patristic preacher. Selection of the preacher will be the responsibility of the student in consultation with the professor.

**Presentation Date: March 9**

3. Each student will present a 2500-word research paper on the historical background of a segment of the Reformation period of preaching. Specific assignments for each paper will be made by the professor.

**Presentation Date: March 30**

4. Each student will present a 2000-word research paper on a selected Reformation preacher. Selection of the preacher will be the responsibility of the student in consultation with the professor.

**Presentation Date: April 20**

5. Each student will present a 1250-word reflection paper that sets forth a description of the major transferable principles from Patristic and Reformation preaching for contemporary preaching theory.

**Presentation Date: May 11**

## **SEMINAR EVALUATION**

Requirement 1 - 20%  
Requirement 2 - 25%  
Requirement 3 - 20%  
Requirement 4 - 25%  
Requirement 5 - 10%

### **SEMINAR SCHEDULE**

January 26 - Introduction to the seminar  
Research assignments

February 16 - Presentation of research papers on the Patristic period

March 9 - Presentation of research papers on selected Patristic preachers

March 30 - Presentation of research papers on the Reformation period

April 20 - Presentation of research papers on selected Reformation preachers

May 11 - Presentation of reflection papers

### **SEMINAR BIBLIOGRAPHY**

An initial bibliography will be provided on the first day of the seminar.