

BESR9304 Supervised Reading Colloquium: Contextual Issues in Biblical Exposition

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

Director, Mentoring Programs in Pastoral Ministries

Phone: 504-816-8443

E-mail: ahughes@nobts.edu

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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.

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

The purpose of this course is to provide for the students quality theological education in the discipline of pastoral ministries. The core value focus of the course will be **Servant Leadership**. The course will address the competencies of Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, and Servant and Worship Leadership.

Course Description

This colloquium is designed to direct Ph.D. students majoring in biblical exposition to explore contextual issues in foundational readings and literary resources which have shaped and are shaping preaching.

Student Objectives

By the end of the course, students will:

1. Be able to identify contextual issues which have shaped preaching.
2. Be able to list key literary resources and discuss knowledgeably important foundational readings containing selected contextual issues.
3. Demonstrate acceptable knowledge of preaching in the subject area of contextual issues in their doctoral qualifying and oral exams.

Course Methods

This colloquium is designed to be a resource-driven learning experience. As such, the professor will direct students in the reading of selected foundational works through reading and writing assignments. Students will also research significant developments reported in key professional journals within the field of preaching. Monthly accountability and sharing sessions with the professor and colloquium students will be held. Conferences with the professor are invited in order to facilitate learning and guide student research. Such conferences may be accomplished via telephone, e-mail, or office appointments.

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks for this course. Students are to obtain the texts necessary to accomplish the course objectives and assignments. A selected bibliography will be provided to students by the professor. Students are also expected to identify and locate key literary resources related to contextual issues in preaching. The professor will assist students in their discussion of literary resources, articles, and papers on contextual issues in preaching.

Course Requirements

Students are required to do the following assignments:

1. Complete a two-page (or less) annotated analysis of **three foundational works** on contextual issues in preaching which the student has not read prior to the colloquium. The professor must approve the student's selections. Each analysis should follow a correct Turabian bibliographic citation of the selected text and answer the following questions:
 - a. What is a concise, one-paragraph summary of the text?
 - b. What is the significance of this text concerning contextual issues in preaching?
 - c. What are one or more significant developments in the text related to contextual issues in preaching?
 - d. What, if any, criticism can be made of the text's usefulness in understanding contextual issues in preaching?

Students will be required to share the annotated analyses in a meeting of the colloquium, as assigned by the professor. Students are expected also to make sufficient copies of the analyses for all colloquium participants.

2. Complete a two-page (or less) annotated analysis of **three homiletics journal articles** on contextual issues in preaching. The professor must approve the student's selections. Each analysis should follow a correct Turabian bibliographic citation of the selected article and answer the following questions:
 - a. What is a concise, one-paragraph summary of the article?
 - b. What is the significance of the article concerning contextual issues in preaching?
 - c. What are one or more significant developments in the article related to contextual issues in preaching?
 - d. What, if any, criticism can be made of the article's usefulness in understanding contextual issues in preaching?

Students will be required to share the annotated analyses in a meeting of the colloquium, as assigned by the professor. Students are expected also to make sufficient copies of the analyses for all colloquium participants.

3. Complete a **selected bibliography** of key literary resources which discuss contextual issues in preaching, as follows:
 - a. Students preparing for their doctoral **qualifying** exam must list **thirty** books in correct Turabian format;
 - b. Students preparing for their doctoral **oral** exam must list **forty** books in correct Turabian format.

Students will be required to share the selected bibliography in a meeting of the colloquium, as assigned by the professor. Students are expected also to make sufficient copies of the bibliography for all colloquium participants.

4. Complete a **list of ten significant contextual issues** which have impacted preaching. The list should identify the issue and its significance, one literary source which discusses the issue, and a brief evaluation of the issue's relevance, if any, to contemporary preaching. Students will be required to share the list in a meeting of the colloquium, as assigned by the professor, and are expected also to make sufficient copies of the list for all colloquium participants.

Evaluation

All course objectives will be evaluated through the grading of the course assignments and presentations. Student participation in the colloquium discussions will also be a factor in evaluation and grading.

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

1. Annotated Analyses of Foundational Works	20%
2. Annotated Analyses of Journal Articles	20%
3. Selected Bibliography	30%
4. Significant Contextual Issues List	30%

Colloquium Schedule

Friday, February 2, 6:00-8:00 P.M., Course Introduction

Friday, March 9, 6:00-8:00 P.M., Annotated Analyses of Foundational Works; Selected Bibliography

Friday, April 6, 6:00-8:00 P.M., Annotated Analyses of Foundational Works/Journal Articles

Friday, May 11, 6:00-8:00 P.M., Annotated Analyses of Journal Articles; Significant Developments List

Absences, Make-up Work, and Late Assignments

Students are not to miss any meetings of the colloquium. In emergency situations, students should notify the professor. Students who are excused by the professor for one colloquium meeting due to an unavoidable emergency will be assigned a topic to research and on which to write a twenty-page research paper for submission on April 20. All assignments are due as scheduled by the professor. Late assignments are not permitted.

Selected Bibliography

The History of Preaching

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General

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- Achtemeir, Elizabeth R. *Creative Preaching: Finding the Right Words*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1980.
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