BESR9304 Contextual Issues in Biblical Exposition
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Church Ministry
Spring 2022 * Thursday * 6:00-8:00 PM (2/3, 3/3, 4/7, 5/5)

Bo Rice, Ph.D.
Dean of Graduate Studies
Associate Professor of Evangelism and Preaching
Gurney Chair of Evangelism and Church Health
Director of Mentoring Programs
Office: Graduate Dean's Office, 1st floor of Frost Bldg.
Phone: (504) 282-4455 x3327
Email: brice@nobts.edu

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
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 Learning Outcomes
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 Teaching Methodology
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 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
Eswine, Zack. *Preaching to a Post-Everything World: Crafting Biblical Sermons That Connect with Our Culture*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2008.

Gibson, Scott M., ed. *The Worlds of the Preacher: Navigating Biblical, Cultural, and Personal Contexts*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2017.

Kim, Matthew D. *Preaching with Cultural Intelligence: Understanding the People Who Hear Our Sermons.* Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2017.

In addition to the three textbooks, students will be required to obtain the resources necessary to accomplish the course objectives and assignments. Students are expected to identify, locate, and familiarize themselves concerning key literary resources related to contextual issues in preaching. The professor will assist students in their discussion of literary resources, journal articles, and papers on contextual issues in preaching.

Course Requirements
Students are required to do the following assignments:

1. Complete a four-page (or less) annotated analysis of **four foundational works** on contextual issues in preaching, three of which will be the required textbooks. The fourth selection should be one that the student has not read prior to the colloquium and must be approved by the professor. 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.

2. Complete a three-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.

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.

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.

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

The student's final grade will be determined as follows:
1. Annotated Analyses of Foundational Works   40%
2. Annotated Analyses of Journal Articles   25%
3. Selected Bibliography   15%
4. Significant Contextual Issues List   20%

Course Schedule

Feb. 3, Course Introduction, Annotated Analyses of **Eswine** and **Gibson** books Due
Mar. 3, Annotated Analyses of **2 remaining Foundational Works** Due; **Selected Bibliography** Due
Apr. 7, Annotated Analyses of **Journal Articles** Due
May 5, Significant **Contextual Issues List** Due

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 May 5. All assignments are due as scheduled by the professor. Late assignments are not permitted.

Technical Assistance
For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:
1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. 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.