



**PREA6356 Preaching Through the OT: Isaiah**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Division of Church Ministry**  
**May Intensive (May 22-25, 2023)**

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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**

Each PREA63XX course addresses preaching approaches to the various themes and emphases found in the Old Testament book under study. Attention is given to the book's purpose, authorship, date of writing, literary structure, genre, first audience, and content outline. Special attention is given to the development of sermons appropriate to the exegetical, theological, and expositional substance of the book. Preferred prerequisites: PREA5300 Proclaiming the Bible, OTEN5351 Interpreting the Old Testament 1, and OTEN5352 Interpreting the Old Testament 2.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course the student who satisfactorily fulfills the requirements should be able to:

1. Identify unique characteristics of Isaiah, as well as its various unique settings;
2. Value the importance of preaching from Isaiah;
3. Know key principles of hermeneutics related to interpreting Isaiah;
4. Determine the distinctive message and other aspects of Isaiah;
5. Understand the concepts, methods, and resources for preaching from Isaiah in order to preach Bible messages which are exegetically accurate, hermeneutically sound, theologically oriented;
6. Value Christian theology in order to express the doctrinal essentials of Isaiah with clarity;
7. Analyze the use of concepts, methods, and resources in the actual preaching from Isaiah in order to relate doctrinal content and human need to each other in a vibrant, relevant manner;
8. Apply the principles of interpretation by developing a sermon series plan;
9. Prepare biblical sermons from Isaiah which are clearly structured, and effective in application to contemporary life;
10. Apply knowledge and comprehension of basic concepts, methods, and resources to preach biblical sermons at a rudimentary level with clarity, interest, and force in order to achieve a positive difference in the lives of the hearers; and
11. Offer and receive constructive evaluation with increased self-understanding.

**Textbooks**

The following textbooks are required:

- Motyer, Alec J. *The Prophecy of Isaiah: An Introduction and Commentary*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1993.
- MacArthur, John F. *Isaiah: The Promise of the Messiah*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2020.

## Course Teaching Methodology

This course will include the following teaching methods: participating in small group and large group discussions, lectures, evaluating and discussing the selected reading material, doing personal research, contributing to course Canvas discussion threads, and preaching sermons.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Oral Presentation: The student will analyze the preaching from Isaiah in the published (written, audio, or video) messages of at least three sermons (not lectures, articles, or books) of one preacher (past or present).

This analysis will be presented by the student in-class and should be approximately twenty (20) minutes total. The student may distribute notes, outlines, media, etc. To avoid duplication, the student will notify the professor of his choices. In the case of duplication it will be “first come, first served.”

CHOICES DUE: May 12

IN-CLASS PRESENTATION: May 24

2. Introduction Paper: The student will write an introduction paper on the book of Isaiah. The paper should include sections covering the following: author, date, genre, significant themes, and structure (which will also include an outline of the book). The paper is to be 12-15 pages, double-spaced and should contain adequate footnotes and a bibliography with a minimum of ten sources.

DUE: June 9

3. Sermon Series: Students will prepare a sermon series of 10-12 sermons from one of the following sections of Isaiah: Chapters 1-39; or 40-66. The student must submit: (1) a one-page overview of the entire series, including texts, titles, and 3-sentence summary for each sermon; (2) a sermon brief and sermon study notes for each sermon; (3) one sermon manuscript from a particular message in the series; and (4) a selected bibliography of resources useful for the preacher in implementing this preaching plan in a local church ministry.

DUE: June 23

4. Preaching: Students will preach one sermon in class from the selected sermon series. The message should be 20-30 minutes in length. A single-page sermon brief will be prepared prior to the preaching experience and submitted to the professor prior to the student's preaching; the student will retain a copy for his personal use. The student should be prepared on that day to answer questions from the class and/or professor about his exegesis, preparation, interpretation, understanding, and homiletic form. Copies of the single-page brief will be provided for each classmate by the student following the in-class discussion of the sermon.

IN-CLASS MESSAGE: May 25

5. Peer Evaluation: Each student will complete a sermon evaluation form for each of the students who preach. He will hand it to the preacher at the end of the class period. When evaluating the preacher, the student should be helpful, not hurtful; constructive rather than destructive; aware of strengths as well as areas for needed improvement; and reflect an attitude of humility and teachability at all times.

### TYPES OF MESSAGES TO BE PREACHED:

Any of the types of biblical messages will be acceptable (e.g. deductive, inductive, bi-ductive; dramatic monologue, narrative, etc.). However, the message should reflect a thorough exegesis of the biblical passage used as the basis, should be characterized by hermeneutical accuracy, and exhibit the very best use of the principles of effective development and delivery appropriate to the sermon-type selected. The student would also do well to select a sermon-type with which he

is familiar and experienced in using. The messages must be original with the student. Messages previously prepared for other classes or preaching occasions may not be used.

Messages are to be neither less than twenty (20) nor more than thirty (30) minutes in length. Responsibility for staying within the prescribed sermon length resides with the student. Penalties will be incurred for going under or over the time designation.

### **Evaluation of Grade**

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

1. Oral Presentation	20%
2. Introduction Paper	30%
3. Sermon Series	30%
4. Preaching	10%
5. Peer Evaluation	10%

### **Attendance**

Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Because of the nature of the intensive, students who miss any portion of the class may receive a grade of “F” for the course.

### **Technical Assistance**

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

1. [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. [Canvas.NOBTS.com](http://Canvas.NOBTS.com) Click on the “Help” button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to [Canvas@nobts.edu](mailto:Canvas@nobts.edu).
3. [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. [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. A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center’s page on the seminary website at:

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

### **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.

**SERMON BRIEF**  
Rhetorical Sermon Outline

**A. Foundational Elements**

1. Sermon Title (in quotation marks; headline capitalization style):
2. Text:
3. Subject (in one or two words--or as a short phrase):
4. CIT/ETS (Central Idea of the Text/Essence of the Text in a Sentence; State in the past tense.):
5. Proposition/ESS (Proposition/Essence of the Sermon in a Sentence; Do not state in the past tense.):
6. Sermon Objective/OSS (Objective of the Sermon in a Sentence: State in terms of what hearers will **do** as a result of this sermon.): Hearers will....

**B. Formal Elements**

Introduction (Note: Use three to five sentences to gain attention, raise the “so what,” and lead to/state the CIT/Proposition of the sermon. You may also use an Interrogative/Key Word to lead to your main divisions.)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Body (Note: The number of main points may vary in the Body outline below. Also, for the **Functional Elements** of Explanation, Illustration, Argumentation, and Application, you may simply use a summary statement or two to indicate what information you will include in your sermon.)

I.

EXP:  
ILL:  
ARG:  
APP:

II.

EXP:  
ILL:  
ARG:  
APP:

III.

EXP:  
ILL:  
ARG:  
APP:

Conclusion (Note: The number of key summary sentences may vary in the Conclusion outline below.)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

### C. Notes

1. The number of points may **vary** within the formal elements from the numbers shown above.
2. All main points (i.e., I, II, etc.) in the sermon body outline **must** be referenced to the text (e.g., I. The Motive of Salvation, John 3:16a; II. The Means of Salvation, John 3:16b).
3. Write all sermon body main points in headline capitalization style (e.g., I. The Motive of Salvation).

### D. Sermon Brief Form

Students **must use** the attached sermon brief form for the **sermon brief** required in the Old Testament and New Testament presentation assignments for this course. Students may **not** substitute other forms. Please read and follow the notes and examples given in the form. Frequently made mistakes that cost points in the sermon brief assignment include the following:

1. Not writing the CIT/ETS, Proposition/ESS, or Objective/OSS in **complete** sentences.
2. Not writing the CIT/ETS in the **past** tense.
3. Writing the Proposition/ESS in the **past** tense (instead of the present, future, or imperative tenses).
4. Not **following** the required Sermon Objective/OSS form: Hearers will...
5. Not citing a biblical reference for **each** main point heading.
6. Not following the specified format for the sermon title.
7. Writing the sermon subject as a sentence or clause.

## PREA6356 OT Sermon Assignment Grading Rubric

**Student:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Points for the Assignment:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Assignment Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grading Rubric:**

Criteria	Points Possible	Points Awarded
Sermon ETS/CIT is derived from the sermon text & is stated clearly, concisely (8-10 words), & correctly.	15 points	
Sermon ESS/Proposition is a contemporary statement of the ETS/CIT & is stated clearly, concisely (8-10 words), & correctly.	15 points	
Sermon OSS is related to the ESS & is stated in terms of what hearers will do.	10 points	
Sermon Introduction includes the ETS/CIT & ESS/Proposition & connects with hearers.	10 points	
Sermon Body has main points referenced to the text correctly & has application to hearers.	10 points	
Sermon Conclusion includes transition, summation, ESS/Proposition, & application.	10 points	
Sermon Delivery included eye contact, correct articulation, natural nonverbals, direct address, oral style, & few distractions (if notes used).	15 points	
Biblical Text was read clearly & with proper interpretative emphasis.	5 points	
Overall Impact was interesting, informative, & spiritually moving/motivating.	10 points	
<b>Total Points:</b>	100	

**Grading Points Scale:** Excellent—A (100-93); Good—B (92-85); Acceptable—C (84-77);

Unsatisfactory—D (76-70) or F (below 70);

**Grading Feedback:**

What to Maintain: \_\_\_\_\_;

What to Improve: \_\_\_\_\_;

What to Avoid: \_\_\_\_\_.