Syllabus

M.Div. Outcomes:
A. **Students will demonstrate advanced skills in the interpretation of scripture.**
B. **Students will demonstrate the skills required for theological reflection.**
C. **Students will demonstrate the ability to integrate the scriptures and theological tradition with diverse contemporary cultural contexts.**
D. **Students will demonstrate the skills associated with providing ministerial leadership for churches and communities.**
E. **More specific outcomes:**
   1. To appreciate the difficulties and opportunities that underlie the task of preaching from the Old Testament.
   2. To become aware of the variety of genres in the Old Testament and the preaching challenges that are unique to each.
   3. To gain an understanding of the theological themes of the Old Testament literature that will enable one to preach and teach faithful and challenging messages.
   4. To inspire students to make the Old Testament more central to their preaching agenda.

**Accessibility**
HST professors are accessible to local and distance students. Please use the following to arrange appointments with me (in person or by phone):
Email: dbland@harding.edu
Office Phone Number: 901–432–7722

**Credit Hour Workload**
For every course credit hour, the typical student should expect to spend at least three clock hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work, including but not limited to time attending class, as well as out-of-class time spent reading, reviewing, organizing notes, preparing for upcoming quizzes/exams, problem solving, developing and completing projects, and other activities that enhance learning. Thus, for a three-hour course, a typical student should expect to spend at least nine hours per week dedicated to the course.
Textbooks
Textbooks can now be ordered through a link on the HST website. The Textbooks tab can be viewed on the navigation bar on any page of the website. Check the book list provided under the Textbooks tab (http://hst.edu/students/textbook-services/) for correct ISBN’s and editions to insure correct ordering. A link provided there will take you to Amazon where you will only need to enter the ISBN to order your books. By going through our website, HST will receive some credit from the order. Thanks for your support.

Students with Disabilities
It is the policy of Harding University to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal and state law. Any student with a disability who needs accommodation should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Students with disabilities are also encouraged to contact Steve McLeod, the Associate Dean, at 901-761-1353.

Library Resources
If you have not taken 5990 (Advanced Theological Research) or 5770 (Research in Counseling), or took either class more than a year ago, go to the HST Web site (www.hst.edu) for information concerning library services to students. Under the “library” tab you will find a link to and instructions for searching the HST online catalog. There are also instructions for using the following databases available through the library: OCLC FirstSearch, EBSCOhost, Infotrac, PsycINFO, and Religious and Theological Abstracts. Contact the library for passwords to these databases. Also available are the research guides distributed in 5990 and 5770. These annotated bibliographies list basic tools you will find helpful in your research.

Academic Integrity
Academic dishonesty in all its forms is inconsistent with Christian faith and practice, and will result in penalties which could include a failing grade for the assignment, a failing grade for the course, dismissal from the course, and even dismissal from the school.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY
All students in this course will use Canvas (available at http://elearning.harding.edu/). Distance students will use the video platform www.Zoom.us. For new Zoom platform users, go to https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/categories/200101697-Getting-Started for helpful video tutorials about using this platform.

Assignments in this course offer opportunities for students to demonstrate proficiency in the use of technology in the following ways:
• Use of library and electronic databases to do research
• Use of online technology for submissions and class participation

**Equipment Requirements for using Zoom:**

2. **Additional monitor for remote students required.** Used monitor is okay.
3. Laptop or tablet with camera or desktop computer with camera. On-ground students are encouraged to bring their laptops with camera to class and connect to the Zoom meeting with their computer.
4. Internet access using a latest version of a web browser such as Firefox (preferred), Google Chrome, or Microsoft Internet Explorer.
5. Latest version of Zoom software. This does change periodically without notification.

Canvas can be accessed at [http://elearning.harding.edu/](http://elearning.harding.edu/). If you have problems gaining access to the Canvas system, contact technical support for students by calling (501) 279-4545. You will need your HST username and your password to log into Harding Pipeline. These are the same credentials you use to register for classes via Pipeline.

When you need to contact your professor via email about a class related issue, always use the email system contained in the Canvas learning management system. This provides a secure convenient means of tracking communication between you and your professor. Of course, there are many email providers, and many students and professors hold more than one email address. To promote timely and secure communication about class related issues, students and professors will only use Canvas email.

Harding University gives each student an email address that also utilizes your user name. Many students use other email addresses as their preferred address. You can set your Harding G-mail account to forward messages to an alternative email address if you want; however, **it is your responsibility to check your Harding email account regularly because this is the official Harding email address to which all Harding-related email will be sent.**
Required Text Books:


Course Requirements:

A. Book Reviews

1. The reviews should be 3-4 pages in length and follow the IDeA format. Here is a summary of the IDeA format:
   a. Devote a paragraph to **Identify** (identify the author where author preaches or teaches; is the book in any series; what other book author has written that is related to the same topic, etc.), one page to **Describe** (briefly summarize the contents), and two pages to **Assess** (or evaluate). Use three other reviews on each book to aid you in your assessment part of the review.
   b. Limit to **no more** than four pages double-spaced.
2. Olbricht review **Due August 29**
3. Wright review: **September 12**
4. Rutledge review: **Sept. 26**
5. Davis review: **October 10**
6. Bland & Webb review: **October 24**

B. Do an exegesis and a sermon on three texts from one particular book of OT literature we have focused on in class (**Due Nov 28**). This assignment has two parts:

1. Do an exegesis of each of the three texts (devote about 2 pages to each text).
   a. follow the standard procedure of exegesis:
1) First Reading of the Text—a spontaneous even naive, engagement with the text.
   a. What is the mood of the text?
   b. Read it as though sitting among the congregation. The preacher goes to the text on behalf of
      the congregation. Or possibly read it orally in a different context, e.g. a text dealing with
      creation in a park, etc.
   c. This would be one or two brief paragraphs that reflect your initial reading of the text.
2) Establish the Text—
   a. original language. But if don’t know original language, compare 2 or 3 reliable translations.
   b. Jerusalem Bible has good textual footnotes.
   c. This will only be a paragraph in length
3) Determining the Parameters of the Text—
   a. Clues for beginnings and endings: thematic and literary.
   b. The context
   c. This will only be a paragraph in length.
4) Employ various interpretive approaches—
   a. Historical
   b. form criticism
   c. theological
   d. rhetorical
   e. literary
   f. This will take up the majority of your two pages.
5) State the sermon focus and function (Greidanus speaks of theme and purpose)
   a. state the exegetical idea in the most exact and memorable sentence possible. The sermon
      aims to convey only one major idea.
   b. Determine the sermon’s function
      i. The function is for the hearer to: understand, identify, explain, be persuaded, be
         encouraged, rebuked, etc.
      ii. what does the text do? commanding, singing, explaining, warning, praying, reciting,
         narrating etc. If this text were put to music, what kind of music would it be?
6) Decide on the Form of the Sermon: Deductive and inductive forms and sub-forms, narrative,
   dialogical, etc.
   b. Use quality scholarly exegetical resources.
   c. Conclude your exegesis by stating a sermon focus and sermon function that
      flows out of the text. (See Long, Witness of Preaching chapter 4 for an
      explanation of these).
   d. Must be in term paper form with footnotes/endnotes and bibliography
2. Based on the above exegesis, develop three sermons (devote about two pages
to each sermon)
   a. Use sermon focus and sermon function to guide the sermon development.
   b. Sermons must be in full manuscript form.
   c. Be intentional about the form of the sermon: Use O Wesley Allen’s book,
      Determining the Form to help you decide how you will develop the sermon.
   d. Consider how you will connect it with your audience. What images,
      experiences, illustrations, examples will you use?
   e. Write one of these sermons to be preached in chapel. This sermon is limited
to 10 minutes.
3. You will also be graded on the use of good Turabian style.
4. The total project should be about 12 pages in length.
C. Preach one of the above three sermons in chapel. Keep in mind the HST theme for
the year is “The Law of the Lord.”
## Tentative Schedule

**Fall, 2017 - Tuesdays 6:00-8:45PM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| August 22    | Introduction/Syllabus
              | Preaching the Old Testament
              | Discuss Olbricht’s book                                               |
| August 29    | Preaching Genesis                                                       |
| Sept 5       | Preaching Genesis                                                       |
| Sept 12      | Preaching Numbers
              | Discuss Wright’s book                                                 |
| Sept 19      | Preaching Joshua and Judges                                             |
| Sept 26      | Preaching Ruth
              | Discuss Rutledge’s book                                               |
| Oct 3        | **Mid Term Exam**                                                       |
| Oct 10       | Preaching 1 and 2 Samuel
              | Discuss Davis’ Book                                                   |
| October 17   | Preaching 1 and 2 Samuel                                                |
| October 24   | Preaching Job
              | Discuss Bland/Webb’s Book                                              |
| October 31   | Preaching Job                                                           |
| Nov 7        | Preaching Song of Songs                                                 |
| Nov 14       | Preaching Song of Songs                                                 |
| Nov 20–24    | Thanksgiving Break                                                     |
| Nov 28       | Preaching Jonah
              | Exegesis/Sermon Paper Due                                              |
| Dec 5        | **Final Exam**                                                          |
Select Bibliography for Preaching from the Old Testament


**Articles on Preaching from the OT**


Miles, Carol Antablin. "'Singing the Songs of Zion' and Other Sermons from the Margins of the Canon." Koinonia 6 no 2 (Fall, 1994): 151-173.


