



Note:

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice.
The information below is provided as a guide for course selection
and is not binding in any form.**



BE5501 Hermeneutics for Preaching – Course Syllabus

Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

BE5501 Hermeneutics for Preaching, 3 credit hours

Course Description

This course examines foundational exegetical methods for analyzing biblical texts for preaching. Students will learn to analyze a particular passage for sermon preparation. The class will focus on the examination of passages from a variety of genres and the preparation of sermon outlines from these passages.

Prerequisite: BI-5528 Methods for Biblical Interpretation and TH-5525 Theological Foundations for Biblical Interpretation; BI-5528 can be taken concurrently.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, the student will be able to:

1. **Articulate** the goal of biblical interpretation for preaching
2. **Describe** the various genres of Scripture and how they communicate
3. **Determine** what a biblical author was doing with a particular biblical text
4. **Assess** how to translate the message of a biblical text for a particular community
5. **Compose** sermon outlines from a variety of genres of Scripture

Course Textbook(s) and/or Supplemental Information

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

Assignments

See the Syllabus page in the Blackboard course for general assignment instructions.

Part 1 - Regular Assignments

1-1 Hermeneutical Process Paper - In a **TWO page, double-spaced** paper, take Philippians 4:13 through the process outlined in the reading with its significance tied to either your own life or to your own church. Be sure to look at its meaning contextually (as a part of Philippians 4:10-20 at least).

2-1 / 3-1 / 4-1 / 5-1 Sermon Outlines: You will create a detailed sermon outline for each assigned passage by including these **three parts** in each assignment (2-1, 3-1, 4-1 & 5-1):

(1) Introductory Paragraph: Describe the “world in front of the text” in a short introductory paragraph



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(2) Outline: Use the articles assigned to give you guidance on how to create a sermon outline. Please use the commentaries provided for each passage. The outline should be **one-page single-spaced**. Each point and sub-point should be written in complete sentences, or short paragraphs. The outline should include application.

(3) Exegetical/Research Notes: Also include the exegetical/research notes from your study of the passage. These notes should be no less than one page single spaced and demonstrate close engagement with both the meaning of the passage and its theological significance. It should also include evidence that you have taken the text through the hermeneutical process outlined in week one

- **2-1 Sermon Outline: Law** - TBA
- **3-1 Sermon Outline: Narrative** - TBA
- **4-1 Sermon Outline: Poetic and Prophetic Texts** - TBA
- **5-1 Sermon Outline: Epistles** - TBA

Please see the outlines by Dr. Steve Mathewson provided in Course Resources as examples.

6-1 Contextualization Paper: Study 1 Corinthians 10:14-22. Take this text through the process outlined in the reading. This paper should be **3-4 pages (double-spaced)**.

7-1 Sermon Preparation Reflection Paper - Based on all of your coursework thus far, write a **three-page (double-spaced)** reflection paper.

Part 2 - Discussions

Week 1: Many of you have undoubtedly had the opportunity to teach and preach Scripture in your church. In your initial 300 word post, describe the process you currently go through to prepare to preach or teach from a passage.

Week 2: Based on your reading for this week, describe how you would think about understanding and applying three of the laws from Leviticus 19 to the church today. Your response should be 300 words (about one page). Also, respond to two of your colleagues.

Week 3: *None*

Week 4: One poetic genre that is a challenge to preach is the imprecatory (or cursing) psalms. For your initial post, reflect on Psalm 109 and answer the following questions: Is this psalm an appropriate one to preach on? Why or why not?

Week 5: In our reading this week, the authors focused intensely in the importance of context in interpreting the epistles. From your reading, analyze James 2:14-26 and Galatians 3:1-14. Try to discern the underlying context.

Week 6: *None*



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Week 7: Osborn, Kuruvilla, and Long all present somewhat different approaches to applying the text: what are the main differences between these methods? What are some of the benefits of each and some of the potential dangers of each? Which methods most resonates with you and why?

Assessments

Assessments (# in parentheses)	% of Total
Discussions (5)	40
Sermon Outline Papers (2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1)	30
Hermeneutical Process Paper (1-1)	10
Contextualization Paper (6-1)	10
Sermon Preparation Reflection Paper (7-1)	10
Total:	100%

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent	Description
A	96 – 100	Exceptional work
A-	94 – 95	Excellent work
B+	92 – 93	Very good work
B	89 – 91	Good work
B-	87 – 88	Above average work
C+	83 – 86	Average work
C	79 – 82	Work needs improvement
C-	75 – 78	Minimally acceptable work
F	< 75	Unacceptable work

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