NT 620: Syllabus:
Exegesis of Romans

Spring, 2014
Instructor: Dr. Rollin G. Grams, Associate Professor of New Testament
Prerequisites: Greek 501 and 502; NT 502 (Interpreting the NT)
Work for Course Begins: January 26th
Meeting Dates: Feb. 21-22; Mar. 21-22; Apr. 25-26
Meeting Times: Friday night: 6:30 – 9:30 pm; Saturday: 8:30 – 4:30 pm

Overview:
This is an exegesis course on Paul's epistle to the Romans. Exegetical issues in particular passages and several theological topics in Pauline studies will be explored through lectures, reading, discussion, and assignments, including translation.

Prerequisites:

• 1 year of basic Greek (GL 501, 502).
• Any student who has not used Greek in a course in the semester before this course needs to take a Greek competency quiz (lasting up to 30 minutes). This must be completed before the Integrative Seminar on 25th of January. If a student does not pass this course, he or she will need to register for a different course in the spring. These quizzes are administered by the Registration Office.

Objectives:

*To hone students’ translation and exegetical skills. See the Greek translation requirement.

*To gain experience in exegesis of a New Testament epistle. This will primarily be reached through the lectures, reading of assigned textbooks, and the exegesis paper assignment.

*To acquaint students with resources for Pauline studies and hone skills in research and writing. This will be reached through reading the textbooks, listening to the lectures, and writing the exegesis paper for the course.

*To gain a detailed knowledge of Romans through familiarity with the text of the epistle and contemporary scholarship. This will be accomplished through lectures, group discussion, reading, and assignments.

*To gain a critical understanding of several topics (listed in the course outline) in Pauline theology/ethics relevant for Romans studies. This will be accomplished through lectures, reading, and assignments.
*To apply Romans to Christian life and ministry, primarily through class discussion.

Course Delivery:

Pre-Class Preparation: Students need to prepare for a weekend of class through translation preparation and reading/writing (see Course Outline).

Classes: Classes are held on weekends and will consist of lectures, group translation work, and discussion. The lectures and reading are designed to orient students to exegetical issues in Romans and Pauline theology. Not all of Romans can be covered in-depth, but the course is designed to introduce students to exegesis in Romans and prepare them for ongoing study of both Romans and Paul.

Online Resources: Students will find resources for this course on Sakai.

Contact:

Students should e-mail any questions to rgrams@gordonconwell.edu. Students may discuss material further with the professor either through e-mail, Skype, or in person (set up an appointment).

Textbooks:


Course Requirements:

1. Greek Translation Preparation for Work in Class:

Note: Students in exegesis courses at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary must pass the Greek component of the course in order to pass the course itself.

Students need to prepare for in-class translation (in groups) by:

*Translation: working through the set translations before class, writing out a translation

*Vocabulary: checking BDAG for any unknown vocabulary and keeping a list of vocabulary words
*Parsing:* parsing any words that are not obvious to the student

*Syntax in Wallace:* checking Wallace for any grammatical notes on the passage or for any information on a grammatical form

*Focus in Wallace on Participles and Genitives:* assessing the type of participle or Genitive according to Wallace’s categories

*Engagement with Moo:* discussing Moo’s translation and interpretation of the passages

Each class weekend, a copy of these notes needs to be turned in electronically by Friday, 6:30 pm. The timing of these submissions is important. The notes for each of the three weekends will be worth 10% of the final grade (30% all together). Students may use their copy of these notes when translating in groups, but they must not read their translations—translation in groups needs to be done fresh from the Greek. Groups will then discuss the translation preparation work among themselves in order to:

*practice Greek translation
*learn from each other
*consider lexical and grammatical issues relevant for exegeting the text

Each group will be led by one student with strengths in Greek translation. Groups may ask for assistance from the professor. The group leader is to:

*keep the group on task
*make sure that everyone understands the grammar before moving on
*give feedback to the professor on how the group is doing and how individuals are doing

2. Reading:

Students will read all of Keener, Westerholm, and Rosner. They will use Wallace for translation purposes and should read through (taking notes) his sections on Adverbial Participles and Genitives. Moo’s introduction should be read, along with what he says about each of the passages to be translated. Students are not expected to read all of Moo, but they are encouraged to read as much of this commentary as they can during the course.

3. Papers:

All papers should be submitted electronically as e-mail attachments, without additional content in the e-mail itself and as follows: NT620Keener; NT620Westerholm; NT620Rosner; NT620Exegesis. Papers should be in pdf format.

The following papers (each worth 10% of the final grade) are due on the specified dates:

1. **Keener paper.** Due: Saturday morning, first weekend. Write 2 pages (single spaced, 12 point font) on ‘Paul’s Overall Message in Romans According to Keener and Moo.’ In class, you will
discuss these two authors in light of your growing understanding of what Paul is saying in Romans.

2. Westerholm paper. Due: Saturday morning, second weekend. Write 2 pages (single spaced, 12 point font) on ‘Westerholm’s understanding of justification in Romans.’ In class, you will discuss this view in light of lectures, other reading, and your own growing understanding of what Paul is saying in Romans.

3. Rosner paper. Due: Saturday morning, third weekend. Write 2 pages (single spaced, 12 point font) on ‘Rosner’s understanding of Paul and the Law in Romans.’ In class, you will discuss this view in light of lectures, other reading, and your own growing understanding of what Paul is saying in Romans.

The Exegesis paper is worth 40% of the final grade. Students are to write a 3,500 word exegetical paper on one of the following passages:

- *Rom. 1.18-28
- *Rom. 3.21-31
- *Rom. 5.12-21
- *Rom. 7.7-25
- *Rom. 9.30-10.4
- *Rom. 13.1-7
- *Rom. 13.8-14

Grading:

Assignments count as follows:

- Each weekend’s translation notes: 10%, for a total of 30% of the final grade
- Each of the short papers: 10%, for a total of 30% of the final grade
- Exegesis paper: 40% of the final grade

Grading for Greek Preparation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Marking</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vocabulary:</strong> use of BDAG for any unknown vocabulary (noted in notes); list of vocabulary words</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parsing:</strong> occasional parsing of difficult forms</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Wallace:</strong> noting references in Wallace to the verses translated; use of Wallace in general, particularly for Adverbial Participles and Genitives</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Engagement with Moo:</strong> discussing Moo’s translation and interpretation of the passages</td>
<td>30%</td>
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Grading rubric for the short papers:
Clear evidence of having read the entire work carefully (including page references) 20%
Good description of the content of the book 60%
1-2 paragraphs reflection on the reading 20%

Guidance for writing the exegesis paper will come from Gordon Fee, *New Testament Exegesis* and from academic commentaries on Romans. Be sure to cover all the exegetical issues, work from the primary sources (Greek NT; use of primary sources for historical and literary context), and engage solid academic scholarship (commentaries, books, journal articles, dictionary articles).

Attendance and engagement in all classes:

This course involves lectures, translation work, and discussion during lectures and within groups, and so attendance is important for everyone. In addition to being in the class, and as a matter of etiquette, students should avoid:

**being late or leaving early (do not role into class 5 minutes after it begins)**
**planning other events during class time and expecting to be excused**
**taking phone calls or texting during class**
**stepping out of the class during lectures (the whole class will take a break if you need to do so)**
**getting on the internet during class**
**dominating class time by asking too many questions or offering opinions or arguments (there will be time for discussion)**
**sitting quietly throughout the course without raising questions and offering opinions or arguments**

Course Outline:

Note: References to *DP&HL* are to: Hawthorne, Martin, and Reid, eds.: Hawthorne, G., Ralph Martin, Daniel Reid, Eds. *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993. The fourth column includes recommended, not required, reading.

First Weekend:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Class Work</th>
<th>Translation and Lectures</th>
<th>Reading; Discussion</th>
<th>Further Reading Resources</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rom. 2.6-16</td>
<td><em>All of Keener</em></td>
<td>C. H. Dodd, <em>The Apostolic Preaching and its Developments</em>.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Translation passages in Moo</em></td>
<td>M. Green, <em>Evangelism in the Early Church</em>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Friday Evening | Lectures:  
*Romans Introduction  
Arbeiten zur Literatur und Geschichte des hellenistischen Judentums 10.  
J.K. Chamblin, "Psychology", *DP&HL*.  
L.J. Kreitzer, "Body", *DP&HL*, pp. 71-76.  
| --- | --- | --- |
| Saturday Morning | In-Class Translation:  
Rom. 1.18-32  
Exegesis: Rom. 1.18-32  
Lecture: The New Perspective  
Gospel in Paul | Group Discussion of Moo and Keener reading |
| Saturday Afternoon | In-Class Translation:  
Rom. 2.6-16  
Lecture: The Human Plight:  
Nature / Nurture;  
Gentiles / Jews | Group Translation of Rom. 3.21-31 |

**Second Weekend:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lecture Topics and Exegesis</th>
<th>Reading; Discussion; Translation</th>
<th>Further Reading Resources:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Pre-Class Work | Translation Preparation:  
Rom. 5.1-21  
Rom. 6.15-23  
Rom. 7.7-25 | *Translation passages in Moo  
*All of Westerholm  
L. Morris, "Redemption", *DP&HL*, pp. 784-786.  
Stowers, Stanley. *A Rereading of Romans: Justification*.  
Seifrid, Mark. *Justification by Faith: The Origin and Development of a Central Pauline Theme*.  
Supplements to Novum Testamentum 68.  
McGrath, A. E. "Justification." *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*.  
Eds. Gerald Hawthorne, Ralph Martin, Daniel Reid.  
Pp. 517-523.  
Reumann, John. "Righteousness in the New Testament:  
"Justification" in the United States Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialogue*.  
Stuhlmacher, Peter. *Gerechtigkeit Gottes bei Paulus*.  
Forschungen zur Religion und Literatur des Alten und Neuen Testaments 87.  
| Friday Evening | In-Class Translation and Exegesis:  
Rom. 5.1-21 | Group Discussion:  
Westerholm |  |
| Saturday Morning | In-Class Translation and Exegesis:  
Rom. 6.15-23  
Lecture: Paul and the Law  
Salvation in Paul |  |  |
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Saturday Afternoon</th>
<th>Lecture: Rom. 7.7-8.39</th>
<th>Group Translation: Rom. 7.7-25</th>
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### Third Weekend:

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<tr>
<th>Lecture Topics and Exegesis</th>
<th>Reading; Discussion; Translation</th>
<th>Further Reading Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
|                            | *Translation passages in Moo*     | N. T. Wright, *Paul* (textbook).  
|                            | *All of Rosner*                  | F. Thielman, "Law", *DP&HL*, pp. 529-542  
|                            |                                  | W.S. Campbell, "Israel", *DP&HL*, pp. 441-446.  

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher/Year</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J.M. Scott</td>
<td>&quot;Restoration of Israel&quot;, DP&amp;HL</td>
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Further Resources:

For a list of current and forthcoming commentaries on Romans, see: [http://bestcommentaries.com/romans/](http://bestcommentaries.com/romans/)

For some discussion of recent trends in Pauline studies, see: [http://www.thepaulpage.com/](http://www.thepaulpage.com/)

For additional reading online for Pauline Studies, including Romans, see: [http://www.ntgateway.com/](http://www.ntgateway.com/)
Syllabus Addendum

Academic Standards
Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious breaches of personal and academic integrity. Cheating involves, but is not necessarily limited to, the use of unauthorized sources of information during an examination or the submission of the same (or substantially same) work for credit in two or more courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors. Plagiarism involves the use of another person’s distinctive ideas or words, whether published or unpublished, and representing them as one’s own instead of giving proper credit to the source. Plagiarism can also involve over dependence on other source material for the scope and substance of one’s writing.

Such breaches in academic standards often result in a failing grade as well as other corrective measures [they will for this course]. For more information, please consult the Student Handbook.

ADA Policy
The seminary complies with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. A student with a qualifying and authenticated disability who is in need of accommodations, should petition the seminary in accordance with the stated guidelines in the Student Handbook.

Cancellation of Class
In the event the seminary has to cancel a class meeting (impending storm, professor illness, etc.), the Registration Office will send out an email (via the GCTS email account) notification to all students registered in the respective course. If the cancelation occurs the day of the scheduled meeting, the Registration Office will also attempt to contact students via their primary phone contact on record. The professor will contact the students (via GCTS account) regarding make-up. If a weekend class is cancelled, the class will be made up during the scheduled Make-Up weekend (see the academic calendar for the designated dates). For more info, consult your Student Handbook.

Extension Policy
Arrangements for submission of late work at a date on or before the “last day to submit written work”, as noted on the seminary’s Academic Calendar, are made between the student and professor. Formal petition to the Registration Office is not required at this time. This includes arrangements for the rescheduling of final exams.

However, course work (reading and written) to be submitted after the publicized calendar due date, must be approved by the Registration Office. An extension form, available online, must be submitted to the Registration Office prior to the “last day to submit written work.” Requests received after this date will either be denied or incur additional penalty. For a full discussion of this policy, please consult the Student Handbook.

Grades
Grades are posted on-line within twenty-four hours of receipt from the professor. Students are expected to check their CAMS student portal in order to access posted grades. Those individuals who need an official grade report issued to a third party should put their request in writing to the Registration Office. Faculty have six weeks from the course work due date to submit a final grade.

Returned Work
Since the papers are submitted electronically, only comments and not the paper will be sent to the student once everything is graded.