I. Course Instructor: Paul Bowers

II. Email Contact: bowersgcts@bellsouth.net

III. Class Schedule: May 20-24, 2013, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am—4:00 pm

IV. Course Description. This course is designed as a general introduction to New Testament theology, offering a foundational orientation to this specialized field. Attention will be given to the nature and methodology of New Testament theology, the critical literature and discussion, and the relation of New Testament theology to the tasks of exegesis and systematic theology. The course will especially explore the theology of Jesus, Paul, and John, and consider the unity and diversity of New Testament theology. The course does not require knowledge of Greek.

V. Course Relationship to the Curriculum. Since proper use of the Bible is central to all types of Christian ministry and foundational for theological and ministerial studies, all GCTS students are expected to become proficient in the knowledge and use of the Bible. Within that larger curricular objective, NT575 is intended to offer students a systematic and integrative overview of the theological message of the New Testament. It will satisfy the English Bible Competency requirement for the MACC, MAR and MACL programs, and serves as a general elective for all others.

VI. Course Objectives

On completing the course, the student should be able to:

- demonstrate a general familiarity with the field of New Testament theology, including the principal issues for critical study.
- demonstrate a growing sensitivity to the relevance of New Testament theology for life and ministry today.

VII. Course Texts

REQUIRED:

N. T. Wright, *The New Testament and the People of God*
VIII. Course Requirements. Achievement of the course objectives will be facilitated through a variety of engagements and assignments. The successful completion of these will require each student to spend approximately 135 hours devoted to coursework, both in class and outside of class. The following chart indicates how these hours are distributed across the various course assignments. More specific description of the assignments are given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirements</th>
<th>Expected Time Commitment</th>
<th>Student’s Actual Time Spent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class sessions</td>
<td>30 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Readings and papers</td>
<td>80 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate quiz</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>15 hours</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A. Required reading. Given the modular nature of this course, the reading assignments are essential for its effectiveness, and are therefore mandatory. The grade for the required reading will be based on timely completion of the assignments. A reading schedule/report will be provided, and is to be submitted with the final exam on or before July 22, 2013. Confirmation of completion of all assigned reading is mandatory for receiving a final grade. Students are to read:


B. Engagement exercise. Wright is widely regarded as both refreshing and challenging. From your reading of Wright pages 3-144, reference and explain three examples of material that you found fresh, insightful, or worthwhile, and three examples of material that you found puzzling, uncomfortable, or not so persuasive. Your submission should be printed on paper, and between 1000 and 1500 words in length (not more and not less). This paper is to be handed in at the beginning of the first class session, May 20, 2013.

**Important:** Before the first class session begins on May 20, 2013, the student is required to have completed reading Wright, pages 3-144. The student is also required at the beginning of the first class session to hand in the engagement exercise relating to Wright. We have only a single week together for this intensive course. Essential to the usefulness of the week for all of us is therefore that this modest set of assignments should be fulfilled by everyone. Students will report at the beginning of the first class session whether the reading assignment has been completed as directed, and will also hand in their engagement exercise. Appropriate compliance will be calculated into the final course grade.

C. Research paper. Students will submit a research paper as part of the course, between 2500 and 3500 words in length, on a topic to be assigned in class, relating to issues of New Testament theology. The topic and detailed instructions will be provided in class. The paper is due on or before July 8, 2013.

D. Intermediate quiz, and final exam. On Thursday morning of the week of class sessions, May 23, 2013, students will take an extended quiz covering material presented in class through Wednesday of that week. At the end of the week students will receive a take-home final exam, covering all material presented in class sessions during the week. The intermediate quiz will be
objective. The final exam will be a take-home exam. It will have objective, short answer, and essay questions. The student will be allowed two hours for the exam. The exam is due on or before July 22, 2013.

IX. Course Submissions. The engagement exercise is to be handed in at the beginning of the first class session on May 20, 2013. The research paper must be mailed to the Seminary (or handed in at the Seminary) on or before July 8, 2013, or emailed to the instructor by that date. The reading report, and the final exam, must be mailed to the Seminary (or handed in at the Seminary) on or before July 22, 2013. Address mailings to: Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, attention Trish King for Paul Bowers, 14542 Choate Circle, Charlotte NC 28273.

X. Course Grading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Component</th>
<th>Grade Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>reading assignments, and engagement exercise</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>intermediate quiz</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>research paper</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>final exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Completion of all assigned reading is mandatory for receiving a final grade. A passing grade for the final examination is required for passing the course.

Grading scheme for required reading: A—all readings completed on time; B—all readings completed, with at least 80% on time; C—all readings completed, with at least 50% on time (but not 80%); D—all readings completed, but less than 50% on time; F—all readings not completed by July 22, 2013.

XI. Course Administration

Attendance Policy: With only a single week available for the course, faithful attendance is an essential part of this course. Students should take care to organize their schedules beforehand to avoid any absences. Emergencies will be handled according to the set seminary policies.

Grade Penalty for Late Submissions. Students are required to complete all required submissions by the stated due dates. If a student fails to submit the work by the due date, the professor has the right either to refuse the work or to accept it with applicable penalties. The penalty for late submission is one full letter grade at time of lateness, and a further full letter grade per week thereafter. Penalties do not apply to course work with approved extensions. Work turned in later than July 22, 2013 will normally require an extension approved by the Seminary.

Final Exam Process. The final exam will be handed out in class sealed. The exam is to be taken in the presence of a proctor arranged for by the student. The exam proctor must be neither a family member nor a GCTS student. The exam will have space for a proctor’s validating signature, in verification that it was opened, taken, and closed in the proctor’s presence, completed at one sitting within the specified time frame, and that no study aids were used. The exam must be returned in a sealed envelope with the proctor’s signature across the sealing. The envelope must either be handed in at the GCTS office by the stated due date, or be post-marked to the GCTS office by that date.

Internet Use During Class Sessions. Students are to refrain from accessing the internet at any time during class sessions, unless otherwise instructed by the professor. Surfing the web,
checking email, and other internet-based activities are distracting to the conduct of class
sessions, and prevent the student from participating to best personal advantage.

Contact: The instructor may be reached most conveniently by email at:
<bowersgcts@bellsouth.net> Otherwise leave a message for the instructor with Trish King at the
GCTS office (1-800-600-1212). In cases of special need, brief personal contact time prior to or
following class sessions may be arranged on request.

XII. Course Outline

1. Preliminaries, background, orientation
2. Critical issues, theological justifications
3. History of NT Theology
4. Jesus
5. Paul

Intermediate Quiz

7. John
8. Others (e.g. Luke/Acts, Hebrews)
9. Unity in Diversity, Use of the OT
10. Benefits and uses of NT Theology

Final Exam distributed

XIII. Assignment Schedule

May 20, 2013 Wright, pages 3-144, plus engagement exercise
May 23, 2013 intermediate quiz
June 10, 2013 Wright, pages 359-476
July 8, 2013 research paper
July 22, 2013 final exam

XIV. GCTS 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. 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 cancellation 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

Submitted course work will be returned to the student provided s/he provides a self addressed and postage paid envelope with his/her final work. Work submitted without the appropriate envelope will be destroyed once the grade has been assessed and issued.

XV. Selected Bibliographic Resources

1. The Nature and Methodology of NT Theology


Paul Bowers
February 2013