

Gordon - Conwell Theological Seminary

GL 707 - Greek Readings in the Apostolic Fathers

Course Syllabus

Fall 2009

Wed. 1:15-4:15 p.m.

Instructor: Catherine Kroeger

Office hours: Wednesdays 8:00- 9:00 a.m;

Also by appointment. Call 508-896-1963 or 508-896-3443

e-mail: ckroeger@world.std.com

FAX: 508-896-6864

Teaching Assistant: Goran Kojcev

phone: 978-646-4515

e-mail: gkojcev@gcts.edu

Required texts: Copy of Apostolic Fathers in Greek

Lightfoot recommended, text without English available at library

Good dictionary, Bauer, Arndt and Gingrich recommended

*Complete Handbook of Greek Verbs*, available from Schoenhoef's

Foreign Book Store or Amazon.

Objectives:

1. To read the directives of early Christians closely associated with the Apostles.

2. To gain an understanding of the conditions, challenges and community of those whom Jesus left behind to do His work.

3. To derive personal and spiritual benefit from their experiences and expressions.

4. To analyze the Greek grammar, vocabulary and constructions in order to gain insights into the thought processes of these saints.

5. To increase students' facility to read and comprehend a form of Greek that is close to that of the New Testament.

Schedule:

September 16 - The life and literature of the earliest Christian communities

September 23- Read the Didache, chapters 1-6

September 30 -Didache 7-15

October 7- The Martyrdom of Polycarp

October 14 - NO CLASS. Reading week

October 21 - The writings of Papias

October 28- The Epistle of Barnabas

November 4 - mid-semester

November 11 - NO CLASS Reading week

November 18 - Ignatius to the Philippians and Magnesians

November 25 - NO CLASS

December 2 - Ignatius to the Ephesians and Romans

December 9 - Letter to Diognetus

**Requirements:** You are expected to come to class prepared and to spend a minimum of six hours in preparation for each class. There will be a mid-semester and a final, as well as a short term paper (4-6 pages) on the subject of your choice.