Course Description
An exegetical study of the Greek text of John, focusing on the structure and theology of John’s gospel as a literary unit. The course provides an in-depth introduction to the text of John and the major issues surrounding its interpretation in the contemporary Church.

Course Objectives
Upon completing this course the student should be capable of the following:
1. Translating and understanding the basic grammar of John 1-6, 9, 11-12, 18-20 (Articles 1-2 of GCTS Mission Statement);
2. Exegeting a passage from the Gospel in a manner that is sensitive to the grammar, literary features and historical and cultural background of the passage (Articles 1-2 of GCTS Mission Statement);
3. Describing the major interpretive issues in contemporary study of John (Articles 3-4 of GCTS Mission Statement).

Course Requirements
1. As per the seminary catalog’s statement regarding 600-level courses, “Competence in Greek is required in all aspects of a course for a passing grade.”
2. Students must learn vocabulary and basic grammar for John 1-6, 9, 11-12, 18-20.
3. Class participation is worth 25% of final grade. It will consist of the following components.
   a. Each student will submit an outline of the English text of John in the second class meeting.
   b. Each class will entail discussion of a passage from John. Students will be graded according to the thoroughness of their preparation and robustness of their contribution to these discussions. (N.B. the reading requirements for this course are much shorter than typical of a GCTS course. This is by design! The idea is that you would devote 2-3 hours/week translating and exegeting the passage in John to be treated the following week.)

Preparation should include:
   i. Prayer each time you sit down before John’s Gospel, whether to read or to study.
   ii. A smooth translation complete with understanding of the key grammatical features (participles, infinitives, subjunctives, use of genitives and datives, etc.). You must be prepared to translate a passage ‘on-the-spot’ without the aid of a computer (you may use a vocabulary notebook).
iii. Brief word studies of 2-3 key words in the passage (there is some subjectivity in deciding which words are “key” in any given passage; make your own judgment). These word studies need not be as detailed as those commonly taught in “NT Interp”. Simply look at the uses in John (closely), the rest of the New Testament (more quickly) and the LXX (both for fuller understanding of the semantic range as well as for possible OT influences on the Johannine context).

iv. Familiarity with discussion in the required commentary. Do not devote too much time to the commentary. Read through the appropriate section briskly and note anything that contributes to your understanding of the passage. You may wish to make a note of these insights for class discussion.

4. A 10-15 page exegesis paper worth 75% of the final grade will be submitted by 4 p.m. Dec 22, 2009. The paper represents an extended application of exegetical skills learned and refined during the course and should discuss, as appropriate, the grammar, literary features and historical-cultural background of the passage selected. It should include interaction with scholarly commentaries, journal articles and monographs as appropriate. For additional resources for exegesis see Prof Ciampa’s web page www.viceregency.com. Students must get approval from instructor for the passage they select. Dire actions will be taken against students who exceed the 15-page limit!

5. The following texts are required:

6. The following texts are recommended:

7. FALL SEMESTER DATES
   Class Dates: September 11 - December 11
   Reading Weeks: October 12-16, November 9-13
   Exams: December 16-18
   Last Day for Written Work: December 22