



NT 605 The Pauline Letters (3 Credits)
Fall 2009
Instructor: Dr Paul Spilsbury

Contact Information

Office: L2041
Office Phone: 403-410-2917
Email Address: pspilsbury@ambrose.edu
Online Resources: <http://moodle.ambrose.edu>

Class Times and Location

Wednesdays 6:30–9:15
Room: A2133

Course Description

The Apostle Paul is one of the most important figures in the early development of the Christian movement. The message he preached and the communities he founded challenged the status quo within early Christianity, and his letters have shaped Christian thinking about God and human existence for the last two millennia. This course is a study of the literary and theological legacy of Paul. It will examine the major influences and events of his life, the social location of the communities he founded, and significant aspects of his thought in its historical context. It will also attempt to grapple with hermeneutical issues relating to the application of Paul's letters in the world today.

Prerequisite: NT 501 or equivalent.

Course Objectives

1. To enable students to read the letters of Paul with sensitivity to their literary, cultural and theological contexts.
2. To enable students to engage critically with various aspects of the origins of Gentile Christianity, especially in Asia Minor and Greece.
3. To enable students to appreciate and interact with the theological and ethical significance of Paul's thought both on its own terms and in relation to the theology and ethics of other New Testament texts.

4. To enable students to apply insights gleaned from Paul's letters to theology, discipleship, and ministry in the contemporary world.
5. To enable students to appropriate the formative aspects of Paul's message to their own lives.

Course Format

This course will be made up of lectures and workshops on specific texts from the Pauline corpus. Students will be expected to bring a copy of the Bible to class. Those who have studied Greek are encouraged to bring their Greek Testaments to class. Students are also expected to engage in out-of-class activities via the Moodle website.

Course Schedule (Subject to modification)

#	Date	Subject	Assignments
1	9 th September	Introduction	
–	16 th September	<i>Class Cancelled</i>	
2	23 rd September	The Early Years	
–	30 th September	<i>No Class—Community Day</i>	Students are encouraged to participate.
3	7 th October	Troubles with Jerusalem	Proposals due
4	14 th October	From Antioch to Corinth	
5	21 st October	Understanding Paul's Letters Letters to the Thessalonians	
6	28 th October	Galatians	Bibliographies due
7	4 th November	Corinth to Ephesus Philippians	
–	11 th November	<i>No Class—Remembrance Day</i>	
8	18 th November	1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians	
9	25 th November	Romans	
10	2 nd December	Further Travels and Imprisonment Philemon	
11	9 th December	Colossians; Ephesians The Pastorals	Papers/Sermons due

Required Texts

There are no required texts for this class. The Reading List below is a sample of the extensive Paul holdings in the Ambrose library.

Reading List (Titles marked with an asterisk [*] are on reserve in the library.)

- Ashton, *The Religion of Paul the Apostle*. Yale, 2000.
- Barrett, C.K. *Paul. An Introduction to his Thought*. Chapman, 1994.
- Beker, J.C. *Paul the Apostle: The Triumph of God in Life and Thought*. Fortress, 1980.
- Boyarin, D. *A Radical Jew*. University of California, 1994.
- *Bruce, F.F. *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*. Eerdmans, 1977.
- Crossan, J. D. and J. L. Reed, *In search of Paul*. HarperSanFrancisco, 2004.
- Das, A. A. *Paul, the Law, and the Covenant*. Hendrickson, 2001.
- Davies, W.D. *Paul and Rabbinic Judaism*. 4th ed.; Fortress, 1980 [1948].
- Donaldson, T.L. *Paul and the Gentiles*. Fortress, 1997.
- *Dunn, J.G.D. (ed.) *The Cambridge Companion to St Paul*. Cambridge, 2003.
- *Dunn, J.D.G. *The Theology of Paul the Apostle*. Eerdmans, 1997.
- *Fee, G.D. *God's Empowering Presence*. Hendrickson, 1994.
- *Fee, G.D. *Pauline Christology*. Hendrickson, 2007.
- Gager, J. G. *Reinventing Paul*. Oxford, 2000.
- *Hawthorne, G.F. and R.P. Martin (eds.), *Dictionary of Paul and his Letters*. IVP, 1993.
- Hays, R.B. *Echoes of Scripture in the Letters of Paul*. Yale, 1989.
- Hengel, M. *The Pre-Christian Paul*. TPI, 1991.
- Hengel, M. and Schwemer, A.M. *Paul Between Damascus and Antioch*. SCM, 1997.
- Hooker, M.D. (ed.) *Paul and Paulism*. SPCK, 1982.
- Horsley, R.A. (ed.) *Paul and Empire*. TPI, 1997.
- Koester, H. *Paul and his World*. Fortress, 2007.
- Longenecker, R. N. *The Ministry and Message of Paul*. Zondervan, 1971.
- Longenecker, R.N. (ed.) *The Road from Damascus*. Eerdmans, 1997.
- Malherbe, A.J. *Paul and the Popular Philosophers*. Fortress, 1989.
- *Meeks, W.A. *The First Urban Christians*. Yale, 1983.
- Murphy-O'Connor, J. *Paul. A Critical Life*. Clarendon, 1996.
- Räsänen, H. *Paul and the Law*. Fortress, 1986.
- Ridderbos, H.N. *Paul: An Outline of His Theology*. Eerdmans, 1975.
- Roetzel, C. J. *Paul : a Jew on the Margins*. Westminster John Knox, 2003.
- Sanders, E.P. *Paul*. Oxford, 1991.
- *Sanders, E.P. *Paul and Palestinian Judaism*. Fortress, 1977.
- Sanders, E.P. *Paul, the Law, and the Jewish People*. Fortress, 1983.
- Segal, A.F. *Paul the Convert*. Yale, 1990.
- Seifrid, M. A. *Christ, our Righteousness : Paul's Theology of Justification*. Intervarsity, 2000.
- *Stendahl, K. *Paul Among Jews and Gentiles*. Fortress, 1976.
- Theissen, G. *The Social Setting of Pauline Christianity*. Fortress, 1982.
- Watson, F. *Paul, Judaism, and the Gentiles*. Eerdmans, 2007.
- Wenham, D. *Paul: Follower of Jesus or Founder of Christianity?* Eerdmans, 1995.
- *Westerholm, S. *Perspectives Old and New on Paul*. Eerdmans, 2004.
- Westerholm, S. *Understanding Paul*. Baker, 2004.

- *Witherington, B. *The Paul Quest*. InterVarsity, 1998.
*Wright, N.T. *The Climax of the Covenant*. T & T Clark, 1991.
Young, B. Paul, *The Jewish Theologian*. Hendrickson, 1997.

Requirements

Students in this course are expected to attend all lectures, to engage fully in class activities, and to participate regularly in online interactions. Students who do not complete all of the required tasks will not be assigned a passing grade.

1. Read all of the canonical letters attributed to Paul in the course of the semester.

Students must email a statement to the instructor confirming that they have completed this reading.

Due: 9th December

2. Read and average of 100 pages each week (1,000 pages total) from different items on the reading list, and:
 - a. Post online a 250-word reflection on each week's reading.
 - b. Post at least one 100-word interaction with another student's submission each week.

Due: Before class each week

3. *Either*

Complete a 15-page research project on any subject of current significance within Pauline studies. Topics must be approved by the instructor. For more information, see the "Further Instructions" below.

Or:

A 35-40-minute sermon on a text or theme taken from the Pauline letters. This sermon must be new work done specifically for this course. It should demonstrate significant understanding of the biblical text in its literary and theological context, and should apply the message to contemporary life. For more information, see the "Further Instructions" below.

Due: 9th December

Grade Distribution

1. Readings and reflections	30%
2. Interactions	10%
3. Research Paper/Sermon	
a. Proposal	10%
b. Annotated Bibliography	20%
c. Paper/Sermon	30%

Grading Scale

<i>Letter Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Grade Points</i>
A+	90 and higher		4.00
A	85-89	Excellent	4.00
A-	80-84		3.70
B+	77-79		3.30
B	73-76	Good	3.00
B-	70-72		2.70
C+	67-69		2.30
C	63-66	Satisfactory	2.00
C-	60-62		1.70
D+	55-59	Poor	1.30
D	50-54	Minimal Pass	1.00
F	49 and lower	Failure	0.00

Important Notes

- It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to all academic policies as they are stated in the Academic Calendar.
- Last day to enter course without permission and/or voluntarily withdraw from course without financial penalty: **18th September**.
- Last day to voluntarily withdraw from course or change to audit without academic penalty: **13th November**.
- All written assignments for this class are to be submitted as Word attachments to the instructor's e-mail address.
- Assignments are due before the beginning of class on the date specified.
- Extensions beyond the published due dates will be allowed only in exceptional circumstances.
- Extensions beyond the final day of semester require special permission from the Registrar.
- If you feel you qualify for an extension, you must make a request to the instructor via e-mail.
- Assignments submitted late without permission will be penalized by 5% per day, or part thereof.
- Students are encouraged to have their written work read by a second reader before submitting it to the instructor. This person's name should be included on the title-page.

- Ambrose Seminary maintains a zero tolerance policy on plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or dismissal from the seminary. Even unintentional plagiarism is to be avoided. Students are expected to be familiar with the policy statements in the current academic calendar that deal with plagiarism, academic dishonesty (cheating), and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean.
- Personal information, that is, information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Further Instructions

Research Project

The research project consists of three parts:

1. Research Proposal
 - a. Write a 1-page (single spaced) research proposal outlining the aspect of Pauline Studies that you want to explore. Your proposal must be appropriate to the size of the research paper (15 pages), and must give some sense of why the topic you have chosen is important.
 - b. Include a preliminary outline of the development of your argument.
 - c. Include a preliminary bibliography of 10-15 sources that will form the basis of your research.
 - d. **Due: 7th October**
 - e. 10% of course grade

2. Annotated Bibliography
 - a. Provide annotations of 8-10 lines each on 20+ resources that will form the basis of your paper. Your bibliography should include different types of sources, including general surveys, commentaries, monographs, journal articles, etc.
 - b. Do not include exegetical tools in your bibliography at this stage, though they should be included in the final bibliography attached to the completed research paper.
 - c. **Due: 28th October**
 - d. 20 % of course grade

3. Research Paper
 - a. Write a 15-page research paper exploring the aspect of Pauline studies outlined in #1 above.
 - b. All documentation of sources must be done according to the "Style Guide" given below.
 - c. Include a full bibliography (not included in the page count).
 - d. **Due: 9th December**
 - e. 30 % of course grade

Sermon

This assignment consists of three parts:

1. Proposal
 - a. Write a 1-page (single spaced) proposal setting out the passage or theme that you want to write your sermon on. Your proposal must be appropriate to the length of the sermon (35-40 minutes oral delivery), and must give some sense of why the topic or passage you have chosen is important.
 - b. Include a preliminary outline of the development of your sermon.
 - c. Include a preliminary bibliography of 10-15 sources (not included in the 1 page space limit) that will form the basis of your preparation.
 - d. **Due: 7th October**
 - e. 10% of course grade

2. Annotated Bibliography
 - a. Provide annotations of 8-10 lines each on 20+ resources that will form the basis of your preparation. Your bibliography should include different types of sources, including general surveys, commentaries, monographs, journal articles, etc.
 - b. Do not include exegetical tools in your bibliography at this stage, though they should be included in the final bibliography attached to the completed sermon.
 - c. **Due: 28th October**
 - d. 20 % of course grade

3. Sermon
 - a. Write a sermon that would take you 35-40 minutes to deliver orally. Your sermon may take any form, but must include substantial interaction with the meaning of the biblical text in both its original setting and for contemporary culture. Creativity and innovation are encouraged.
 - b. Include a full bibliography.
 - c. **Due: 9th December**
 - d. 30 % of course grade

Style Guide

This *Style Guide* is designed as a quick reference tool to help with some of the technical details involved in citing sources in bibliographies and footnotes in written assignments. Only the most common types of sources are covered here. Students who need more detailed or complex guidance are directed to the *SBL Handbook of Style for Ancient Near Eastern, Biblical, and Early Christian Studies* (Hendrickson, 1999), which is available in our library.

In the following examples:

1. The first example in each section shows how the work should be cited in the first footnote referring to that work in your paper.
2. The second entry shows how the work should be referred to in all subsequent footnotes in your paper.
3. The third entry shows how the work should appear in your bibliography.

1. A BOOK BY A SINGLE AUTHOR

¹² Paul Spilsbury, *The Throne, the Lamb, and the Dragon: A Reader's Guide to the Book of Revelation* (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002), 101.

¹⁵ Spilsbury, *The Throne*, 99.

Spilsbury, Paul. *The Throne, the Lamb, and the Dragon: A Reader's Guide to the Book of Revelation*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

2. A BOOK BY TWO OR THREE AUTHORS

² Christopher T. Begg and Paul Spilsbury, *Flavius Josephus, Judean Antiquities 8–10* (Leiden: Brill, 2005), 237.

¹⁷ Begg and Spilsbury, *Judean Antiquities 8–10*, 23.

Begg, Christopher T., and Paul Spilsbury. *Flavius Josephus, Judean Antiquities 8–10*. Leiden: Brill, 2005.

3. A BOOK IN A SERIES

⁴ Paul Spilsbury, *The Image of the Jew in Flavius Josephus' Paraphrase of the Bible* (TSAJ 69; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 1998), 136.

¹⁸ Spilsbury, *Image*, 136.

Spilsbury, Paul. *The Image of the Jew in Flavius Josephus' Paraphrase of the Bible*. Texte und Studien zum Antiken Judentum 69; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 1998.

4. A JOURNAL ARTICLE

²¹ Kyle Jantzen, "Propaganda, Perseverance and Protest: Strategies for clerical survival amid the German Church Struggle," *CH 70* (2001): 295-327.

³⁷ Jantzen, "Propaganda," 321.

Jantzen, Kyle. "Propaganda, Perseverance and Protest: Strategies for clerical survival amid the German Church Struggle," *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 70 (2001): 295-327.

5. AN ARTICLE IN AN EDITED VOLUME

⁶ Kenneth L. Draper, "Redemptive Homes—Redeeming Choices: Saving the Social in Late-Victorian London, Ontario," in *Households of Faith: Family, Gender, and Community in Canada, 1760–1969* (ed. N. Christie; Montreal and Kingston: McGill/Queen's University Press, 2002), 177.

¹⁷ Draper, "Redemptive Homes," 203.

Draper, Kenneth L. "Redemptive Homes—Redeeming Choices: Saving the Social in Late-Victorian London, Ontario." Pages 201–221 in *Households of Faith: Family, Gender, and Community in Canada, 1760–1969*. Edited by N. Christie. Montreal and Kingston: McGill/Queen's University Press, 2002.

6. AN ARTICLE IN AN ENCYCLOPAEDIA OR A DICTIONARY

²¹ P. Spilsbury, "Messiah," *JHTC* 2:528.

³⁷ Spilsbury, "Messiah," 2:530.

Spilsbury, P. "Messiah." Pages 615–616 in vol. 2 of *Jesus in History, Thought and Culture: An Encyclopaedia*. Edited by L. Houlden. 2 vols. Oxford: ABC-CLIO, 2003.

7. A BOOK REVIEW

² Bernie A. Van De Walle, review of H.A. Harris, *Fundamentalism and Evangelicals*, *JETS* 44 (2001): 357.

⁷ Van De Walle, review of Harris, 358.

Van De Walle, Bernie A. Review of H.A. Harris, *Fundamentalism and Evangelicals*, *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 44 (2001): 357-59.

8. AN INTERNET PUBLICATION

³² Andy Reimer, "Healing: Biblical Basis and Procedure," n.p. [cited 5 January 2004].
Online: http://online.cbcccts.ca/alliancestudies/reimer/r/_healing.html.

³⁵ Reimer, "Healing."

Reimer, Andy. "Healing: Biblical Basis and Procedure." No pages. Cited 5 January 2004. Online:
http://online.cbcccts.ca/alliancestudies/reimer/r/_healing.html.

FURTHER INFORMATION

- Note that details of punctuation, indentation and italicization are part of the proper citation of sources. They should be exactly as indicated above.
- Note that footnotes are indented on the first line, while the bibliography has a hanging indentation.
- The standard font size for all written work is 12 point. This includes the title page.
- All written work should be double-spaced, and printed on one side of the paper.
- Page margins should be: top and bottom: 1", left and right 1.25".
- Your paper should have a title page that looks like this:

<p>"Assignment Title" Course Name (Number) Instructor's Name Date Submitted</p> <p>Your name Your Box number</p>

- Page numbering should start on the first page of text (not the title page), and should be in the top right hand corner.
- Use footnotes rather than endnotes.
- Do not *italicize* quotes.
- Long quotes (4 lines or more) should be single-spaced, and indented.
- Do not overuse long quotes.
- All written work must be submitted electronically.