

TORONTO



CANADIAN
THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY

Alliance University College

NT605-E The Pauline Letters (3)
Winter 2006
Instructor: Dr. Kenneth A. Fox

Contacting the Instructor

Office Phone: 416 679 8080

Class Times:

Weekend #1		Weekend #2	
Thursday February 16	7 – 10 pm	Thursday March 23	7-10 PM
Friday February 17	7 – 10 pm	Friday March 24	7-10 PM
Saturday February 18	9 – 4 pm	Saturday March 25	9 – 4 pm

Taste of Seminary: Weekend #1

Class Location: CTS—Toronto
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Toronto, ON

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Course Description

In this intermediate course we build on *New Testament Foundations* (NT 501), by exploring the life, ministry, and theology of Paul, based on an exposition of several of Paul's letters in their literary, argumentative, and historical contexts.

Attention will be given to practical concerns of application and hermeneutical issues raised in applying Paul's letters in the modern world today.

Prerequisite: NT 501 New Testament Foundations (or equivalent)

Course Objectives

At the successful completion of this course, each student is expected to have achieved competence in the following areas:

- 1 ability to exegete passages from the Pauline letters according to a clearly articulated hermeneutic
- 2 understanding of:
 - Paul's Gospel as it comes to expression in his letters
 - the reasons why Paul wrote each letter
 - the major theological ideas found in each letter
 - the argumentative structure of each book
 - the historical background of each book
- 3 capacity to reflect theologically upon Paul's theology and critique theological systems (e.g., Calvinism, Armenianism) used to interpret Paul's letters
- 4 employ principles of Pauline Theology in the solving of problems faced in the Christian life and world today
- 5 comprehension of Paul's theology of mission and ministry as it came to expression in his life and how this may impact the student's spiritual formation and sense of vocation and identity in Christ

Required Textbooks

Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research*. Second edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

Longenecker, Richard N. *New Testament Social Ethics for Today*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984.

Schreiner, Thomas R. *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2001.

Course Requirements

Group discussion (40%)

Each group will arrange to meet twice for three hours on their own, to discuss the content of *New Testament Social Ethics for Today* and *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*. These discussions have five purposes:

- 1 to challenge students to develop their critical, thinking skills
- 2 to enable students to improve their skills in developing and expressing theological arguments in a group context
- 3 to empower students to foster ability in leading fellow students in discussion
- 4 to have students take responsibility for their fellow students' education by mutually supporting one another
- 5 to encourage students to listen respectfully to views not their own

During the first weekend, students will be divided into groups of five. They will assign themselves the discussion for which they will be responsible for leading. They will also discuss together what they think will make for a successful discussion in each class.

Responsibilities of the student as leader. The group leader has two responsibilities during their thirty-minute discussion:

- 1 During the group discussion, the leader's responsibility is to guide the discussion and keep it on track. *The group leader should not prepare a mini-lecture*. For the discussion, the leader may choose to use some of

the teacher's questions distributed in the first class and/or develop their own

- 2 After the discussion, the leader will assign a participation grade for each member of the group and submit the grade electronically to the teacher (grade from zero to four, with four being highest). Base the grade on the following criteria:
 - If the student's comments during the discussion reflected an informed reading of assigned material, allocate a higher grade
 - If the student has contributed their fair share (not too much, not too little), allocate a higher grade
 - Consider a grade of four if the individual has excelled with respect to the above two criteria
 - If the student has dominated discussion in inappropriate ways, not contributed, or contributed only minimally, reduce their grade
 - If a student has contributed but their contributions were not informed by a careful reading of the material, reduce their grade
 - *Has the discussion led to a better understanding of the textbook and to a critical interaction with it?* If not, reduce the grade
 - The average grade should be between 2.5-3.3. Only if the student has excelled, give a 'four'. If the student's contribution is less than adequate, give a grade of 'two' or below

Responsibilities of the student as group participant. Students should come to each class having read the assigned materials carefully. Since the group leader may use some questions distributed in the first class, it may be wise to think about those questions for each discussion. In addition, students should come with their own questions and comments based on the readings.

Discussion #1

Group #1: *New Testament Social Ethics*, pages xxx-xxx

Group #2: *New Testament Social Ethics*, pages xxx-xxx

Group #3: *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*, pages xxx-xxx

Group #4: *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*, pages xxx-xxx

Group #5: *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*, pages xxx-xxx

Due Date: Thursday, March 23

Discussion #2

Group #1: *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*, pages xxx-xxx

Group #2: *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*, pages xxx-xxx

Group #3: *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*, pages xxx-xxx

Group #4: *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*, pages xxx-xxx

Group #5: *Paul: Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*, pages xxx-xxx

Due date: Monday, April 24

Paul's Theology of Ministry Paper (40%)

Students are to write a ten-page paper exploring Paul's theology of ministry and leadership, and reflect on its potential application in ministry today. A number of questions could be asked:

- What is the basis of Paul's authority?
- What do you perceive to be Paul's strengths and weaknesses as a leader (after all, he wasn't perfect [Phil 3.12])?
- How is Jesus Christ a model of ministry and leadership for Paul?
- How does Paul share his leadership and authority with others?
- How does Paul defend his ministry in the face of charges against him?
- What are some valuable lessons that you have learned from your study of Paul's theology of ministry and leadership?
- How does Paul understand leadership in the church to be structured and function? Ephesians 4.11-16 is worth considering here
- By means of a case-study examination of Paul's relationship with one church, what can we learn about Paul's style of leadership and ministry?
- What principles can we learn about leadership from 1 Corinthians 3.5-4.21?
- What principles can you learn about leadership from 2 Corinthians 2.14-7.4?

Due date: Friday, April 28

Exegetical/thematic Paper (30%)

Students are to write a ten-page, exegetical or thematic paper on a passage or topic in the Pauline letters. Guidelines will be distributed in class.

Due date: Friday, May 26

Course Grade

Discussion Groups	40%
Paul's Theology of Ministry Paper	30%
Exegetical paper	30%

Important Notes

Registration and payment in full is due for this modular class by 7 PM on the first day of class, Thursday, February 16.

Students may withdraw from this modular class and receive a full refund only prior to the second class session (i.e., before 7 pm on Friday, February 17. No tuition refund will be issued after this deadline.

Students may voluntarily withdraw or change their registration from credit to audit, without academic penalty, only prior to completing 70% of the course (i.e., before 7 pm on Friday March 24). Students who withdraw from a course after this deadline will receive a grade of "F."

All Registration changes must be made through the Registrar's Office by completing a Registration Revision Form. Forms are available at the CTS-T office or can be downloaded from www.auc-nuc.ca.

Craft of Research Seminar. This seminar, though not required, will be useful for researching, writing, and revising the two papers for this course. Bring your copy of the book *Craft of Research* and a hi-liter to the seminar. Date TBA.

Submit all written work electronically to the professor

Policy on extensions. All coursework requirements and due dates are clearly stated in the course syllabus. Coursework submitted after the due date, without prior approval by the Registrar and Academic Dean of a formal "Request for an Extension to coursework" will receive a grade of "F." Requests for an extension will be considered only in the following circumstances:

- the quality of prior coursework has been satisfactory; AND
- circumstances beyond the student's control, such as an extended illness or death of a family member, make it impossible for the student to complete the coursework on time; AND
- the student submits a "Request for an Extension to coursework" application to the Registrar on or before Friday, May 26.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty Policy. The 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 immediate dismissal from the seminary. Even unintentional plagiarism is to be avoided at all costs. Students are expected to be familiar with the policy statements in the current academic calendar and the student handbook 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.

Protection of Personal Information: Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement 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@auc-nuc.ca.