

Course ID:	Course Title:	Fall 2017
NT 606	Romans	Prerequisite: NT 501 or NT/OT 502
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	Wednesday	Instructor:	Jo-Ann Badley, Ph.D.	First day of classes:	Wed., Sept. 6
Time:	1:00-3:45	Email:	jbadley@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Sept 17
Room:	L2100	Phone:	403-410-2000 ext.3994	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon, Oct. 23
Lab/Tutorial:	none	Office:	L2084	Last day to withdraw from course:	Mon, Nov 13
		Office Hours:	By appointment	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	Mon, Nov 20
Final Exam:				Last day of classes:	Mon, Dec 11

Course Description

This course explores the life, ministry, and theology of Paul as it comes to expression in his letter to the Romans. By means of expositional analysis, particular attention is given to Paul's Gospel, his theology of God, the cross, the law-free Gospel, the Holy Spirit, and ethics. Students develop skills in exegesis and capacity to critique theological systems commonly used to interpret Romans.

Supplementary Course Information:

My assumption in interpreting Romans is that the letter is pastoral theology providing a theological foundation for church unity between Jews and Gentiles at Rome. As well, I assume that Paul's letter to the Romans has been a powerful influence on the church and western culture, but its meaning has not been constant throughout the last 2,000 years. Finally, I assume that all theology is narratively structured, and that attending to the stories implied in the letter undergirds a robust reading of this ancient document for the present church.

Expected Learning Outcomes

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will

- be able to identify the particular discussions of the argument of Romans, distinguishing its contents from other writings of Paul.
- have analyzed a variety of issues and perspectives employed historically to interpret Paul's letter.

- synthesize secondary interpretive material to produce a coherent explanation of a passage in Romans with its implications for Christian identity in the 21st century. (Exegetical guide available on the Moodle site.)

Textbook

Reasoner, Mark. *Romans in Full Circle: A History of Interpretation*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2005.

Recommended books (all on one-week reserve or in reference in the library):

A commentary to read with Romans through the semester. Some good choices:

Grieb, A. Katherine. *The Story of Romans: A Narrative Defense of God's Righteousness*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2002.

Johnson, Luke Timothy. *Reading Romans: A Literary and Theological Commentary*. Reading the New Testament Series. New York: Crossroad Publishing Company, 1997.

Lancaster, Sarah Heaner. *Romans*. Belief: A Theological Commentary on the Bible, edited by Amy Plantinga Pauw and William Placher. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2015.

Toews, John E. *Romans*. Believers Church Bible Commentary, edited by Douglas B. Miller and Loren L. Johns. Harrisonburg, VA & Waterloo, ON: Herald Press, 2004.

Wright, N.T. "The Epistle to the Romans: Introduction, Commentary, and Reflections." In *New Interpreter's Bible: A Commentary in Twelve Volumes*, edited by L.E. Keck, 10: 393-770. Nashville: Abingdon, 2002.

Other helpful resources on Paul:

Hawthorne, G.F., R.P. Martin and D.G. Reid, eds. *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*, Downers Grove, IL and Leicester, UK: InterVarsity Press, 1993. Reference BS 2650.2 D53

Gorman, Michael J. *Apostle of the Crucified Lord: A Theological Introduction to Paul and His Letters*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2004. Reserve

A selected bibliography on Romans will be available on Moodle.

Course Schedule

Sept.6	Introductions	Romans 1:1-7 Commentary, Introduction
Sept.13	Romans 1-4	Romans 1:8-17 Reasoner, Locus 1 (1:16-17)
Sept.20	Romans 1-4 continued	Romans 1:18-2:29

		Wisdom of Solomon 13:1-9 Available: http://www.earlyjewishwritings.com/wisdom.html (choose a translation; scroll to chapter 13)
Sept.27	Spiritual Emphasis Days: no class	
Oct.4	Romans 1-4 continued	Romans 3:1-4:25 Reasoner, Locus 2 (1:19-21) and Locus 3 (3:21-28)
Oct.11	Romans 5	Romans 5:1-21 Reasoner, Locus 4 and Locus 5 (5:18-21)
Oct.18	Romans 6-8	Downey Lecture Romans 6-7 Reasoner, Locus 6 (7:7-8:4) Exegetical Paper Proposal due
Oct.25	Romans 6-8 continued	Romans 8 Reasoner, Locus 7 (8:28-30) and Locus 8 (9:16-19)
Nov.1	Romans 9-11	Romans 9:1-10:4 Reasoner, Locus 9 (9:20-23)
Nov.8	Fall module week: no class	
Nov.15	Romans 9-11 continued	Romans 10:5-11:36 Exegetical Paper due
Nov.22	Romans 12-15	Romans 12:1-13:14 Reasoner, Locus 10 (10:4) and Locus 11 (11:25-27)
Nov.29	Romans 12-15 continued	Romans 14:1-15:33 Reasoner, Locus 12 (13:1-7)
Dec.6	Romans 16 Conclusions	Romans 16 Romans quiz

Requirements:

1. Presentation on a Locus from Reasoner (various dates throughout the term; 20%)

Choose one issue that Reasoner discusses, and identify how it matters for understanding Romans (include the options as he develops them); how does the commentary you are reading resolve this issue? what position would you take on this issue? Why?

Maximum 10 minute presentation (including a few minutes for class discussion); 2 page summary to hand in.

2. Final quiz: Identify texts as from Romans or not from Romans (in class, Dec.6; 20%)

20 quotations from the letters of Paul: identify each as in Romans, or not in Romans; if in Romans, identify the section of Paul's argument. Early in the term, we will choose an English translation to use for this quiz and an Outline of the book.

3. Exegesis Paper **OR** Alternative Project:

Exegesis Paper

- Proposal (one page, due Oct. 18; 10%) Identify the text in Romans you are working on, the question that this text raises for you that you are trying to answer, and at least six resources you have found that will help with answering the question, including two articles.
- Final paper (due Nov.15; 40%)

Grading rubric available on the Moodle site.

Maximum length: 10-12 pages (between 2500 to 3500 words)

Use a minimum of 8 sources not including versions of the biblical text used. Submit the papers using Moodle. A grading rubric will be posted on the Moodle site and discussed in class. Late papers will be accepted but will be docked grades (10% per week).

Alternative Project

If you would prefer to do an alternative activity to writing a paper, this is a possibility. Some options are artistic depictions (with artist notes); performance of a passage of Romans (with a description of the process and results of the work); one act play based on a narrative of Romans.

- Proposal (one page, due Oct.18; 10%) Describe your project including its connections to Romans, and indicate six resources you are using to do this work.
- Project (due Nov.15; 40%)

A grading rubric will be developed once the project proposal has been made and agreed upon. Late projects will be accepted but will be docked grades (10% per week)

4. Citizenship: attendance and contributions in class to discussions—to the Reasoner presentations and from the commentary reading. (10%)

Attendance:

Attendance in class will contribute to the grade for citizenship.

Grade Summary:

Reasoner presentation	20%
Quiz	20
Paper or Project Proposal	10
Paper or Project	40
Citizenship	<u>10</u>
	100%

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	

C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has

three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required 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.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative

examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.