



## **NT 607 The Corinthian Correspondence (3)**

**Winter 2013**

**Instructor: R. R. Remin**

### **Contacting the Instructor**

**Office: L2081**

**Class Times: Tu 8:15 – 11:00 a.m.**

**Email Address: [rremin@ambrose.edu](mailto:rremin@ambrose.edu)**

**Office Phone: 410-2000 ext. 7906**

**Class Location: LL122**

### **Course Description**

An expositional study of 1-2 Corinthians and an exploration of the literary, argumentative, historical, and theological context of the letter. Particular attention is given to Paul's theology of Christ, his theology of ministry, leadership, and pastoral care. Practical and hermeneutical concerns that arise in applying 1-2 Corinthians today are addressed.

### **Student Outcomes**

1. Each student will increase their knowledge and understanding of the historical, social and religious context of the Corinthian correspondence and the relevance of this context to understanding these epistles.
2. Each student will learn the genre and other literary features of these epistles and their sub-sections and the relevance to determining meaning.
3. Each student will be challenged to develop their understanding of each of the epistles as a whole with an over arching argument in contrast to a collection paragraphs on disconnected topics.
4. Each student will begin to learn the critical issues which have been raised by scholars in regard to these epistles.
5. Each student will increase their understanding of the theological significance of these epistles to themselves and the church as a whole in the twenty first century.
6. Each student will begin to understand various exegetical methodologies and evaluate their own methodology.

### **Required Texts**

Although no one particular text has been ordered for this course, the Ambrose library has an extensive collection of materials on these epistles. Students are expected to investigate, find

and read from a range of the best of these materials. Appropriate materials include the following:

- The commentaries but only from the good to best and modern ones. (*e.g.* Gordon Fee's 904 pages on 1 Corinthians, Ben Witherington III, F.B. Westcott, Charles Hodges, *et. al.*)
- Monographs. (*E.g.* the relevant parts of Gordon Fee's book on the empowering of the Holy Spirit.)
- Articles in refereed scholarly journals or *Festschriften*. (Use the searchable indices in the library.)
- Relevant articles in the best of the Bible dictionaries. (*e.g.* multi-volume dictionaries)

Students may include in their reading a small portion of more popular books, articles and even items from the web. The report on these items must be accompanied by a two or three sentence critique.

Copies of the following books are on reserve and/or in the reference section in the library.  
Fee, Gordon D. *The First Epistle to the Corinthians*, (NICNT, Eerdmans, 1987) 904 pages.  
Fee, Gordon D. *God's Empowering Presence, the Holy Spirit in the Letters of Paul*, (Hendrickson, 1984)  
Witherington, Ben. *Conflict and Community in Corinth: A Social-Rhetorical Study of 1 and 2 Corinthians*, (Eerdmans, 1995).

## Course Schedule

### 1. Dates for the semester.

Absolute deadline for late assignments is April 21 which is the last day of the examination period; for graduating students the absolute deadline is one week before.

Other dates for which you don't want to be late:

- January 20 (Sunday) is the last day to add/drop a course without financial penalty.
- February 26 is the deadline for applying for scholarships (\$\$\$\$) and other financial assistance (\$\$\$). Please apply for money (\$\$\$\$)! The applications are available on February 1.
- March 22 is the last day to withdraw from the course and receive a W (withdraw) for a grade.
- April 1 is the last day to apply for an extension on course work beyond April 19, the last day of the semester.
- April 9 is the last day of classes.
- April 19 is the end of the semester.

### 2. Weekly. At the beginning of each class each student will turn three typed pages without title page:

- a. A confirmation that the assigned reading was completed;
- b. An annotated report of their other readings completed in that week; and
- c. A written printed response to the assigned question(s) for that week.

3. The written research projects are due at the beginning of the first class in March, the middle of March and the beginning of the first class in April .

4. Schedule of Class Sessions for this course.

#	Date	Topic	Read before the class	Assignment due at the beginning of the class
1	Jan 10	Syllabus Introduction City of Corinth, history Church, history Argument vs. outline 1 Corinthians 1-4 Wisdom divine & human wisdom		None
2	Jan 17	1 Corinthians 5-6 Immorality & Court Cases Human wisdom, again	1 Corinthians 1-4 Acts 18.1-18 Acts 18.24-28 Acts 20.1-31  Corinthians 5-6 Plato, <i>Phaedrus</i> Exodus 18.13-26 Deuteronomy 1.16-17, 16.18, 17.8-10	Compare and contrast what Paul says about his leadership in 1 Corinthians 1-5 with Philipians. Read James and identify issues common in James and today's lesson.  Why does sexual immorality matter? Why doesn't sexual immorality matter? Why do Christians have to go to court in our society? Insurance? Child custody? Suing for wages? Labor relations? Pay equity? Why did Israelites go to court? Why did Greeks go to court? What are the implications for church leaders? Pastors, elders, deacons? Ecclesiological courts?
3	Jan 24	1 Corinthians 7 Concerning Sex	1 Corinthians 7 Song of Songs Genesis 2.20-25 Genesis 1.26-27 Matthew 19.3-12 Mark 10.2-12	How could someone conclude that it was good to abstain from sex? The source of this idea? How did it get worked out in European culture? What are the implications for marriage?
	Jan 31	No Class		
4	Feb 7	1 Corinthians 8-11 Concerning "Idol Stuff" Your Mistaken Identity	1 Corinthians 8-11	Who are you? From what or whom do you derive you identity? What do you do or wear which communicates your self-identity?

5	Feb 14	1 Corinthians 12-14 Concerning Spiritual Gifts	1 Corinthians 12-14 Romans 12.5-10 Ephesians 4.11-14 Hebrews 2.2-4 Exodus 35.30-36.5 Galatians 5.22-23	Compare the lists. What is the total number of gifts from these three lists? What percentage is common to all three lists? What is the purpose of the gifts in Corinthians? In Hebrews? What are your personal God-given talents and what are your spiritual gifts? How do they relate? How do you know your gifts and talents? Of the spiritual gifts two are particularly thorny – the gift of prophecy and the gift of the utterance of knowledge. How do you define these two gifts?
	Feb 21	No Class – Reading Week		
6	Feb 28	1 Corinthians 15-16 The Gospel Concerning the Collection	1 Corinthians 15-16	What are the essentials of the “good news” (gospel) as Paul describes it in 1 Corinthians 15? Are the resurrection of the body and the immortality of the soul the same idea or are they different? Explain. What is Paul’s view of material possessions and wealth in 1 Corinthians 16?
7	Mar 7	2 Corinthians 1 Introduction Paul’s Accusers Paul’s Apology (defense)	2 Corinthians 1	Read 1 Corinthians and 2 Corinthians – list in three columns the points of contact between the two epistles.
8	Mar 14	2 Corinthians 2-3-4 Sorrow and Love Mingled Ministry of the Spirit Apostolic Ministry	2 Corinthians 2-3-4	
9	Mar 21	2 Corinthians 5-6-7 This World and the Next Reconciliation All Around	2 Corinthians 5-6-7	
10	Mar 28	2 Corinthians 8-9-10 Generosity of the Macedonians Ministry to the saints Paul’s self description	2 Corinthians 8-9-10	
11	Apr 6	2 Corinthians 11-12-13 Apostolic Credentials The “Third Visit”	2 Corinthians 11-12-13	

## Course Requirements

1. Read each of the letters in their entirety in one sitting. Arrange for someone to read each of the letters to you in one sitting without your having the text in front of you or with pen and paper in hand. After hearing the reading of the letter ask yourself what that was about. Better yet do it in a group. See Eugene Peterson's *Working the Angles* for a discussion of hearing scripture as opposed to reading it.
2. Complete weekly reading assignments (biblical texts) as listed and assigned and submit confirmation.
3. Complete and submit in printed form your responses to the weekly reflection questions.
4. Read 1500 pages of "required reading" and submit a report as part of your weekly submission.
5. Each week each student will submit the update of their annotated reports of their reading.
6. Write three concise research papers on topics related to the Corinthian epistles and which are of interest to the student. Topics are to be determined in consultation with the professor. Each of these papers is to be submitted in the following format:
  - There will be no title page.
  - The pages are bound with no more or no less than a single staple in the upper left corner.
  - The student's name and student number will appear in the upper left corner on the first line; the words "Corinthian Correspondence" and the date of completion of the assignment appear on the second line. This information is single spaced.
  - The first line of the paper identifies the topic of the paper.
  - The remainder of the paper is double spaced in 12 point font of a common type; the format is that appropriate to an academic paper with footnotes and bibliography. No extra colours or special fonts except for Greek and/or Hebrew are to appear in the paper. The bibliography is single spaced.
  - If you don't know Greek or Hebrew, do not attempt to write either. To do so is committing a lie! If you do know Greek and/or Hebrew and use them, these words (phrases) must be written in Greek and/or Hebrew fonts. Beware! Not all printers will print all fonts correctly. This is your responsibility to ensure all fonts are printed correctly in you papers. Italicized Greek (and/or Hebrew) is an option, unless you knew the languages in which case you must write (type, print) Greek and/or Hebrew.

- Each paper is no more than 4 pages in length. The fifth page contains the bibliography.
- The presentation of the ideas in your papers must be consistent with these standards. Each student is expected to do research and then state the ideas derived from that research in their own words in their papers. There will be no direct quotations at all in the body of your paper. At no point will an idea be introduced with a perfunctory phrase such as “Somebody F. Scholar says.” If a student errs and a student does include material taken *verbatim* from a source, and since you have been told there will be no direct quotations or quotation marks, this is plagiarism and the student will be dealt with according to Ambrose’s academic policies. The grade for the assignment will be F.

### Course Grade

The final grade for this course will be calculated as follows:

Class Participation	5 %
Weekly reading	5 %
Question Responses	15 %
Required Reading	30 %
Three short research papers	45 %

Although grades are not given for attendance, your grade will be reduced in the event of excessive absenteeism.

### Important Notes

1. Remember The Rules For The Class

Have fun!  
 Make mistakes!  
 Ask dumb questions!  
 Cheat! (Except on the tests and the final.)  
 Consider this classroom a safe zone! There are no dumb questions! There are no topics which are off limit.

2. No *ad hominem* arguments on points of exegesis, interpretation, translation or theology or matters derived from the same, will be tolerated in this class. *Ad hominem* arguments attack the person who proposed the idea instead of the idea itself. *Ad hominem* arguments have typically dismissed an idea by pointing out that the author of the idea was a socialist (Amos), or a Pentecostal (Gordon Fee), or used to play in a night club (Wimber). Students must argue their point on its own merits. More recently *ad hominem* arguments have taken the form of *who are you to disagree with....* This means you cannot dismiss a point of view by citing the name and point of view of your

favorite theologian or theological tradition, nor your preferred translation. Likewise, students cannot dismiss a contrary point of view because it didn't come from a well known scholar or is different from a favorite published translation. State the ideas in your own words, then we'll discuss the ideas.

3. Anything submitted in hand writing must be written in ink. Your professor cannot and will not read anything written in pencil. Anything written in pencil will be assessed and F.
4. All other assignments must be printed and submitted in hard copy. (Do not submit electronic copies and expect me to print them.) Follow these requirements, when preparing your assignments!

- All printing is in black ink and on white paper. Twelve point font. There are no other colors or shading. No borders around pages.
- Margins must be standard. Spacing is 1.5 or double. Do not mess with margins or spacing or font size in an attempt to decrease or increase the number of pages of the assignment.
- There will be no cover page. One staple in the upper left corner. In the upper left corner of the first page, include the following information in this order.
  - The name of the assignment and the text. E.g. Contextual Analysis, Romans 12
  - Student's full name which is the same as the name under which you registered in this course. Do not include your student number.
  - On the next line the words, "Ambrose Seminary" or "Ambrose University College" must appear.
  - On another line the date on which the assignment was submitted.
- The fonts used must be twelve point standard fonts; the basic fonts are such as Calibri, Times New Roman, Arial, etc.
- Any Greek and/or Hebrew in the assignment must be in a Greek or Hebrew font. Transliteration is unacceptable except in a direct quotations such as the title of a publication or an article. If you do not know Greek or Hebrew, do not attempt to use them.

Do not put quotation marks around nor italicize nor underline any Greek or Hebrew words which are in Greek or Hebrew fonts! (The rule is that in papers written in English, foreign words which are written in the English alphabet are italicized or underlined but never both. Words written in any other alphabet besides the English/Roman one, need no other treatment.)

Transliteration is not acceptable in these papers except in a direct quotation or a title of a published work.

Students will be provided with fonts upon request. However, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that the fonts are correctly printed before the paper is handed in. (Not all printers will correctly print all fonts.) This is the student's

responsibility. Papers with incorrectly printed fonts will not be read. In the event of “font printing failure” the Greek or Hebrew words may be hand printed in black ink. (This was how it was done from the time of the invention of the type writer until the passing of the same when personal computers were invented.)

- Footnotes and bibliography must be consistent in detail and in an acceptable format which identifies who wrote what, when and where it was published.
- One (and only one) staple in the upper left corner. Do not use plastic covers, rings, binders, etc. Think “Adam’s ale!”

5. You may **contact your professor** by various means.

a. Office Hours. These Office Hours on campus are subject to meetings called by higher authorities (president, dean, registrar), previously scheduled meetings with other students, the instructor’s health (doctors’ appointments, medical emergencies), snow storms, ice storms, highway closures, automobile failure, and/or “the crick don’t raise” and “California doesn’t freeze over.”

Book an appointment via email so that I know you’re coming and you receive notification of cancelation or being preempted by another appointment (the above notwithstanding).

Your professor is typically available as follows.

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| i. Monday      | Afternoons (Mornings are given to meetings) |
| ii. Tuesday    | Not available                               |
| iii. Wednesday | From mid-morning to noon and after 2:30.    |
| iv. Thursday   | Afternoons                                  |
| v. Friday      | From mid-morning to noon and after 2:30.    |

b. Email in the office: [rremin@ambrose.edu](mailto:rremin@ambrose.edu)

c. Voice in the office: 410-2000 ext 7906

6. **Classroom Etiquette.** The following activities are considered poor classroom etiquette:

- Coming in late,
- Talking while someone else is talking,
- Disruptive behavior,
- Consumption of meals as opposed to minor snacks,  
(Definition. If a knife, fork, spoon or sticks are required it’s a meal!)
- Consumption of snacks in a noisy, smelly and/or disruptive manner,
- Personal grooming,
- Use of electronic devices such as cell phones, *i-pods*, *etc.*,
- Use of laptops for purposes (*e.g.* watching videos, playing solitaire) not directly connected to the class, and
- The practice of any behaviours considered impolite in adult company or in contravention of the laws of Alberta, specifically those prohibited while driving a motor vehicle.



Depending on the degree and/or frequency of the breach(es) of etiquette, the professor may display his displeasure in any one or more of the following manners:

- Frown, scowl, rolling eye balls (his not yours),
- Utterance of sounds of disgust,
- Sarcastic comments,
- Utterance of specific prohibitions,
- Dismissal of a student from the class,
- Ending the class prematurely, or
- In extreme cases the professor's immediate departure from the classroom.

**In extreme cases, in cases where the professor determines that a student's behaviour, attitude or consumables are affecting other student's negatively, the offensive individual and "theirs" will be summarily dismissed from the classroom for a "time out" the length of which will be determined unilaterally by the professor.**

7. **Grades for the course.** 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

Please note that final grades will be available on your student portal. Printed grade sheets are no longer mailed out.

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 Office of the Registrar in writing 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 to review final grades. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

8. **Absences** are intolerable because of the nature of the subject being learned and the manner in which this course is taught, namely the inductive method. If you must miss a class, please work through the lesson(s) missed and then come to class ready for the next lesson. Come to the instructor with any specific problems or questions. In the

event you cannot be prepared, you are better being in class unprepared than not in class at all. Too many absences will affect your final grade either by virtue of a poor assignments or an adjustment of your final grade by the instructor.

9. **Some more very important dates.**

The **last day to enter** a course without permission and /or **voluntary withdrawal** from a course without financial penalty (**drop**) – **Sunday, January 20, 2020** (Winter semester). These courses will not appear on the student’s transcript.

*Students may change the designation of any class from credit to audit, or drop out of the “audit” up to the “drop” date indicated above. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees. Please note that this is a **new policy**, beginning in the 2010-2011 academic year.*

Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. The last day to **voluntarily withdraw from a course without academic penalty (withdraw)** – **Friday, March 22** (Winter semester). A grade of “W” will appear on the student’s 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.

10. It is **the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar.**

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@ambrose.edu](mailto:privacy@ambrose.edu).

11. **Extensions and Alternative Examination Dates.** 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 an **alternative examination time** must be submitted to the Registrar’s Office by the appropriate deadline (as listed in the Academic Calendar. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise “due to circumstances beyond the student’s control.” The deadline this semester is **Monday, April 1, 2012.**

12. **Plagiarism and Cheating.** We at Ambrose 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 College 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 give credit 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 and the Student Handbook 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.

13. As the need may arise minor modifications to this syllabus and the class schedule may adopted from time to time.
14. Students are advised to retain this syllabus for their records.