

NT512 New Testament II
Summer 2007
Instructor, Russell Morton, Th.D.
Office phone: 419-289-5434
Email: rmorton2@ashland.edu
Office Hours: Research Librarian hours.

Catalog Description

An introduction to Acts, the Pauline Epistles, and Later New Testament in the context of contemporary biblical research. This course considers questions of New Testament introduction, the content and message of the New Testament documents, and the application of higher-critical methods to their interpretation.

Course Rational

While the dominant literary type of the Later New Testament is the letter, or epistle, these documents contain a wide range of literary genre, including a history (Acts), letters (Pauline and deutero-Pauline letters, Hebrews, James, 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John and Rev 2-3), an apocalypse (Revelation) and possibly sermons (Hebrews?, James?). To understand these writings, it is important that students understand the following issues:

What were the conventions of historical writing in the ancient world?

Is Acts a history, or an apology?

What are the conventions of letter writing in the 1st century?

What is the purpose of a letter?

How do categories of honor/shame affect theology, ethics and ecclesiology in the letters?

What differentiates Hebrews from the Pauline corpus.

What are the unique features of the Peterine letters?

What are the questions of authorship of Colossians, Ephesians, 2 Thessalonians, 1-2 Peter, Titus, 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude and Revelation?

What is an apocalypse?

In light of its genre, what is the basic message of Revelation, and how are we to read and preach from it in a responsible manner?

In addition to these questions, Pauline research alone has undergone a quantum shift since 1977, when E.P. Sanders published *Paul and Palestinian Judaism*, and initiated what J.D.G. Dunn has described as the “new perspective.” The “new perspective” will be a major focus of this class, where we focus on Paul’s teaching in relation to Second Temple Judaism of the first century.

Course Goals

By the end of this class, students will be able to:

Understand the different literary genres contained in the in the NT documents from Acts-Revelation.

Articulate the major themes of the primary Pauline Epistles.

Discuss the importance of the “New Perspective on Paul,” and how it influences our understanding of Paul’s letters

Recognize the differences between Hebrews and James and the Pauline letters.

Articulate the messages of Hebrews and the “Catholic letters” of the New Testament.

Know the definition of an “Apocalypse, and how the Book of Revelation fits into this model.

Texts

deSilva, David A. *An Introduction to the New Testament: Contexts, Methods & Ministry Formation*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Press, 2004.

Stowers, Stanley, *Letter Writing in Greco Roman Antiquity*. 2nd ed. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1989.

Wright, N. T. *What Saint Paul Really Said: Was Paul of Tarsus the Real Founder of Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997.

Enabling Activities

Students will be required to attend class and participate in class discussion and group activities. Students will also be required to keep up with reading to be able to participate in class activities and discussions.

In addition, the following will be required:

Class participation and group work (10% of grade). Not more than two absences are allowed, except in special circumstances, such as serious illness.

Book review of N.T. Wright, *What Paul Really Said*, Due last day of class (20% of grade).

Final exam. Due two weeks after the last day of class. The test will be a take home essay. Students will answer three of five or six questions. The final is due two weeks after the last day of class. (30% of grade)

Exegetical paper. Due three weeks after the last day of class. The student will utilize resources listed in the bibliography to construct the paper. Students are also required to consult and cite at least three (3) critical commentaries and three (3) journal articles for their papers. If students have trouble finding the required number of articles, they must contact the professor, who is also the research librarian, either through email, telephone or in person. The paper (40 % of grade)

The paper will follow Turabian style, and will employ methodologies covered in Hermeneutics. However, the purpose of the paper is not simply to give a commentary, but to argue a point. Student papers are to have the following:

An introduction, concluding with a thesis sentence;

A body discussing where the thesis is proven or disproven;

A demonstrable conclusion arising out of the discussion.

If students are unsure of how to compose a letter, they should look at articles in major journals, such as the *Journal of Biblical Literature*, *New Testament Studies*, or *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*.

While Turabian style is mandatory, for the mechanics of writing, students may also consult Strunk and White's famous little book *Elements of Style*.

Ashland Theological Seminary Academic Integrity Policy

Ashland Theological Seminary seeks to model servant leadership derived from biblical standards of honesty and integrity. We desire to encourage, develop, and sustain men and women of character who will exemplify these biblical qualities in their ministry to the church and the world. As members of the seminary community, students are expected to hold themselves to the highest standards of academic, personal, and social integrity. All students, therefore, are expected to abide by the academic integrity standards outlined in the Student Handbook.

Students With Disabilities

For students who have specific physical, psychiatric or learning disabilities and require accommodations, please let the professor know early in the quarter (preferably the first week) so that your learning needs can be appropriately met. In order to receive accommodations, documentation concerning your disability must be on file with Classroom Support Services, 105 Amstutz Hall, Ashland University, 419-289-5953. Please contact them with any questions you may have.

Class Attendance

According to the student handbook, attendance at all class sessions is expected unless the professor has been notified in advance. Any student missing the equivalent of six class hours will be required to do additional work, receive a lower grade or withdraw from the class; this is at the discretion of the professor.

Grading Scale

A	97-100	4.0
A-	92-96	3.7
B+	89-91	3.3
B	86-88	3.0
B-	83-85	2.7
C+	80-82	2.3
C	77-79	2.0
C-	74-76	1.7
D+	71-73	1.3
D	68-70	1.0
D-	65-67	.7
F	below 65	0

Policy on late work, Incompletes and Extensions

Except in extreme circumstances, late work will **not** be accepted, and incompletes and extensions will **not** be granted. Students may email their tests and papers to the professor. The reviews will be collected the last day of class. Since students will be discussing the reviews, they will need to bring them with them to class. The reviews will be handed in after class.

Course Schedule

Before the first class, be sure to read to read, at minimum deSilva, pp. 23-144. Because of the abbreviated format, students are encouraged to finish most, if not all the readings before the first class, so they devote themselves to review while the class is being conducted.

July 23 AM	Opening class. Introduction Acts	deSilva pp. 348-90 Stowers pp. 15-26
------------	--	---

July 23 PM	Introduction to Paul Introduction to Galatians	deSilva pp. 475-504 Stowers, pp. 27-47
July 24 AM	Galatians, cont'd.	deSilva pp. 504-26 Stowers pp. 49-76
July 24 AM	Thessalonians Corinthians pt. 1	deSilva pp. 527-62 Stowers, pp. 77-90
July 25 AM	Corinthians pt. 2	deSilva pp. 562-97 Stowers pp. 91-121
July 25 PM	Romans Ephesians, pt. 1	deSilva pp. 598-667 Stowers pp. 121-52
July 26 AM	Ephesians, pt. 2 Colossians	deSilva pp. 690-775 Stowers pp. 153-65
July 26 PM	Philemon Hebrews James	deSilva pp. 668-89, 776-864 Stowers pp. 167-73
July 27 AM	2 Peter, Jude Johannine letters	deSilva pp. 865-84, 449-71
July 26 PM	Revelation Book Review, Wright, <i>What Paul Really Said Due</i> Discussion of Review	deSilva, pp. 885-932

Selected Bibliography

Journals that are acceptable as sources of articles include.

Biblica

Biblical Interpretation

Biblical Research

Biblical Theology Bulletin

Bibliotheca Sacra

Biblische Zeitschrift (Has articles in English as well as French and German)

Bulletin for Biblical Research

Catholic Biblical Quarterly

Evangelical Quarterly

Expository Times

Harvard Theological Review

Horizons in Biblical Theology

Interpretation

Journal for the Study of Judaism

Journal for the Study of the New Testament

Journal for the Study of the Pseudepigrapha

Journal of Bible and Religion

Journal of Biblical Research

New Testament Studies

Novum Testamentum

Revue Biblique

Semeia

Vox Evangelica

Zeitschrift für die Neutestamentliche Wissenschaft und die Kunde des Urchristentums
(articles in French and English as well as German).

Articles may be accessed using either *New Testament Abstracts*, available in the reference reading room and online, or using Religion Index Databases. The latter is available through OhioLINK via the Ashland University library system. Instructions for use may be found in the “Library Guides” section of my website at www.ashland.edu/~rmorton2 or in paper form at the library.

Dictionaries

Anchor Bible Commentary

Dictionary of New Testament Background

Dictionary of Paul and His Letters

Dictionary of the Later New Testament

Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible

New Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible

Acts

Studies

Hengel, Martin, *Acts and the Earliest History of Christianity*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1980.

Lentz, John Clayton, *Luke’s Portrait of Paul*. Monograph Series (Society for New Testament Studies); 77. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Pervo, Richard I. *Luke’s Story of Paul*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1990.

Walaskay, Paul D. “*And So We Came to Rome*”: *The Political Perspective of St. Luke*. Monograph Series (Society for New Testament Studies); 49. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 1983.

Winter, Bruce and Andre D. Clarke, eds. *The Book of Acts in its Ancient Literary Setting. Book of Acts in Its First Century Setting; 1*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.

Paul

Studies

Barrett, C. K. *Paul: An Introduction to His Thought*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1994.

Beker, J. Christiaan, *Paul the Apostle: The Triumph of God in Life and Thought*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1980

_____, *Paul's Apocalyptic Gospel: The Coming Triumph of God*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1982.

Boyarin, Daniel, *A Radical Jew: Paul and the Politics of Identity*. Berkley: University of California Press, 1994.

Byron, John *Slavery metaphors in early Judaism and Pauline Christianity : a tradition-historical and exegetical examination*. WUNT 2:162. Tübingen: Mohr-Siebeck, 2003.

Das, A. Andrew, *Paul the Law and the Covenant*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 2001.

Davies, W. D. *Jewish and Pauline Studies*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1984.

Dickson, John P. *Mission-commitment in ancient Judaism and in the Pauline communities : the shape, extent and background of early Christian mission*. WUNT 2:159. Tübingen: Mohr-Siebeck, 2003.

Donaldson, Terrence L. *Paul and the gentiles : remapping the Apostle's convictional world*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1997.

Dunn, J.D.G., ed. *Paul and the Mosaic Law*. WUNT 2.89. Tübingen: Mohr-Siebeck, 1996.

_____, *Theology of Paul the Apostle*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

Fitzmyer, Joseph A. *According to Paul: Studies in the Theology of the Apostle Paul*. New York: Paulist Press, 1993.

Freed, Edwin D. *The Apostle Paul, Christian Jew: Faithfulness and Law*. Lanham, Md.: University Press of America, 1994.

- Furnish, Victor Paul, *The Moral Teaching of Paul: Selected Issues*. 2nd ed. Nashville: Abingdon, 1985.
- Gaston, Lloyd, *Paul and the Torah*. Vancouver, B.C.: University of British Columbia Press, 1987.
- Goulder, M. D. *Paul and the Competing Mission in Corinth*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 2001.
- Kim, Seyoon, *Paul and the new perspective: second thoughts on The origin of Paul's gospel*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001.
- Levine, Amy Jill, Marianne Blickenstaff. *A Feminist Companion to Paul*. London: T & T Clark, International, 2004.
- Longenecker, Richard N. *Paul: Apostle of Liberty*. New York: Harper and Row, 1964.
- Malherber, Abraham, *Paul and the Popular Philosophers*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1989.
- Meeks, Wayne, *The First Urban Christians: The Social World of the Apostle Paul*. 2nd ed. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.
- Munk, Johannes, *Paul and the Salvation of Mankind*. Richmond, Va.: John Knox Press, 1959.
- Murphy O'Connor, Jerome, *Paul: A Critical Life*. Oxford; New York: Oxford University Press, 1997.
- Nanos, Mark, *The Mystery of Romans: The Jewish Context of Paul's Letter*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1996.
- Peterson, Norman R, *Rediscovering Paul: Philemon and the Sociology of Paul's Narrative World*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1985.
- Richardson, Peter and David Granskou, eds. *Anti-Judaism in Early Christianity*. Waterloo, Ont., Canada: Published for the Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion by Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 1986-
- Samplly, J. Paul, *Paul in the Greco-Roman World: A Handbook*. Harrisburg, Pa.: Trinity Press, International, 2003.
- Sanders, E. P. *Paul and Palestinian Judaism: A Comparison of Patterns of Religion*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1977.
- _____, *Paul the Law and the Jewish People*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1983.

Schweitzer, Albert, *The Mysticism of St. Paul the Apostle*. New York: H. Holt, 1931.

Stanley, Christopher D. *Arguing with Scripture: the rhetoric of quotations in the letters of Paul*. New York: T & T Clark International, 2004.

_____, *Paul and the language of Scripture: citation technique in the Pauline epistles and contemporary literature*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1992.

Stroble, Paul E. *Paul and the Galatians : the life and letters of Paul*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2000.

Theissen, Gerd, *The Social Setting of Pauline Christianity: Essays on Corinth*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1982.

Walton, Steve, *Leadership and lifestyle : the portrait of Paul in the Miletus speech and 1 Thessalonians*. Monograph series/Society for New Testament Studies; 108. Cambridge, U.K.; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2000.

Watson, Francis, *Paul and the Hermeneutics of Faith*. London: T & T Clark, 2004.

Wiles, Virginia, *Making Sense of Paul: A Basic Introduction to Pauline Theology*. Peabody, Mass. Hendrickson Publishers, 2000.

Winter, Bruce W. *After Paul Left Corinth: The Influence of Secular Ethics and Social Change*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001.

_____, *Philo and Paul Among the Sophists*. Monograph Series (Society for New Testament Studies); 96. Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 1997.

Hebrews

deSilva, David A. *Despising Shame*

_____, *Perseverance in Gratitude*

Peterine Epistles and Jude

Johannine Epistles

Bibliographies

Just, Felix, "Johannine Bibliography," accessed at:
<http://clawww.lmu.edu/faculty/fjust/John/bibliog-Main.html>

Wagner, Günter, *An Exegetical Bibliography of the New Testament: John and 1, 2, 3, John*. Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 1987

Also see the bibliographies of major commentaries, especially: Brown, Raymond E., *The Epistles of John*. Anchor Bible 30. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1982.

Commentaries

Brooke, A. E. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Johannine Epistles*. *International Critical Commentary*. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1964.

Brown, Raymond E. *The Epistles of John*. Anchor Bible 30. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1982.

_____. *Gospel and Epistles of John: A Concise Commentary*. Collegville, Minn.: Liturgical Press, 1988.

Bultmann, Rudolf, *The Johannine Epistles: A Commentary on the Johannine Epistles*. Translated by R. Philip O'Hara with Lane G. McGaughey and Robert Funk. Edited by Robert Funk. Hermeneia. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1973.

Dodd, C.H. *The Johannine Epistles*. Moffatt New Testament Commentary. New York: Harper, 1946.

Grayston, Kenneth, *The Johannine Epistles: Based on the Revised Standard Version*. New Century Bible Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984.

Hobbs, Herschel H. *The Epistles of John*. Nashville: T. Nelson, 1983.

Houldon, J. L. *A Commentary on the Johannine Epistles*. Black's New Testament Commentaries. New York: Harper & Row, 1973.

Johnson, Thomas Floyd, *1, 2, and 3 John*. New International Biblical Commentary 17. Peabody, Mass: Hendrickson, 1998

Kysar, Robert, *First, Second, and Third John*. Augsburg Commentary on the New Testament. Minneapolis, Minn.: Augsburg Pub. House, 1986

Marshall, I. Howard. *The Epistles of John*. New International Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1978

Schnackenburg, Rudolf, *The Johannine Epistles: Introduction and Commentary*.

Translated by Reginald and Ilse Fuller. New York: Crossroad, 1992.

Smalley, Stephen S. *First Second , Third John*. Word Biblical Commentary 51. Waco, Tex.: Word, 1984.

Smith, D. Moody. *First, Second , and Third John*. Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching. Louisville: John Knox Press. 1991.

Strecker, Georg, *The Johannine Letters: A Commentary on 1, 2, and 3 John*. Translated by Linda M. Maloney. Edited by Harold Attridge. Hermeneia: A Critical and Historical Commentary on the Bible. Minneapolis, Minn.: Fortress Press, 1996.

Talbert, Charles H. *Reading John: A Literary and Theological Commentary on the Fourth Gospel and the Johannine Epistles*. New York: Crossroad, 1992.

Thompson, Marianne Meye. *1-3 John*. IVP New Testament Commentary Series. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1992.

Wescott, Brooke Foss, *The Epistles of St John: The Greek Text*. 2nd ed. Cambridge: Macmillan, 1886.

Studies

Brown, Raymond E. *Community of the Beloved Disciple*. New York: Paulist Press, 1979

Burge, Gary M., *The Anointed Community: The Holy Spirit in the Johannine Tradition*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1987.

Charlesworth, James H., ed. *John and the Dead Sea Scrolls*. Christian Origins Library. New York: Crossroad, 1990.

Culpepper, R. Alan. *The Gospel and Letters of John*. Interpreting Biblical Texts. Nashville: Abingdon, 1998.

Hengel, Martin, *The Johannine Question*. London: SCM Press; Valley Forge: Trinity Press International, 1989.

Lieu, Judith, *The Theology of the Johannine Epistles*. New Testament Theology. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1991.

Revelation

Commentary Series

Students should be selective about commentaries. Some series that can be useful are:

Anchor Bible (with reservations)

Hermeneia

International Critical Commentaries

Interpretation: A biblical commentary for preaching and teaching

New International Greek Testament

New International Commentary on the New Testament

Word Biblical Commentary

New Testament Theology Series

Cambridge University Press has published many useful short theological studies under the title: New Testament Theology. This series may be accessed by making a title search in the catalog. Students are highly encouraged to utilize this resource for their papers.