

## **NT628: Exegesis of Ephesians**

Professor: Dr. Mateus de Campos  
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Summer 2019  
June 3-7; 10-14  
9:00am-12pm  
Requirements: NT502, and GL502

### **1. Course Description**

Paul's letter to the Ephesians is a masterful presentation of the identity and vocation of the Church, grounded in the reality of the absolute supremacy of Jesus Christ. This course follows a sequential exegetical assessment of Ephesians, with the purpose of sharpening the exegetical skills learned in NT502, improving knowledge of New Testament Greek, and developing familiarity with the letter's argument and theology.

### **2. Learning Objectives**

The successful completion of the course will entail the following learning goals:

- To apply the relevant exegetical methods to a passage in Ephesians. Given the rhetorical refinement of the letter, attention will be given to grammatical and rhetorical analysis
- To read and translate Ephesians from the Greek text, being able to analyze complex grammatical aspects
- To develop acquaintance with the stylistic distinctive features of Ephesians
- To develop familiarity with the critical issues regarding the historical context of Ephesians
- To appreciate the theology of Ephesians, with particular emphasis on its soteriological and ecclesiological themes
- To deepen the understanding of Christian identity and vocation, as developed in the letter.
- To be able to identify the main exegetical ideas that will lead to effective preaching and teaching of Ephesians

The vision of the Church as the Body of Christ that Paul develops in Ephesians is fundamental to one's understanding of their identity in Christ. The ultimate goal of this course is to contemplate that vision, with the hope of having our minds, imagination and conduct transformed by it.

### 3. Academic Requirements

The exegesis of Ephesians will be carried out in the original Greek language. Therefore, students are expected to have completed two semesters of Basic Greek (GL501 and 502). In addition, knowledge of the basic exegetical skills developed in NT502 is assumed. Familiarity with the methods of grammatical analysis and discourse analysis will be pivotal for the completion of the course. Students are responsible for deepening their knowledge of these methods as needed.

Note: In 600 and 700 level Greek exegesis courses, you are required to show competency in the Greek language. If you do not demonstrate Greek competency (evaluated through a competency exam, translation, Greek vocabulary knowledge, and analysis of Greek grammar in your paper), you will not be given a passing grade (even if you pass the course according to your grade point average).

### 4. Course Format

A typical session will include: a) translation and discussion of the grammatical and rhetorical features of a designated section of Ephesians; b) lecture on the exegetical aspects of the corresponding section, and c) a discussion of theological/pastoral implications of the exegesis.

### 5. Course Requirements

**Greek Competency Exam.** This take-home test will be given in the first day of class, Fri, June 3<sup>rd</sup> and should be returned on the next day. The exam will include vocabulary, parsing of verbs, and translation. The best way to prepare for this exam is to review your first year Greek grammar, giving attention to parsing verbs. You need to pass the exam in order to take the class for credit.

**Reading.** Students will be expected to read the assigned commentary on Ephesians as well as the assigned book on exegesis of Pauline letters. A reading statement mentioning the percentage of the material read must be uploaded to Canvas by Aug. 16th. A penalty of 1% of the final grade will be applied for every 10% of incomplete reading.

**Translations.** Students are expected to translate the letter of Ephesians from the Greek Text (NA28 required). A translation notebook should be kept containing the Greek text, translation, a vocabulary list for words with which the student is not familiar, and parsing of key verbs. The notebook is for the students own use and must not be submitted. A translation statement mentioning the percentage of the text translated must be submitted through Canvas by Aug 16th.

## Exegetical Assignments.

- a) **Exegetical analysis and presentation.** Students will choose from the list of passages below and carry out an exegetical analysis. Students will apply the exegetical methods learned in NT502 (e.g. textual criticism, analysis of historical background, literary structure, lexicography, syntactical analysis, discourse analysis, NT use of OT, specific cultural background, etc) to the passage assigned, and produce a bullet point summary of their finding (no more than 5 pages long). The findings will be presented on the day the passage will be discussed (see schedule below). The presentation should be 20-30 min. This will provide the student with the opportunity of getting “live feedback” on their exegesis, which will become the basis for producing the final exegesis paper.
- a. Students should come to the first class with a choice of three of the following passages ranked in order of preference (only one will be actually assigned for exegesis). If two or more students choose the same passage, the decision will be made by draw. The schedule below is tentative and may be delayed by one day according to class dynamics.
    - i. Ephesians 4:1-6 – Presentation: 06/11
    - ii. Ephesians 4:11-16 – Presentation: 06/11
    - iii. Ephesians 4:17-24 – Presentation: 06/12
    - iv. Ephesians 5:7-14 – Presentation: 06/13
    - v. Ephesians 5:15-21 – Presentation: 06/13
- b) **Grammatical and Rhetorical analysis.** Assignment due on Aug. 16<sup>th</sup>. Students are to produce a sentence diagram and a discourse analysis of their assigned passages, along with a summary of the exegetical idea of the passage. This assignment is part of item (b) above, but it must be submitted as a separate piece.
- For assignment (c) above it is strongly recommended that students use the tool Biblearc ([www.biblearc.com](http://www.biblearc.com)). The website contains an intuitive platform for sentence diagramming and discourse analysis (called arcing or bracketing in the website), as well as helpful instructional videos on how to use the tools. There is a small fee to use these tools.
  - All assignments should be tagged on the top right corner as follows:  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Box Number \_\_\_\_\_
  - All assignments are to be submitted electronically via the online learning platform. For essays, please submit a .docx document with Greek/Hebrew fonts in Unicode. This will facilitate the professor’s comments and grading. For diagrams, please submit a .pdf file. For hand-drawn diagrams send a .pdf with the image properly scanned (no smartphone pictures).

- Documents uploaded to the online learning platform should be named according to the following format: NT628\_Last Name\_Assignment #\_Assignment title.  
For example, NT628\_Smith\_Assignment 1\_Analysis of Themes and Motifs
- While aesthetics is not a priority, the neatness of the presentation of the assignments is important and will affect grades. Please refrain from submitting work containing coffee or water stains, or lines and arrows drawn without the use of a ruler.

**Exegesis Paper. Assignment due on Aug. 16<sup>th</sup>.** Students are to complete a major exegesis paper (10-15 pages double-spaced, including footnotes but not bibliography) on the passage of their choice (see item [b] above). Since most of the exegesis will be discussed in the presentation in class, the aim of the paper should be to integrate the exegetical findings in a coherent argument, interacting with secondary sources as appropriate. The paper must integrate the exegetical skills learned in NT502 and subsequent courses. **The paper must be an exegesis of the Greek text. Papers that do not show a substantial interaction with the Greek text will receive a failing grade.** Detailed guidelines for the paper will be provided on the online learning platform.

## 6. Evaluation

Translations	10%
Exegetical analysis and presentation	30%
Grammatical and rhetorical analysis	15%
Exegesis Paper	45%

**Note on attendance:** Attendance at every class is expected. A minimum attendance of 10 out of 12 classes is required to pass the class. Absence due to unavoidable circumstances has to be discussed with the professor.

## 7. Class Outline\*

Class	Date	Lecture	Notes
1	3-Jun	Introduction to Ephesians	Read Smith(Bock&Fanning), 73-134; Schreiner, 97-126 (see recommended bibliography) Sowell, 3-25 (on Sakai)
2	4-Jun	Introduction (cont.); Ephesians 1:1-6	
3	5-Jun	Ephesians 1:7-14	
4	6-Jun	Ephesians 1:15-23	

5	7-Jun	Ephesians 2:1-10; 2:11-22	
6	10-Jun	Ephesians 2:11-22 (cont.) 3:1-21	
7	11-Jun	Ephesians 4:1-16	[Presentations]
8	12-Jun	Ephesians 4:17-32	[Presentations]
9	13-Jun	Ephesians 5:1-6:9	[Presentations]
10	14-Jun	Ephesians 6:10-18	

*\*The schedule may change according to the course dynamics.*

## 8. Grade Scale

97-100	A+	87-89	B+	77-79	C+	67-69	D+
94-96	A	84-86	B	74-76	C	64-66	D
90-93	A-	80-83	B-	70-73	C-	60-63	D-

## 9. Bibliography

### Required

Greek New Testament (NA28)

Thielman, Frank. *Ephesians*. Baker exegetical commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2010.

Schreiner, Thomas R. *Interpreting the Pauline Epistles*. 2nd Revised edition edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2011.

### Recommended

Bock, Darrell L., and Buist M. Fanning. *Interpreting the New Testament Text: Introduction to the Art and Science of Exegesis*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2006.

Hoehner, Harold W. *Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2002.

Wallace, Daniel B. *Greek Grammar beyond the Basics: An Exegetical Syntax of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

### Research

Arnold, Clinton E. *Ephesians*. Zondervan exegetical commentary series : New Testament ; v. 10. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2010.

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- Brannon, M. Jeff. *The Heavens in Ephesians: A Lexical, Exegetical, and Conceptual Analysis*. T & T Clark library of biblical studies. London ; T & T Clark, 2011.
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- Gombis, Timothy G. *The Drama of Ephesians: Participating in the Triumph of God*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP Academic, 2010.
- Immendörfer, Michael. *Ephesians and Artemis: The Cult of the Great Goddess of Ephesus as the Epistle's Context*. Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament. 2. Reihe, 0340-9570 ; 436. Tübingen, Germany: Mohr Siebeck, 2017.
- Klein, William W. *The Book of Ephesians: An Annotated Bibliography*. Books of the Bible ; v. 8. New York: Garland, 1996.
- Kooten, Geurt Hendrik van. *Cosmic Christology in Paul and the Pauline School: Colossians and Ephesians in the Context of Graeco-Roman Cosmology, with a New Synopsis of the Greek Texts*. Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament. 2. Reihe, 0340-9570 ; 171. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2003.
- Larkin, William J. *Ephesians: A Handbook on the Greek Text*. BHGNT, Baylor handbook on the Greek New Testament. Waco, Tex.: Baylor University Press, 2009.
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- Moritz, Thorsten. *A Profound Mystery: The Use of the Old Testament in Ephesians*. Supplements to Novum Testamentum, 0167-9732 ; v. 85. Leiden ; E.J. Brill, 1996.
- Rogers, Guy MacLean. *The Mysteries of Artemis of Ephesos: Cult, Polis, and Change in the Graeco-Roman World*. 1 online resource (xii, 500 pages). vols. Synkrisis. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2012.
- Smith, Julien. *Christ the Ideal King: Cultural Context, Rhetorical Strategy, and the Power of Divine Monarchy in Ephesians*. Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament. 2. Reihe ; 313. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2011.

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- Stott, John R. W. *God's New Society: The Message of Ephesians*. The Bible speaks today. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1979.
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- Yoder Neufeld, Thomas R. *Put on the Armour of God: The Divine Warrior from Isaiah to Ephesians*. Journal for the study of the New Testament. Supplement series ; 140. Sheffield, England: Sheffield Academic Press, 1997.