NT 723 Exegetical Study of First Corinthians

Joseph S. Wang
NT 723  Exegetical Study of First Corinthians—Greek 3 hrs. Wang
Prerequisite: IBS-1, NT 520, NT 501/502

Course Description:
This course will study exegetically the content of the First Corinthians. An emphasis will be on further development of skills in exegesis, specially, integration of the method used in IBR courses and that used in exegesis of the text in the original languages. The major theological themes of First Corinthians and their application to the situations in the church and the Christian life will be investigated.

Course Objectives:
Having successfully completed this course, students should be able:

• to employ a range of exegetical approaches relevant to the interpretation of First Corinthians, and to apply those approaches to other NT books of similar genre;
• to understand First Corinthians within its socio-historical, literary, and canonical contexts;
• to identify central issues in the critical study of First Corinthians;
• to articulate the importance of one's own presuppositions in the task of interpretation;
• to articulate primary theological and ethical concerns of First Corinthians;
• to demonstrate awareness of how the theological and ethical concerns of First Corinthians contribute to those of the canon and of constructive theology and ethics;
• to differentiate between critical and homiletical/devotional commentaries and studies of First Corinthians and other NT books;
• to evaluate critically the usefulness of secondary literature in the study of NT books.
• to demonstrate proficiency in lexical semantics with only minimal assistance from Greek-based language tools;
• to identify grammatical constructions (i.e., with regard to sentence structure and use of clauses) with only minimal assistance from Greek-based language tools;
• to engage in syntactical analyses (i.e., with regard to verbal aspect, mood, and voice; use of the genitive and dative cases) with only minimal assistance from Greek-based language tools;
• to diagram passages in the Greek NT;
• to translate with minimal lexical assistance any passage(s) from First Corinthians; and
• to perform rudimentary exercises in textual criticism.

Course Requirements:

1. Reading of First Corinthians in Greek. Be prepared to orally translate the Greek text into English in the class session when called to do so.

2. Two research papers, *exegetically* treating a passage/passage(s) of First Corinthians or an issue/issues raised in/by this epistle. The first paper will be due on October 9, 2003. The second paper will be due on December 4, 2003.

3. Participation in class discussion. Students are expected to study commentaries and other sources outside the class. They are expected to bring the various views to contribute to class discussion.

Course Grade:

The course grade will be based on how the student performs in fulfilling all the requirements.