NT 724 Exegesis of the Corinthian Correspondence

Ruth Anne Reese

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NT 724 Exegesis of the Corinthian Correspondence

Draft: Version 1.2: Course Schedule is Subject to Change
All Reading and Assignments will remain the same

Ruth Anne Reese
Office FM 105 4pm-5:15pm
ruthanne_reese@asburyseminary.edu x. 2184
Office Hours: Tues 2:00-3:30; Wed 3:30-5:00; other times by appointment

Description: A close reading of the Corinthian Correspondence with special attention given to literary, socio-historical, and theological understandings of the epistles. May include readings from either one or both of the Corinthian letters during any given semester.

Prerequisites: NT 501/502; NT 520; and, NT(IBS) 510 or 511.

Objectives: By the end of the course, students should be able to:

• Employ a range of exegetical approaches relevant to the interpretation of the Corinthian Correspondence and apply those approaches to other NT books of similar genre;
• Understand the Corinthian Correspondence within its socio-historical, literary, and canonical contexts;
• Identify central issues in the critical study of the Corinthian Correspondence;
• Articulate the importance of one's own presuppositions in the task of interpretation;
• Articulate primary theological and ethical concerns of the Corinthian Correspondence;
• Demonstrate awareness of how the theological and ethical concerns of the Corinthian Correspondence contribute to those of the canon and of constructive theology and ethics;
• Differentiate between critical, homiletic, and devotional commentaries; and
• Evaluate critically the usefulness of secondary literature in the study of the NT.

Since all students are required to complete comprehensive Greek prior to this class; it is expected that by the end of the class, students should be able to:

• Diagram passages in the Greek New Testament;
• Translate with minimal lexical assistance any passage from the Corinthian Correspondence assigned for the course;
• Perform rudimentary exercises in text criticism.
Course Requirements and Reading:

- **Class preparation, attendance, and participation (10%)**: Each student should prepare for each class by (1) translating the assigned texts, (2) making their own notes on the text, and (3) comparing their observations with those made in one of the required commentaries below. The attendance policy is that any more than 6 absences will result in a failing grade.

- **Translation (25%)**: Once during the semester the student will lead the class in a discussion of the translation of the text. This discussion should note the following aspects of translation: 1) significant text critical issues; 2) the location of the assigned section in relationship to what comes before it; 3) significant translation issues (i.e., multiple word meanings, multiple grammatical possibilities, etc.) 4) significant theological issues generated by the translation with particular attention to the theological tradition (e.g., Augustine, Luther, Calvin, Wesley et al.).

- **Book Review (20%)**: The student will write one book review. Reviews should be 1,250-1,500 words in length (5-6 pages), typed, and double-spaced. For more information on book review expectations and grading criteria, see the file in the course icon. You may review either one of the required books or do a comparative review of both.

- **Final Paper or Project (30%)**: A research paper or project on a topic of your choosing related to 1 or 2 Corinthians. The paper may address a theological or exegetical topic or some combination of the two. If you would like to turn in a project in some other form besides that of a paper, please talk to me about what you would like to do and how we can go about doing that.

- **Final Translation Exam (15%)**: Be prepared to provide a translation of any passage from the Corinthian Correspondence which we have covered in class. The translation should contain appropriate notes related to the translation. A list of hapaxlegomenoi and other rarely used words will be provided for use during the exam. The exam will be given during finals week.

**Required Reading:**


- **1 Corinthians (choose two)**
2 Corinthians (choose two)

**Recommended Reading**

**Select Bibliography for Further Reading**
Bray, Gerald. *1 and 2 Corinthians.* The Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. Downers Grove: IVP.
Calvin, John. *1 and 2 Corinthians.* (www.ccel.org/c/calvin/comment3/comm_index.htm)

**Instructions for Assignments, Due Dates, and Grading Criteria**

Asbury Seminary defines grades using the following criteria (catalog, p. 24):

A= Exceptional work: outstanding or surpassing achievement of course objectives
B= Good work: substantial achievement of course objectives
C= Acceptable work: essential achievement of course objectives
D= Marginal work: minimal or inadequate achievement of course objectives
F= Unacceptable work: failure of course work

A plus (+) or minus (-) indicates positions between categories (for example, B+ = very good; C- = slightly below acceptable, etc.).

**Course Schedule**

**Week 1**  Introduction to Exegesis and the Corinthian Correspondence
Thurs  Further Introduction to Exegesis, 1 Cor 1
Required: Translation Text: 1 Cor 1:1-16

**Week 2**  Exegetical Approaches to the Corinthian Correspondence:
Translation Text: 1 Cor 1:17-31
Thurs  Exegetical Approaches to the Corinthian Correspondence
Translation Text: 1 Cor 2:1-16

**Week 3**  Historical and Theological Topics
Thurs  Historical and Theological Topics

**Week 4**  Exegesis of Select Passages in Corinthians
Translation Text: 1 Cor 15:1-19
Thurs  Translation Text: 1 Cor 15:20-34

**Week 5**  Exegesis of Select Passages in Corinthians
Translation Text: 1 Cor 15:35-49

Thurs  Translation Text: 1 Cor 15:50-58

Week 6  Theological Topics
      Ongoing discussion of 1 Cor 15

Thurs  Intro to 2 Corinthians
      Translation Text: 2 Cor 1:1-11

Week 7  Exegesis of Select Passages in Corinthians
      Translation Text: 2 Cor 2:14-3:6

Thurs  Translation Text: 2 Cor 3:7-18

Week 8  Historical and Theological Topics
      History: Images from the Empire, triumphs and games

Thurs  Theology: Glory

Week 9  Exegesis of Select Passages in Corinthians
      Translation Text: 2 Cor 4:1-14

Thurs  Translation Text: 2 Cor 4:15-5:5

Week 10 Theology: New Covenant

Thurs  Theology: Boasting and Confidence

Week 11 Exegesis of Select Passages in Corinthians
      Translation Text: 2 Cor 5:6-13

Thurs  Translation Text: 2 Cor 5:14-21

Week 12 Theology: Atonement
      Required Reading:

Thurs  Theology: Reconciliation

Week 13 Theology of the Corinthian Correspondence in relationship to the Canon
      Required Reading: Both Furnish and O’ Conner should be finished by this point

Thurs  Summarizing the Theology of the Corinthian Correspondence

Final Translation Exam