

Reformed Theological Seminary
02NT6100 • Greek Readings
Course Syllabus • Fall 2022 • RTS-Orlando

1. Course Details

- 1 credit hour
- Thursday 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm (August 25 – December 1)
- Description: “A study of selected Greek texts” (*RTS Catalog 2021–2023*, p. 71).

2. Instructor Information

- Zachary J. Cole, Ph.D., Associate Professor of New Testament, RTS-O
- E-mail: zcole@rts.edu
- Office: Orlando Campus #3-214
- Office phone: 407-278-8167
- Office hours: e-mail to arrange an appointment

3. Course Objectives

- Grow in appreciation for the importance of the study and use of the original biblical languages in lifelong and vibrant Christian ministry.
- Develop greater proficiency in reading the Greek Bible.

4. Bibliography (Required Textbooks)

- An edition of the Greek Old Testament. *Some options:*
 - Alfred Rahlfs and Robert Hanhart, *Septuaginta* (Stuttgart: German Bible Society, 2006).
 - Gregory R. Lanier and William A. Ross, *Septuaginta: A Reader's Edition* (Hendrickson, 2018).
- An edition of the Greek New Testament. *Some options:*
 - Kurt Aland et al., eds., Nestle-Aland, *Novum Testamentum Graece*, 28th ed. (Stuttgart: German Bible Society, 2012)
 - B. Aland et al., eds., *The Greek New Testament*, 5th ed. (Stuttgart: German Bible Society, 2014).
- Many other resources are suggested, but not required (see below under “participation”).

5. Course Requirements

- **Participation (90%):** This course will take the form of weekly seminars in which all students will contribute actively to the reading and study of a passage from the Greek Bible. Students will receive a grade for the consistency and quality of their weekly participation. Students should prepare to participate by doing the following prior to class:
 - Carefully read the relevant passage in Greek.

- Take notes about any of the following (where relevant): vocabulary, parsing, cross-references, translation, as well as text-critical, grammatical, syntactical, and exegetical features.
 - You might find some of the following resources helpful:
 - Karen H. Jobes, ed., *Discovering the Septuagint: A Guided Reader* (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2016).
 - J. Lust, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the Septuagint*, 4 vols. (Stuttgart: German Bible Society, 1992).
 - *The Lexham English Septuagint* (Bellingham, WA: Lexham, 2019).
 - T. Muraoka, *A Syntax of Septuagint Greek* (Leuven: Peeters, 2016).
 - Albert Pietersma and Benjamin G. Wright, eds., *A New English Translation of the Septuagint* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007). [=NETS]
 - Bernard A. Taylor, *The Analytical Lexicon to the Septuagint: A Complete Parsing Guide* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1994).
 - During class you will be permitted to have only a hard copy of the Greek text and your own notes, either handwritten or typed. No electronic resources are permitted during class.
 - See grading criteria below.
- **Presentation (10%):** At the end of the semester, each student will give a brief (5-minute) presentation on the use of an Old Testament passage in the New Testament and submit their notes to Canvas (500–1,000 words). Students can select any passage, not just those covered in class. The primary aim of this assignment is to explain the way that a New Testament author has used and/or adapted an Old Testament passage and why. More details will be given.
 - **Supplemental Reading:** No supplemental reading is required, but students might find it helpful to read introductory material on the Septuagint and/or the use of the Old Testament in the New. I highly recommend, for example,
 - G. K. Beale, *Handbook on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament: Exegesis and Interpretation* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2012).
 - G. K. Beale and D. A. Carson, eds., *Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2007).
 - Karen H. Jobes and Moisés, *Invitation to the Septuagint*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2015).
 - Gregory R. Lanier and William A. Ross, *The Septuagint: What It Is and Why It Matters* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2021).

6. Course Requirement Summary

- Participation 90%
- Presentation 10%

7. Grading System

A	(97-100)	4.00
A-	(94-96)	3.66
B+	(91-93)	3.33
B	(88-90)	3.00
B-	(86-87)	2.66
C+	(83-85)	2.33
C	(80-82)	2.00
C-	(78-79)	1.66
D+	(75-77)	1.33
D	(72-74)	1.00
D-	(70-71)	0.66
F	(below 70)	0.00
I	(incomplete)	-
W	(withdraw)	-
S	(satisfactory)	-
P	(passing)	-

8. Other Information

- Attendance is mandatory. Students must notify the instructor in writing regarding any expected absence.
- Technology: in class, students are permitted to have their Greek Bibles and personal notes, but no computers or tablets.

9. Class Schedule

Date	Topic (approximate)
Aug 25	Introduction
Sep 1	Isaiah 52:1-15 LXX
Sep 8	Isaiah 52:1-15 LXX
Sep 15	Exodus 20:1-21 LXX
Sep 22	Exodus 20:1-21 LXX
Sep 29	Psalms 69:1-29 (*68:1-30 LXX)
Oct 6	Psalms 69:1-29 (*68:1-30 LXX)
Oct 13	<i>No class: reading week</i>
Oct 20	Deuteronomy 30:1-20 LXX
Oct 27	Deuteronomy 30:1-20 LXX
Nov 3	TBD
Nov 10	TBD
Nov 17	<i>No class</i>
Nov 24	<i>No class: Thanksgiving</i>
Dec 1	Presentations

10. Grading Criteria

Grading Criteria for Participation	
Criteria	Comment
Attendance: the student is consistently present in class	
Preparation: the student gives evidence of having read, studied, and prepared the relevant passage and supplemental readings (when relevant)	
Contribution: the student contributes positively to class discussion about grammar, syntax, text criticism, exegesis, theology, ministry, and/or life	
Charity: the student interacts charitably with others, including peers, instructor, and scholars	

Grading Criteria for Presentation	
Criteria	Comment
Analysis: the student demonstrates exegetical skill in explaining how an Old Testament passage is used in the New, competently handling the Greek text(s)	
Charity: the student interacts charitably with others, including peers, instructor, and scholars	

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Greek Readings (NT6100)

Professor: Zachary Cole

Campus: Orlando

Date: Fall 2022

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u> <i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i> <i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		<u>Rubric</u> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	The seminar format and presentation require consistent, substantive, and charitable verbal interaction.
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	The course content develops knowledge and skills for close-range reading and exegesis of Old and New Testament texts in their original languages.
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	None	
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Minimal	The course content fosters the discipline reading of God's Word daily and carefully
Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	Students will be pushed to apply their reading to relevant issues in the contemporary world.
Winsomely Reformed	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	None	
Pastoral Ministry	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians.	Moderate	Students will be pushed to consider why/how Greek should impact Word-based ministry