

ON6105 — Septuagint Readings
Course Syllabus, Spring 2023 — RTS-Orlando

1. Course Details

- Two credit hours
- Mondays from 1:00–3:00pm
- Course Description: *Read and exegete primary sources from the Greek OT (Septuagint), with special attention on the Pentateuch, Psalms, Isaiah, Daniel, and the Minor Prophets.*
- Prerequisites: Greek I and Greek II
(Also, Hebrew I and II preferred but not required)

2. Instructor Information

- Gregory R. Lanier, Ph.D., Associate Professor, RTS-Orlando
- Email: glanier@rts.edu
- Office Hours: Email to set up appointment

3. Objectives

- Read large portions of the Greek OT to enable students to grow in their ability to read *koine*
- Study Septuagintal syntax and linguistics, the translators' handling and interpretation of their Hebrew sources, and the NT authors' interaction with the Greek OT
- Sharpen one's handling of Greek (and Hebrew) and grow in one's ability to understand and apply how the NT authors and their predecessors approached Israel's covenant Scriptures

4. Required Texts

- Greek OT text
 - Preferred option: *Septuaginta: A Reader's Edition*. Edited by Gregory R. Lanier and William A. Ross. 2 vol. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2019.
 - Other option: *Septuaginta: Editio altera*. Edited by Alfred Rahlfs and Robert Hanhart. Stuttgart: Bibelgesellschaft, 2007.
- Textbook
 - Gregory R. Lanier and William A. Ross, *What is the Septuagint and Why Does it Matter? An Introduction to the Greek Old Testament*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2021.
 - Additional readings may be provided in Canvas.
- Optional resources
 - Gregory R. Lanier and William A. Ross. *A Book-by-Book Guide to Septuagint Vocabulary*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2019.

- PDFs of Albert Pietersma and Benjamin G. Wright, *A New English Translation of the Septuagint*. <http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/nets/edition/>
- *Lexham English Septuagint*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2019.

5. Course Assignments

- **Participation in reading and discussing the assigned readings**
 - Each student will be expected to read the assigned texts prior to class and come prepared to discuss them in detail
 - This is a seminar-style course and, as such, is primarily participation-driven; each student will be expected to make contributions to class discussion
 - (You are not required to translate the assigned passages—but to *read* and *analyze* them, which is far more enjoyable)
- **Writing assignment**
 - Complete a research paper of 2,000–2,500 words that examines the use of a Septuagintal passage in an NT writing
 - Components of the paper must include
 - Examine and exegete (concisely) the OT Greek (including variants)
 - Comment on any important translational issues that have taken place between the Hebrew *Vorlage* and the Septuagint rendering (if you have not had Hebrew, do your best by comparing the Greek with an English translation of the Hebrew, such as the ESV or NASB)
 - Analyze how the passage has been used by the NT author
 - The goal of this paper is to give the student some experience in conducting LXX-based. It is meant to be an enjoyable project that will build on what we do in class and give the student an opportunity to work on a passage of interest.
- **Reading**
 - Confirm in Canvas that you have read 100% (by the date assigned) of textbook material
 - Confirm in Canvas that you have read 100% of the assigned LXX passages

6. Grading

● Participation	50%
● Reading of textbooks	10%
● Reading of assigned LXX passages	10%
● <u>Writing assignment</u>	30%
	100%

7. Schedule

- A detailed reading schedule will be provided before the first day of class.

8. Other Details

- Attendance is mandatory, given the importance of classroom participation. Student must notify the instructor by email regarding any absence.
- Students are permitted to use laptops or tablets in class to assist with parsing or vocabulary.

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: ON6105 – Septuagint Readings Professor: Gregory R. Lanier, Ph.D.
 Campus: Orlando Date: Spring 2023

<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>		<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.	Moderate	Exegetical research paper In-class discussions
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	Reading of large portions of the OT in Greek (with reference to the Hebrew as well as the Greek NT)
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Discussions on doctrine of Scripture in light of the Septuagint
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Reading of the Biblical text
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	None	
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.)	Minimal	Role of the Septuagint in church history and the Greek Orthodox tradition
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Moderate	Emphasis on the use of biblical languages
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	None	
Shepherd	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Moderate	Handling challenging questions on canon and text (for the OT) and communicating answers to laypersons
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	None	