

Reformed Theological Seminary
02NT6100 • Greek Readings
Course Syllabus • Fall 2023 • RTS-Orlando

1. Course Details

- 1 credit hour
- Monday 11:01 am – 12:01 pm (August 28 – December 4)
- Description: “A study of selected Greek texts” (*RTS Catalog 2021–2023*, p. 71). May be repeated for credit.

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)

- Select handouts for supplemental reading will be given.
- An edition of the Greek New Testament.
 - 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).

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 passages 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.
 - 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.

- **Reflection (10%):** At the end of the semester, each student will write a short reflection (not a research paper) on one aspect of the class content. More details will be given.
- **Supplemental Reading:** The Greek texts assigned for this semester all relate to Paul's collection for Jerusalem. The following resources are not required, but are helpful points of reference for understanding the collection and how it has been understood:
 - Downs, David. *The Offering of the Gentiles: Paul's Collection for Jerusalem in its Chronological, Cultural, and Cultic Contexts*. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2008.
 - Georgi, Dieter. *Remembering the Poor: The History of Paul's Collection for Jerusalem*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992.
 - Longnecker, Bruce W. *Remember the Poor: Paul, Poverty, and the Graeco-Roman World*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010.
 - McKnight, Scot. "Collection for the Saints." Pages 143–47 in *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*. Edited by Gerald F. Hawthorne, Ralph P. Martin, and Daniel G. Reid. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1993.
 - Nickle, Keith. *The Collection: A Study in Paul's Strategy*. Naperville Ill.: Alec R. Allenson Inc., 1966.
 - Verbrugge, Verlyn and Keith Krell. *Paul & Money: A Biblical and Theological Analysis of the Apostle's Teachings and Practices*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015.

6. Course Requirement Summary

- Participation 90%
- Reflection 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 28	Introduction
Sep 4	<i>Labor Day holiday</i>
Sep 11	1 Corinthians 16:1-11
Sep 18	2 Corinthians 8
Sep 25	2 Corinthians 8 + Exod 16:18
Oct 2	2 Corinthians 8
Oct 9	<i>No class: reading week</i>
Oct 16	2 Corinthians 9
Oct 23	2 Corinthians 9 + Psalm 112:9 (Ps 111 LXX)
Oct 30	2 Corinthians 9
Nov 6	Romans 15:22-33
Nov 13	Acts 20:18-38
Nov 20	Acts 21:17-26
Nov 27	Acts 24:10-21
Dec 4	TBD

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	

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Greek Readings (NT6100)

Professor: Zachary Cole

Campus: Orlando

Date: Fall 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> <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