

Reformed Theological Seminary
02NT6120 • Greek Exegesis of Galatians
Course Syllabus • Fall 2023 • RTS-Orlando

1. Course Details

- 2 credit hours
- Thursday 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm (August 24 – November 30)
- Description: This course constitutes an exegetical study of Paul's Epistle to the Galatians in its original language, with a focus on exegesis, theology, and exposition. A background in Greek is required.

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 with reading and exegeting the Greek New Testament.

4. Bibliography (Required Textbooks)

- Greek New Testament
 - (Either) Kurt Aland et al., eds., Nestle-Aland, *Novum Testamentum Graece*, 28th ed. (Stuttgart: German Bible Society, 2012)
 - (or) B. Aland et al., eds., *The Greek New Testament*, 5th ed. (Stuttgart: German Bible Society, 2014).
- David A. DeSilva, *Galatians: A Handbook on the Greek Text*, Baylor Handbook on the Greek New Testament (Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2014). Use for reference.
- Richard B. Gaffin, Jr., *By Faith, Not by Sight: Paul and the Order of Salvation*, 2nd ed. (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 2013). Read all.
- Moisés Silva, *Interpreting Galatians: Explorations in Exegetical Method*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2001). Read all.

5. Course Requirements

- **Participation (80%):** This course will take the form of weekly seminars in which all students will contribute actively to the reading of and discussion about 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:

- 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.
 - Consult relevant resources for help (e.g., BDAG).
 - 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 devices.
- **Reading Affirmation (10%):** In addition to the assigned textbooks listed above, students must read all of Galatians in Greek twice, and will complete a relevant affirmation statement at the end of the semester.
 - **Reflection (10%):** At the end of the semester, each student will answer questions for reflection regarding their understanding of Galatians. This is not a research paper. Further instructions will be given.

6. Course Requirement Summary

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| • Participation | 80% |
| • Reading Affirmation | 10% |
| • 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 24	Galatians 1
Aug 31	Galatians 1
Sep 7	Galatians 2
Sep 14	Galatians 2
Sep 21	Galatians 3
Sep 28	Galatians 3
Oct 5	Galatians 3
Oct 12	<i>No class: Reading week</i>
Oct 19	Galatians 4
Oct 26	Galatians 4
Nov 2	Galatians 5
Nov 9	Galatians 5
Nov 16	Galatians 6
Nov 23	<i>No class: Thanksgiving break</i>
Nov 30	Galatians 6

10. Grading Criteria

Grading Criteria for Participation	
Criteria	Comment
Attendance: the student is consistently present in class	
Preparation: the student demonstrates 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 Exegesis of Galatians (NT6120)

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 reflection/report 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 New Testament texts in their original languages.
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Minimal	Students will read Romans at close-range within the hermeneutical framework of the Reformed tradition.
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.)	Minimal	Students will be led to engage charitably with opposing views.
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.