

Reformed Theological Seminary
02NT6100 • Greek Readings
Course Syllabus • Fall 2026 • RTS-Orlando

1. Course Details

- 1 credit hour
- Wednesday 1:00 pm – 1:59 pm
- Description: “A study of selected Greek texts” (*RTS Catalog 2025–2027*, p. 78). 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

- An edition of the Greek New Testament.
- **The subject of the class sessions will be 1–3 John.**
- Recommended resources:
 - Culy, Martin. *I, II, III John: A Handbook on the Greek Text*. Baylor, 2004.
 - Plummer, Robert. *1–3 John: Exegetical Guide to the New Testament*. B&H, 2024.

5. Course Requirements

- **Participation (70%):** This course will take the form of weekly seminars in which all students will contribute actively to the reading and study of 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.
- **Reflection (10%):** The student will provide a short reflection on one aspect of the class content. In 500 words, state one specific way in which

knowledge of the original language makes a difference in reading, interpreting, and/or applying the text today.

- **Reading affirmation (10%):** The student will affirm the percentage of the text they have read.
- **Translation (10%):** The student will submit an original English translation of the text.

6. Grading System

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

7. Other Information

- Students are encouraged to read the RTS policy on Artificial Intelligence (see student handbook).
- Late work is subject to penalties determined by the professor and is not normally accepted without permission.

8. Course Schedule

August 26	Classes begin
September 7	Labor Day holiday
September 9	Last day to add a class
September 30	Last day to drop a class
October 12-16	Reading week
November 25-27	Thanksgiving holidays
December 7	Last day of fall semester classes
December 9	Term paper deadline (11:00 a.m.)
December 10-15	Examination period

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Greek Readings (NT6100)

Professor: Zachary Cole

Campus: Orlando

Date: Fall 2026

<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