



**NT 605 The Pauline Letters (3)
Winter 2007
Instructor: Dr Paul Spilsbury**

Contact Information

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Online classroom: <http://online.auc-nuc.ca>; Session #: 1524

Class Times and Locations

Tues 1:00-3:45
Room 714

Course Description

Paul of Tarsus is one of the most important figures in the early development of the Christian movement. The message he preached and the communities he founded challenged the status quo within early Christianity, and his letters have shaped Christian thinking about God and human existence for the last two millennia. This course is a study of the literary and theological legacy of the apostle Paul. It will examine the major influences and events of his life, the social location of the churches he founded, and significant aspects of his thought in its historical context. It will also attempt to grapple with hermeneutical issues relating to the application of Paul's letters in the world today. Prerequisite: NT 501 or equivalent.

Course Objectives

1. To enable students to read the letters of Paul with sensitivity to their literary, cultural and theological contexts.
2. To enable students to engage critically with various aspects of the origins of Gentile Christianity, especially in Asia Minor and Greece.

3. To enable students to appreciate and interact with the theological and ethical significance of Paul's thought both on its own terms and in relation to the theology and ethics of other New Testament texts.
4. To enable students to apply insights gleaned from Paul's letters to theology and discipleship in the contemporary world.
5. To enable students to appropriate the formative aspects of Paul's message to their own lives.

Course Format

This course will be made up of lectures and workshops on specific texts from the Pauline corpus. Students will be expected to bring a copy of the Bible to class. Those who have studied Greek are encouraged to bring their Greek Testaments to class. Students are also expected to engage in out-of-class activities via the online classroom.

Course Schedule (Subject to change)

#	Date	Subject	Assignments
1a	16 th January	Introduction; Early Life	Dunn: ch. 1 & 2
b		Early Life	
2a	23 rd January	Persecution	Dunn: ch. 3 & 4
b		Conversion and Call	
3a	30 th January	Damascus and Arabia	Dunn: ch. 5 & 6
b		Jerusalem and Early Travels	
4a	6 th February	Jerusalem Council and Antioch	Dunn: ch. 7 & 8
b		Antioch to Athens	
5a	13 th February	Corinth; Urban Church	Dunn: ch. 9 & 10
b		Paul's Letters	
	20 th February	<i>No Class—Midterm Break</i>	
6a	27 th February	1 Thessalonians	Dunn: ch 11 & 12
b		2 Thessalonians	
	6 th March	<i>No Class—Day of Prayer</i>	
7a	13 th March	Galatians	Dunn: ch. 13 & 14
b		Galatians	
8a	20 th March	Corinth to Ephesus	Dunn: ch. 15 & 16
b		1 Corinthians	
9a	27 th March	2 Corinthians	Dunn: ch 17 & 18
b		Philippians	
10a	3 rd April	Romans	
b		Romans	
11a	10 th April	Further Travels and Imprisonment	
b		Philemon	
12a	17 th April	Colossians; Ephesians	Papers/Sermons Due
b		The Pastorals	

Required Texts

Dunn, James D.G. (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to St Paul*. Cambridge University Press, 2003.

Requirements

Students in this course are expected to attend all lectures, to engage fully in class activities, and to participate regularly in online discussions. Students who do not complete all the required tasks will not be assigned a passing grade.

1. Read all of the canonical letters attributed to Paul in the course of the semester.
2. Read Dunn's *Cambridge Companion* and:
 - a. Post online a 300-word response for each chapter.
 - b. Post at least one 100-word interaction with another student's submission each week.

Due: Two chapters each week as indicated in the class schedule above.

3. *Either:*

Write a 12-page research paper on any subject of current significance within Pauline studies. Topics must be approved by the instructor. The paper should include a substantial bibliography of commentaries, monographs and journal articles.

Or:

Write two 30-minute expository sermons on texts taken from the Pauline letters. These sermons must be new work done specifically for this course. They should demonstrate significant understanding of the texts in their literary and theological context, and should apply the message of the texts to contemporary life.

Due: 17th April, 2007

Grade Distribution

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|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Chapter Responses | 40% |
| 2. Interactions | 10% |
| 3. Paper/Sermons | 50% |

Grading Scale

<i>Letter Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Grade Points</i>
A+	90 and higher		4.00
A	85-89	Excellent	4.00
A-	80-84		3.70
B+	77-79		3.30
B	73-76	Good	3.00
B-	70-72		2.70
C+	67-69		2.30
C	63-66	Satisfactory	2.00
C-	60-62		1.70
D+	55-59	Poor	1.30
D	50-54	Minimal Pass	1.00
F	49 and lower	Failure	0.00

Select Bibliography for Further Reading

- Barrett, C.K. *Paul. An Introduction to his Thought*. Chapman, 1994.
- Beker, J.C. *Paul the Apostle: The Triumph of God in Life and Thought*. Fortress, 1980.
- Boyarin, D. *A Radical Jew*. University of California, 1994.
- Bruce, F.F. *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*. Eerdmans, 1977.
- Davies, W.D. *Paul and Rabbinic Judaism*. 4th ed.; Fortress, 1980 [1948].
- Donaldson, T.L. *Paul and the Gentiles*. Fortress, 1997.
- Dunn, J.D.G. *Christology in the Making*. 2nd ed.; SCM, 1989.
- Dunn, J.D.G. *The Theology of Paul the Apostle*. Eerdmans, 1997.
- Fee, G.D. *God's Empowering Presence*. Hendrickson, 1994.
- Hawthorne, G.F. and R.P. Martin (eds.), *Dictionary of Paul and his Letters*. IVP, 1993.
- Hays, R.B. *Echoes of Scripture in the Letters of Paul*. Yale, 1989.
- Hengel, M. *The Pre-Christian Paul*. TPI, 1991.
- Hengel, M. and Schwemer, A.M. *Paul Between Damascus and Antioch*. SCM, 1997.
- Horsley, R.A. (ed.) *Paul and Empire*. TPI, 1997.
- Longenecker, R.N. (ed.) *The Road from Damascus*. Eerdmans, 1997.
- Malherbe, A.J. *Paul and the Popular Philosophers*. Fortress, 1989.
- Meeks, W.A. *The First Urban Christians*. Yale, 1983.
- Murphy-O'Connor, J. *Paul. A Critical Life*. Clarendon, 1996.
- Raisanen, R. *Paul and the Law*. Fortress, 1986.
- Ridderbos, H.N. *Paul: An Outline of His Theology*. Eerdmans, 1975.
- Sanders, E.P. *Paul and Palestinian Judaism*. Fortress, 1977.
- Sanders, E.P. *Paul*. Oxford, 1991.
- Segal, A.F. *Paul the Convert*. Yale, 1990.
- Stendahl, K. *Paul Among Jews and Gentiles*. Fortress, 1976.
- Theissen, G. *The Social Setting of Pauline Christianity*. Fortress, 1982.
- Wenham, D. *Paul: Follower of Jesus or Founder of Christianity?* Eerdmans, 1995.

Westerholm, S. *Perspectives Old and New on Paul*. Eerdmans, 2004.

Westerholm, S. *Understanding Paul*. Baker, 2004.

Wright, N.T. *The Climax of the Covenant*. T & T Clark, 1991.

Important Notes

- It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to all academic policies as they are stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar.
- Last day to enter course without permission and/or voluntarily withdraw from course without financial penalty: **19th January, 2007**.
- Last day to voluntarily withdraw from course or change to audit without academic penalty: **9th March, 2007**.
- All written assignments for this class are to be submitted as Word documents via the “drop box” in the online classroom.
- Assignments will be returned to students electronically via their CTS email address.
- Assignments are due before the beginning of class on the date specified.
- Extensions beyond the published due dates will be allowed only in exceptional circumstances.
- If you feel you qualify for an extension, you must make a request to the instructor **in writing** via e-mail.
- Assignments submitted late without permission will be penalized by 5% per day, or part thereof.
- The research paper must adhere strictly to the “Style Guide” below.
- The seminary maintains a zero tolerance policy on plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the seminary. Even unintentional plagiarism is to be avoided. Students are expected to be familiar with the policy statements in the current academic calendar and the student handbook that deal with plagiarism, academic dishonesty (cheating), and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean.
- Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@auc-nuc.ca.

Style Guide

This *Style Guide* is designed as a quick reference tool to help with some of the technical details involved in citing sources in bibliographies and footnotes in written assignments. Only the most common types of sources are covered here. Students who need more detailed or complex guidance are directed to the *SBL Handbook of Style for Ancient Near Eastern, Biblical, and Early Christian Studies* (Hendrickson, 1999), which is available in our library.

In the following examples:

1. The first entry shows how the work should be cited in the first footnote referring to that work.
2. The second entry shows how the work should be referred to in all subsequent footnotes.
3. The third entry shows how the work should appear in the bibliography.

1. A BOOK BY A SINGLE AUTHOR

¹² Paul Spilsbury, *The Throne, the Lamb, and the Dragon: A Reader's Guide to the Book of Revelation* (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002), 101.

¹⁵ Spilsbury, *The Throne*, 99.

Spilsbury, Paul. *The Throne, the Lamb, and the Dragon: A Reader's Guide to the Book of Revelation*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

2. A BOOK BY TWO OR THREE AUTHORS

² Christopher T. Begg and Paul Spilsbury, *Flavius Josephus, Judean Antiquities 8–10* (Leiden: Brill, 2005), 237.

¹⁷ Begg and Spilsbury, *Judean Antiquities 8–10*, 23.

Begg, Christopher T., and Paul Spilsbury. *Flavius Josephus, Judean Antiquities 8–10*. Leiden: Brill, 2005.

3. A BOOK IN A SERIES

⁴ Paul Spilsbury, *The Image of the Jew in Flavius Josephus' Paraphrase of the Bible* (TSAJ 69; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 1998), 136.

¹⁸ Spilsbury, *Image*, 136.

Spilsbury, Paul. *The Image of the Jew in Flavius Josephus' Paraphrase of the Bible*.
Texte und Studien zum Antiken Judentum 69; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 1998.

4. A JOURNAL ARTICLE

²¹ Kyle Jantzen, "Propaganda, Perseverance and Protest: Strategies for clerical survival amid the German Church Struggle," *CH* 70 (2001): 295-327.

³⁷ Jantzen, "Propaganda," 321.

Jantzen, Kyle. "Propaganda, Perseverance and Protest: Strategies for clerical survival amid the German Church Struggle," *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 70 (2001): 295-327.

5. AN ARTICLE IN AN EDITED VOLUME

⁶ Kenneth L. Draper, "Redemptive Homes—Redeeming Choices: Saving the Social in Late-Victorian London, Ontario," in *Households of Faith: Family, Gender, and Community in Canada, 1760–1969* (ed. N. Christie; Montreal and Kingston: McGill/Queen's University Press, 2002), 177.

¹⁷ Draper, "Redemptive Homes," 203.

Draper, Kenneth L. "Redemptive Homes—Redeeming Choices: Saving the Social in Late-Victorian London, Ontario." Pages 201–221 in *Households of Faith: Family, Gender, and Community in Canada, 1760–1969*. Edited by N. Christie. Montreal and Kingston: McGill/Queen's University Press, 2002.

6. AN ARTICLE IN AN ENCYCLOPAEDIA OR A DICTIONARY

²¹ P. Spilsbury, "Messiah," *JHTC* 2:528.

³⁷ Spilsbury, "Messiah," 2:530.

Spilsbury, P. "Messiah." Pages 615-616 in vol. 2 of *Jesus in History, Thought and Culture: An Encyclopaedia*. Edited by L. Houlden. 2 vols. Oxford: ABC-CLIO, 2003.

7. A BOOK REVIEW

² Bernie A. Van De Walle, review of H.A. Harris, *Fundamentalism and Evangelicals*, *JETS* 44 (2001): 357.

⁷ Van De Walle, review of Harris, 358.

Van De Walle, Bernie A. Review of H.A. Harris, *Fundamentalism and Evangelicals*, *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 44 (2001): 357-59.

8. AN INTERNET PUBLICATION

³² Andy Reimer, "Healing: Biblical Basis and Procedure," n.p. [cited 5 January 2004]. Online: http://online.cbcccts.ca/alliancestudies/reimer/r/_healing.html.

³⁵ Reimer, "Healing."

Reimer, Andy. "Healing: Biblical Basis and Procedure." No pages. Cited 5 January 2004. Online: http://online.cbcccts.ca/alliancestudies/reimer/r/_healing.html.

FURTHER INFORMATION

- Note that details of punctuation, indentation and italicization are part of the proper citation of sources. They should be exactly as indicated above.
- The standard font for all written work is Times New Roman, 12 point. This includes the title page.
- All written work should be double-spaced.
- Page margins should be: top and bottom: 1", left and right 1.25".
- Your paper should have a title page which looks like this:

"Assignment Title" Course Name (Number) Instructor's Name Date Submitted
Your name Your Box number

- Page numbering should start on the first page of text (not the title page), and should be in the top right hand corner.
- Use footnotes rather than endnotes.
- Do not italicize quotes.