



**NT 607 Corinthian Correspondence
Winter 2005
Instructor: Gerry Hall**

Contacting the Instructor

Office: 539

Class Times: Tues.-Thurs. 1:00-2:15

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Class Location: 633

Course Description

This course is an exegetical study of 1 and 2 Corinthians with attention given to historical and social context, literary form, critical issues, the content of the letters and their theological significance. The course will focus on the meaning of the text in its original context as well as its application to the church today.

Course Objectives

The student will:

- know the historical, social and literary context of the letters,
- know the critical issues related to the letters,
- exegete the two letters and apply the message, and
- be familiar with key theological themes in the letters.

Required Texts

Witherington III, B. 1995. Conflict & Community in Corinth: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on 1 and 2 Corinthians. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

NRSV Bible.

On Reserve or in the Reference Section of the Library

Textbook:

Witherington III, B. 1995. Conflict & Community in Corinth: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on 1 and 2 Corinthians. Grand Rapids, Michigan: W. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

1st Corinthians:

Bruce, F. F. 1978. The New Century Bible Commentary: I & II Corinthians. Grand Rapids, Michigan: W. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

Chow, J. K. 1992. Patronage and Power: A Study of the Social Networks in Corinth. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press.

- Conzelmann, H. 1975. Hermeneia – A Critical and Historical Commentary on the Bible: I Corinthians. Philadelphia: Fortress Press.
- Dunn, J. 1995. I Corinthians: New Testament Guides. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press.
- Fee, G. D. 1987. The First Epistle to the Corinthians. Grand Rapids, Michigan: W. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.
- Furnish, V. P. 1999. New Testament Theology: The theology of the First Letter to the Corinthians. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Goulder, M. 2001. Paul and the Competing Mission in Corinth. Sheffield: Hendrickson Publishers.
- Mitchell, M. M. 1991. Paul and the Rhetoric of Reconciliation: An Exegetical Investigation of the Language and Composition of 1 Corinthians. Louisville Kentucky: Westminster/John Knox Press.
- Morris, L. 1987. The First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians: An Introduction and Commentary. Leicester, England: Inter-Varsity Press.
- Soards, M. L. 1999. New International Biblical Commentary: I Corinthians. Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc.
- Wire, A. C. 1990. The Corinthian Women Prophets. Minneapolis: Fortress Press.
- 2nd Corinthians:
- Barnett, P. 1997. The Second Epistle to the Corinthians. Grand Rapids, Michigan: W. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.
- Betz, H. D. 1985. Hermeneia – A Critical and Historical Commentary on the Bible: 2 Corinthians 8 and 9. Philadelphia: Fortress Press.
- Bultmann, R. 1985. The Second Letter to the Corinthians (1st English edition). Minneapolis: Augsburg Publishing House.
- Carson, D. A. 1984. From Triumph to Maturity: An Exposition of 2 Corinthians 10-13. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House.
- Danker, F. W. 1989. II Corinthians: Augsburg Commentary on the New Testament. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Augsburg Publishing House.
- Furnish, V. P. 1984. II Corinthians. Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Company, Inc.
- Garland, D. E. 1999. 2 Corinthians (The New American Commentary, Vol. 29). Nashville, Tennessee: Broadman & Publishers.
- Lambrecht, J. 1999. Second Corinthians (Sacra Pagina Series, Vol. 8). Collegeville, Minnesota: The Liturgical Press.

- Martin, R. 1986. Word Biblical Commentary: 2 Corinthians (Vol. 40). Waco, Texas: Word Books.
- McCant, J. W. 2000. 2 Corinthians. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press.
- Matera, F. J. 2003. II Corinthians: A Commentary (The New Testament Library). Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster John Knox Press.
- Murphy-O'Connor, J. 1991. Theology of the Second Letter to the Corinthians. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.
- Scott, J. M. 1998. 2 Corinthians (New International Biblical Commentary). Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc.
- Tasker, R. V. G. 1958. The Second Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians: An Introduction and Commentary. Grand Rapids, Michigan: W. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.
- Thrall, M. E. 1994. The Second Epistle to the Corinthians: Introduction and Commentary on II Corinthians I-VII (Vol. 1). Edinburgh, Scotland: T&T Clark.
- Wan, S. 2000. Power in Weakness: The Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians (Conflict and Rhetoric in Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians). Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press. Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Trinity Press International.
- Watson, N. 1993. The Second Epistle to the Corinthians. London: Epworth Press.
- Young, F., Ford. D. F. 1987. Meaning and Truth in 2 Corinthians. Grand Rapids, Michigan: W. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company.

Course Schedule

Class	Corinthians Text	Reading	Lecture/Presentation/
1	All 1 st Corinthians	1-77	Introductory Lecture
2	All 1 st Corinthians	1-77	Introductory Lecture
3	1 Corinthians 1	78-120	Corinthians Text
4	1 Corinthians 2-3	121-135	Corinthians Text
5	1 Corinthians 4	136-150	Corinthians Text
6	1 Corinthians 5-6	151-169	Corinthians Text
7	1 Corinthians 7	170-185	Corinthians Text
8	1 Corinthians 8-9	186-216	Corinthians Text
9	1 Corinthians 10:1-11:1	217-230	Corinthians Text
10	1 Corinthians 11:2-34	231-252	Corinthians Text
11	1 Corinthians 12-13	253-273	Corinthians Text
12	1 Corinthians 14	274-290	Corinthians Text
13	1 Corinthians 15	291-312	Corinthians Text
—	1 Corinthians 16	313-324	Not Covered

14	All 2 Corinthians	327-352	Introductory Lecture
15	2 Corinthians 1	353-374	Group Presentation
16	2 Corinthians 2	353-374	Group Presentation
17	2 Corinthians 3	375-384	Group Presentation
18	2 Corinthians 4	385-397	Group Presentation
19	2 Corinthians 5:1-6:2	385-397	Group Presentation
20	2 Corinthians 6:3-7:16	398-410	Group Presentation
21	2 Corinthians 8-9	411-428	Group Presentation
22	2 Corinthians 10	429-441	Group Presentation
23	2 Corinthians 11:1-12:10	442-464	Group Presentation
24	2 Corinthians 12:11-13:13	465-473	Group Presentation
Note: Some sections for 1 Corinthians may extend over one class.			

Assignments	Date
Summary for 1 Corinthians	Thursday, January 13 th .
Exegetical Analyses	Every class (see schedule above).
Summary for 2 Corinthians	The class after 1 Corinthians 15 is covered in class (#14).
Essay & Presentation	On the dates of #15 – 24 above (to be negotiated).

Course Requirements

In order to complete this course successfully, do the following:

1. You are expected to attend all the classes and group presentations. Not regularly attending class or group presentations will result in a lower grade.
2. Read 1st Corinthians through and read Witherington's introductory section to 1st Corinthians pages 1-77, then write a summary of Witherington's material. Later in the semester do the same for 2nd Corinthians, reading pages 327-352 of Witherington. The specifications for each summary are:
 - A title and your name on the first line of the first page (no title page).
 - Single spaced.
 - Paragraph format.
 - Margins 1.2 inch (3 centimeter) at the top, bottom, right and left.
 - Times New Roman font, 12 point in size.
 - Length 2 pages.
3. Complete a section-by-section exegetical analysis of 1 Corinthians using the NRSV. For a list of sections, see the "Course Schedule" above. Each section must be completed and handed in for the class the section is discussed (or if you are unable to attend class hand it in either that day or the next day). Be prepared to discuss your analysis of the section in class.

For the analysis:

- Summarize each paragraph of the text in your own words making sure to point out key words, phrases, and the main idea(s) of each paragraph. (Use a paragraph for each paragraph of the biblical text in the NRSV.)

- Identify any themes that are developed in the section and discuss how they relate to the rest of the book.
- Identify significant points Witherington makes about the section and comment on the validity of those points.
- Identify significant points another commentator makes about the section and comment on the validity of those points (a commentator listed under “On Reserve”).
- Explain how the text can be applied to the church today.

The specifications for the assignment are:

- Title it with the passage reference and put the title and your name on the first line of the first page (no title page),
 - Use the following subtitles for each subsection: *Summary of the Text*, *Important Themes*, *Insights from Witherington*, *Insights from (Whoever)*, and *Application to the Church Today*.
 - Single spaced and in paragraph format.
 - Margins 1.2 inch (3 centimeter) at the top, bottom, right and left.
 - Times New Roman font, 12 point in size.
 - Length 2 pages.
4. Write an exegetical paper on one of the sections of 2 Corinthians. For a list of sections, see the “Course Schedule” above. The paper will be done as a group (of CTS students only). Groups will not be assigned; you will need to form your own groups, with four to a group. The paper will be presented to the class in a 45-to-60 minute presentation using visual aids (overheads or computer), at the end of which opportunity will be given for questions. The particular section you want to focus on must be reserved with me ahead of time on a first-come-first-served basis. Only one paper will be handed in for the group but each member of the group must hand in a separate one-page report which evaluates the contribution of the other members. Also, on the day of the last presentation, each person must hand in a separate one-page report that evaluates the presentations of other groups on a scale of 1-to-10, 10 being the highest rating (if you did not attend, list the group presentation with the notation “unattended”). Not regularly attending other group presentations will result in a lower grade.

You will need to discuss the following in the paper:

- How ancient and modern scholarship has interpreted the text (including any critical issues modern scholars have identified that might influence interpretation).
- Relevant social-historical factors that influence interpretation of the text.
- How the text fits in with the rest of the book and contributes to an overall understanding of the book.
- Analysis of key words and phrases that are important for understanding the text, as you give your interpretation of the text.
- Theological themes that emerge from the text.
- How the text should be applied in the church today.

The essay should meet the following specifications:

- Attach a title page to the front of the document with your names and the campus mailbox number (only one) to which the paper is to be returned.
- The body should be 20 pages in length, double spaced, in 12 point Times New Roman font, and margins 1.2 inch (3 centimeter) at the top, bottom, right and left.

- Information derived from a source must be referenced, whether the source is quoted from directly or not. When referencing a source, include the author's last name and the page number in parentheses at the end of the information referenced; for example, (McCant, p. 38). For Bible references, use the book name and verse (Ezekiel 1:1). As an alternative to this method, footnotes can be used. Every article or book referenced must be included in the bibliography.
- Append a bibliography to the end of the essay that lists all the sources referenced in the body of the paper (do not list any books that you did not reference in the body of the paper). There must be at least twelve sources listed in the bibliography that are from the library, in addition to any online sources or Bibles you use. Several resources will be placed on reserve in the library and other Bible dictionaries and commentaries are available in the reference section of the library or through regular circulation. Do not use study-Bibles as a source.

Course Grade

Assignment	Value
Introductory Summaries	2 x 5 = 10%
Section Analyses	11 x 5 = 55%
Essay & Presentation	20 (essay) + 10 (presentation) + 5 (peer evaluation) = 35%

Important Notes

- The last day to enter the course without permission and/or voluntarily withdraw from course without financial penalty: January 14th.
- The last day to voluntarily withdraw from the course or change to audit without academic penalty: March 11th.
- It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to CTS Academic Policies, such as the policy on Academic Dishonesty, which are stated in the current Catalogue.