



AMBROSE

**Ordering our Christian Common Life: A Study in Philippians
NT 650 /REL 325**

Week Module Course, Spring 2012

May 22(Tuesday)-26 (Saturday), 2012

Instructor: Jo-Ann Badley

Contacting the Instructor:

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Class Schedule: Classroom A2210

Tuesday (May 22) – Saturday (May 26) 9-12 and 1-4 PM

Course Description

Paul calls the Philippians to pattern their lives on Jesus' example as he, Timothy, and Epaphroditus have done. This course will begin with a careful reading of Paul's letter to the Philippians and then turn to questions of friendship, fellowship, and imitation as patterns for Christian common life.

Learning Outcomes

Upon the successful completion of the course, students will have

- acquired knowledge about the content of Paul's letter to the Philippians with some consideration given to its context in Paul's writings and life, and the ancient world;
- become aware of some of the ways the church has understood this epistle (especially 2:6-11) through the centuries;
- considered the application of Paul's teaching to present Christian practices of friendship or fellowship, and imitation or mentoring;
- practiced skills that make one a better reader of the Bible.

Required Textbooks

Fowl, Stephen E. *Philippians*. The Two Horizons New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005.

Bible, any translation.

Recommended Books

Barth, Karl. *Epistle to the Philippians*. Translated by James L. Leitch. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2002. If you appreciate theological reflection on the text, you may find this helpful.

Fee, Gordon D. *Paul's Letter to the Philippians*. The New International Commentary on the New Testament, edited by Gordon D. Fee. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1995. A good technical commentary.

Sumney, Jerry L. *Philippians: A Greek Student's Intermediate Reader*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007. If you read Greek, you may find this a helpful reading guide.

Course Schedule

Tues. May 22 9-12	Reading the Epistle as a Whole <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying our questions
	<p>Required Reading: Peterson, Brian K. "Philippians 2:5-11." <i>Interpretation</i> 58 (2004): 178-80. ATLA database</p> <p>Recommended Reading: Gorman, Michael. "Chapter 13: Philippians, The Hymn of the Crucified Lord in the Cruciform Community." In <i>Apostle of the Crucified Lord: A Theological Introduction to Paul and His Letters</i>, 412-53. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2004.</p>
1-4	The Epistle as Letter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Epistolary Form and the Rhetoric of the Letter Constructing the Story
	<p>Required Reading: Fowl, S.E. "Introduction to Philippians." In <i>Philippians</i>, 1-14. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005.</p> <p>Acts 16</p> <p>Recommended Reading: Hays, Richard B. "Is Paul's Gospel Narratable?" <i>Journal for the Study of the New Testament</i> 27(2004): 217-39. ATLA database</p> <p>Watson, Duane F. "A Reexamination of the Epistolary Analysis Underpinning the Arguments for the Composite Nature of Philippians." In <i>Early Christianity and Classical Culture: Comparative Studies in Honor of Abraham J. Malherbe</i>, edited by J.T. Fitzgerald, T.H. Olbricht and L.M. White. Supplements to Novum Testamentum, 157-77. Leiden: Brill, 2003.</p>
Wed. May 23	Paul's Greetings and Thanksgiving (1:1-11)

9-12	<p>Required Reading: Fowl, S.E. "Commentary on Philippians." In <i>Philippians</i>, 15-35. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005.</p> <p>Recommended Reading: Alexander, Loveday. "Hellenistic Letter-Forms and the Structure of Philippians." <i>Journal for the Study of the New Testament</i> 37 (1989): 87-101. ATLA database Garland, D. "The Composition and Unity of Philippians, Some Neglected Literary Factors." <i>Novum Testamentum</i> 27 (1985): 141-73. ATLA database</p>
1-4	Paul's Example (1:12-26)
	<p>Required Reading: Fowl, S.E. "Commentary on Philippians." In <i>Philippians</i>, 35-77. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005. Fitzgerald, John T. "Christian Friendship: John, Paul, and the Philippians." <i>Interpretation</i> 61 (2007): 284-96. ATLA database Johnson, Luke Timothy. "Making Connections: The Material Expression of Friendship in the New Testament." <i>Interpretation</i> 58 (2004): 158-71. ATLA database</p> <p>Reading Summary of Fitzgerald and Johnson due.</p> <p>Recommended Reading: Fiore SJ, Benjamin. "Paul, Exemplification, and Imitation." In <i>Paul in the Greco-Roman World: A Handbook</i>, edited by J. Paul Sampley, 228-57. London & New York: Trinity Press International, 2003. Fitzgerald, John T. "Paul and Friendship." In <i>Paul in the Greco-Roman World: A Handbook</i>, edited by J. Paul Sampley. 319-43. London & New York: Trinity Press International, 2003. Fowl, Stephen. "Imitation of Paul/of Christ." In <i>Dictionary of Paul and His Letters</i>, edited by G.F. Hawthorne and R.P. Martin, 428-31. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1993. Stowers, Stanley K. "Friends and Enemies in the Politics of Heaven: Reading Theology in Philippians." In <i>Pauline Theology, Volume I: Thessalonians, Philippians, Galatians, Philemon</i>, edited by J.M. Bassler, 105-21. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1991.</p>
Thurs. May 24 9-12	Christ's Example (1:27-2:18)
	<p>Required Reading: Fowl, S.E. "Commentary on Philippians." In <i>Philippians</i>, 77-130. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005. Martin, Ralph P. "Carmen Christi Revisited." In <i>Where Christology Began: Essays on Philippians 2</i>, edited by Ralph P. Martin and Brian J. Dodd, 1-5. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1998.</p> <p>Recommended Reading: Coakley, Sarah. "Kenosis and Subversion: On the Repression of 'Vulnerability' in</p>

	<p>Christian Feminist Writing." In <i>Powers and Submissions: Spirituality, Philosophy and Gender</i>, 3-39. Oxford: Blackwell, 2002.</p> <p>Groenhout, Ruth. "Kenosis and Feminist Theory." In <i>Exploring Kenotic Christology: The Self-Emptying of God</i>, edited by C. Stephen Evans, 291-312. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2006.</p> <p>Law, David R. "Kenotic Theology." In <i>The Cambridge Dictionary of Christian Theology</i>, edited by I.A. McFarland, D.A.S. Fergusson, K. Kilby and I.R. Torrance, 261-2. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2011.</p>
1-4	Timothy's and Epaphroditus' Examples (2:19-3:1a)
	<p>Required Reading:</p> <p>Fowl, S.E. "Commentary on Philippians." In <i>Philippians</i>, 130-143. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005.</p>
Fri. May 25 9-12	Paul's Example (3:1b-4:1)
	<p>Paper proposal due (including 8 sources)</p> <p>Required Reading:</p> <p>Fowl, S.E. "Commentary on Philippians." In <i>Philippians</i>, 143-176. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005.</p> <p>Hafemann, S.J. Sections 3 (Paul's View of the Law) and 4 (The Center of Paul's Theology) of "Paul and His Interpreters." In <i>Dictionary of Paul and His Letters</i>, edited by G.F. Hawthorne, R.P. Martin and D.G. Reid. 671-77. Downers Grove, IL and Leicester, UK: InterVarsity Press, 1993.</p> <p>Recommended Reading:</p> <p>Dunn, James D.G. "The New Perspective on Paul." <i>Bulletin of the John Rylands University Library of Manchester</i> 65 (1983): 95-122.</p> <p>Stendahl, K. "Paul and the Introspective Conscience of the West." In <i>Paul among Jews and Gentiles and Other Essays</i>. 78-96. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1976.</p>
1-4	Final exhortations (4:2-20) Letter Closing (4:21-23)
	<p>Required Reading:</p> <p>Fowl, S.E. "Commentary on Philippians." In <i>Philippians</i>, 176-203. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2005.</p> <p>Recommended Reading:</p> <p>Berry, Ken L. "The Function of Friendship Language in Philippians 4:10-20." In <i>Friendship, Flattery, and Frankness of Speech: Studies on Friendship in the New Testament World</i>, edited by J.T. Fitzgerald, 107-24. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1996.</p> <p>Fowl, Stephen E. "Know Your Context: Giving and Receiving Money in Philippians." <i>Interpretation</i> 56 (2002): 45-58. ATLA database</p>
Sat. May 26 9-12	Conclusion: Friendship and Fellowship

	<p>Required Reading: Grieb, A. Katherine. "Philippians and the Politics of God." <i>Interpretation</i> 61 (2007): 256-69. ATLA database</p> <p>Reading Summary of Grieb due.</p>
1-4	Conclusion: Imitation and Example of Christ
	<p>Required Reading: Eastman, Susan. "Imitating Christ Imitating Us: Paul's Educational Project in Philippians." In <i>The Word Leaps the Gap: Essays on Scripture and Theology in Honor of Richard B. Hays</i>, edited by J. Ross Wagner, C. Kavin Rowe and A. Katherine Grieb, 427-51. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2008.</p> <p>Reading Summary of Eastman due.</p> <p>Recommended Reading: Webster, John. "The Imitation of Christ." <i>Tyndale Bulletin</i> 37 (1986): 95-120.</p>

Post Course due dates

June 18 (Monday)	Book Review of Fowl's <i>Commentary on Philippians</i> .
July 16 (Monday)	Study of a particular text in Philippians or a topic study: either friendship or imitation

Course Requirements

1. Reading, attendance and participation
 - Students are expected to attend each day of week module classes. Given that this is a module course, it is extremely important that you attend all of the class time.
 - reading summary of Fitzgerald and Johnson (Wednesday); maximum 250 words each
 - reading summary of Grieb and Eastman (Friday); maximum 250 words each
 - reading summaries will be evaluated as adequate or not adequate; participation grades (worth 20% of final grade) will include consideration of reading summaries, attendance and participation.
2. Book Review of Fowl's *Commentary on Philippians*
 - A good book review demonstrates that the reader has listened attentively to the argument of the author, synthesized that argument so that it can be presented concisely, and reflected on the strengths and weaknesses of the argument. References to pages in the reviewed book can be included in the body of the review (i.e. formal footnotes are not necessary).
 - **Due: June 18 (Monday)** at midnight;
 - Worth: 30% of the final grade
 - must include evidence of use of published reviews

- may include reference to other commentaries
- maximum length:
REL 325 4 pages (about 1200 words)
- cite reviews and book reference information correctly (Chicago style); for examples correctly cited, see:

<http://theseattleschool.edu/Files/Documents/Writing-Center-Docs/Chicago-Style-Citation-Examples>

3. Research paper on a text or topic in Paul's Letter to the Philippians:

- a text (about 8-10 verses is maximum; approval of the passage is necessary)
- a topic: friendship or imitation (or alternative discussed with the instructor)
- **Proposal due: Friday May 25** (last day of class)
 - brief paragraph identifying your topic or passage
 - identify at least 8 sources you will use
 - worth 10% of the final grade.
- A good research paper demonstrates that the student has attended to:
 - the socio-historical context (ancient and contemporary);
 - the literary context of the epistle
 - the canonical dialogue around that theme;
- A good paper has a central thesis that is stated clearly early in the paper and supported, in an organized and coherent way, throughout the discussion.
- demonstrates use of at least 8 sources, cited correctly (Chicago style); for examples correctly cited, see:

<http://theseattleschool.edu/Files/Documents/Writing-Center-Docs/Chicago-Style-Citation-Examples>

- **Paper due: July 18 (Wednesday)** midnight;
- worth 40% of the final grade
- maximum length:
REL 325 6-8 pages (about 2000 words)

Course Grade

Reading, Attendance and Participation:	20%
Book review (Fowl)	30%
Paper proposal	10%
Paper	40%

Notes and Policies:

- 1. Academic Policies:** It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement 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@ambrose.edu.
- 2. Grading:** course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform College/Seminary-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on your student portal. Printed grade sheets are no longer mailed out.

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar in writing within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal to review final grades. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

- 3. Academic Integrity:** We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or

work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar and the Student Handbook that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

- 4. Electronic Etiquette:** Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to engage in electronically-enabled activities unrelated to the class during a class session. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Please do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.
- 5. Coursework due outside of May 22-26:** please submit electronically via the course Moodle site. Students should identify, on the cover page of all assignments, the course name, the instructor's name and their own name, along with their student ID number.
- 6. Extensions:** Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "Course Extension" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by July 17, 2012. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise due to circumstances beyond the student's control.
- 7. Important Dates:** The last day to enter this course without permission and/or voluntary withdrawal from this course without financial and academic penalty (**drop**): 4 PM of the first day of classes. These courses will not appear on the student's transcript. If you wish to drop a class, please stop by the Registrar's Office or send an email to registrar@ambrose.edu.

Students may change the designation of any class from credit to audit, or drop out of the "audit" up to the "drop" date indicated above. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees. If you wish to change to audit, please drop by the Registrar's Office or send an email to registrar@ambrose.edu.

Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. The last day to voluntarily withdraw from a course without academic penalty (**withdraw**): 1 pm on the fourth (4th) day of your class. A grade of “W” will appear on the student’s transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

8. Students are advised to retain this syllabus for their records.

9. Library and Bookstore Hours:

The Ambrose Library will be open from 8:30 am - 5:00 pm during the Spring courses.

The Ambrose Bookstore will be open from Monday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm, Tuesday - Friday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm