



TAYLOR SEMINARY

NT 613 ROMANS

Fall Semester 2011-2012

Our Mission: To develop Christ-minded leaders who make a difference in the world.

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SCHEDULE: Tuesdays, 1:30 pm-4:30 pm

CREDITS: 3

DESCRIPTION: An exposition of the English text of the epistle to the Romans, paying special attention to the contribution this book makes to our understanding of Paul's theology.

OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should

1. have become familiar with the contents of Romans and the major critical issues associated with its composition;
2. have become aware of the various ways controversial passages in Romans have been understood and have assessed them critically;
3. have gained a good understanding of, and an appreciation for, the major themes of Pauline theology as they come to expression in Romans;
4. have developed improved exegetical and hermeneutical skills;
5. have reflected upon the implications of the teaching of Romans for faith and life today and have begun to incorporate insights gained into life and ministry.

TEXTBOOKS:

Douglas J. Moo. *Romans*. The NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.

New International Version of the Bible
NT 613, FL 2011-12

“Guide for Research and Writing (SBL style).” Available on the Moodle site.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Regular class attendance and participation.
2. Careful study of Romans, the commentary by Moo, and other assigned readings. 35 hours

3. A report of approximately 1500 words (typed and double-spaced) comparing Moo’s commentary with another commentary on Romans. The second commentary may be selected from the following list:

Paul J. Achtemeier. *Romans*. Louisville: Westminster/Knox, 2010

Leander E. Keck. *Romans*. Abingdon New Testament Commentaries. Nashville: Abingdon, 2005

Frank J. Matera. *Romans*. Paideia New Testament Commentaries. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2010

Grant R. Osborne. *Romans*. New Testament Commentary. Downers Grove: IVP, 2004

John E. Toews. *Romans*. Believers Church Bible Commentary. Scottdale, Pa.: Herald, 2004

Ben Witherington, III with Darlene Hyatt. *Paul’s Letter to the Romans*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004

N. T. Wright. “The Letter to the Romans.” Pages 393-770 in vol. 10 of *New Interpreter’s Bible*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2002.

The report shall indicate both similarities and differences between the two commentaries.

Due: Nov. 29.

20 hours

4. A research paper or ministry project of approximately 3000 words (typed and double-spaced). It ought to be well-researched and well-documented. The Taylor “Guide for Research and Writing” gives helpful information regarding how to do research and how to format footnotes and bibliography. For matters not addressed in the guide, see Patrick H. Alexander et al., eds., *The SBL Handbook of Style* (Grand Rapids: Hendrickson, 1999) and the student supplement at http://www.sbl-site.org/assets/pdfs/SBLHSrevised2_09.pdf. A copy of the student supplement will be available at the Moodle site. The bibliography in your paper should list all of the works that you consulted that contain relevant information. It should include a minimum of six commentaries on Romans, including those of C. E. B.

Cranfield (ICC), J. D. G. Dunn (WBC), Robert Jewett (Hermeneia), and Thomas R. Schreiner (BECNT), as well as other resources, including periodical articles. The ATLA database should be used to locate relevant articles in periodicals. The paper should show evidence of original thinking, but deal fairly with views not endorsed by the student. The proposed topic of your paper is to be submitted in writing by the beginning of class on **Sept. 20**.

If you elect to write a research paper, it may take the form of an exegesis of a pericope in Romans or a topical paper dealing with a significant theme in Romans (e.g., the righteousness of God). Students who have not written an exegetical paper previously should read Douglas Stuart, "Exegesis," in *The Anchor Yale Bible Dictionary* (ed. David Noel Freedman; New York: Doubleday, 1996), 2:682-88. The paper should include discussion of the historical and literary contexts of the pericope and trace the flow of thought through the pericope, giving attention to relevant textual, grammatical and linguistic issues as they arise.

If you elect to do a ministry project, it may take the form of a plan for a series of at least 8 Bible studies or sermons on Romans. Those doing a ministry project should read Sidney Greidanus, "Preaching from Paul Today," in the *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters* (ed. Gerald F. Hawthorne, Ralph P. Martin, and Daniel G. Reid; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1993), 737-43. Give a title for the series and describe the audience for which it is intended. Then give the following information for each study or sermon in the series: (1) the pericope the study/sermon will be based upon, (2) why Paul wrote the pericope (his goal), (3) the goal or purpose of the study/sermon, (4) the theme of the pericope, (5) the theme of the study/sermon, and (6) an outline of the study/sermon.

Due: Nov. 15

25 hours

5. A midterm examination. This will be written at 8:30 am on **Oct. 11** and will include questions which relate to the readings, as well as the material covered in class.

3 hours

6. A comprehensive final examination. This will include questions which relate to the readings, as well as the material covered in class.

7 hours

Total: 90 hours

PENALTIES:

Academic honesty and integrity is expected. Plagiarism is considered a serious offence and can have severe consequences. According to Taylor's *Guide for Research and Writing*, "To plagiarize is to give the impression that you have written something original which in fact you have borrowed from another without acknowledging that other person's work" (*Guide for*

Research and Writing, pp. 11-12). If you use another person's words, you must place the material cited in quotation marks and document the source in a footnote. Distinctive ideas and arguments must also be properly acknowledged. Students guilty of plagiarism may receive a grade reduction and be required to rewrite the paper or receive a grade of zero for it. Students are responsible to familiarize themselves with what constitutes plagiarism and should be careful to avoid it.

Late papers will be penalized by a deduction of 5% per week day, unless an extension has been granted prior to the due date. If unexpected circumstances arise that prevent you from completing the course requirements by Dec. 9, and you wish to apply for additional time to complete any work that is outstanding, you must submit an Application for an Incomplete to the Academic Committee.

EVALUATION:

Commentary Comparison	15%
Research Paper/Ministry Project	35%
Midterm Examination	15%
Final Examination	35%

COURSE OUTLINE:

Read the relevant section in Romans, Moo, your supplemental commentary, and the items listed below by the dates indicated:

- Aug. 30 Introduction to Romans.
- Sept. 6 Romans 1:1-17.
W. Wiefel, "The Jewish Community in Ancient Rome and the Origins of Roman Christianity," in *The Romans Debate: Revised and Expanded Edition* (ed. K. P. Donfried; Peabody, MA: Hendrikson, 1991), 85-101.
Read through Romans in the NIV at a single sitting.
- Sept. 13 Romans 1:18-32.
A. J. Hultgren, "Being Faithful to the Scriptures: Romans 1:26-27 as a Case in Point," *Word and World* 14 (1994): 315-25, and Thomas R. Schreiner, "A New Testament Perspective on Homosexuality," *Themelios* 31 (2006): 62-75. The full text of Hultgren's article is available on line in the ATLA database; Taylor's article is available at http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk/articles_themelios-03.php
- Sept. 20 Romans 2:1-3:20.
Wisdom of Solomon 12:3-16:4. This may be found in any edition of the Apocrypha. The Apocrypha is available on line at <http://www.ccel.org/wwsb/>.

- Sept. 27 Modular Week – No classes
- Oct. 4 Romans 3:21-4:25.
Brendan Byrne, “Interpreting Romans: The New Perspective and Beyond,” *Interpretation* 58 (2004): 241-52. The full text of this article is available on line in the ATLA database.
- Oct. 11 Romans 5:1-21.
Genesis 3:1-24; Wisdom of Solomon 2:23-24 (in the Apocrypha); 1 Corinthians 15:20-28; 2 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Timothy 2:11-15; 4 Ezra (2 Esdras) 3:21-26 (in the Apocrypha); 2 Baruch 23:4; 54:15 (available in Charlesworth's edition of the Pseudepigrapha or on-line at <http://wesley.nnu.edu/sermons-essays-books/noncanonical-literature/>).
- Midterm Examination**
- Oct. 18 Romans 6:1-7:25.
J. I. Packer, “The ‘Wretched Man’ Revisited: Another Look at Romans 7:14-25” in *Romans and the People of God* (ed. S. K. Soderland and N. T. Wright; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999), 70-81.
- Oct. 25 Modular Week – No classes
- Nov. 1 Romans 8:1-39.
Kevin W. Mcfadden, “The Fulfilment of the Law’s *Dikaiōma*: Another Look at Romans 8:1-4,” *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 52 (2009): 482-97.
- Nov. 8 Romans 9:1-11:36.
Christopher Zoccali, “‘And so all Israel will be saved’: Competing Interpretations of Romans 11.26 in Pauline Scholarship,” *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 30 (2008): 289-318. The full text of this article is available on line in the ATLA database.
- Nov. 15 Romans 12:1-13:14
Research paper/Ministry study due.
- Nov. 22 Romans 14:1–15:13
- Nov. 29 Romans 15:14–16:27
Commentary comparison due.

WEBSITES:

There is a Moodle web site related to this course. Go to <http://online.tayloru.ca>. You will see a link in the top right corner that says “log in.” Click on this link. Your assigned user name is

tsxxxxx (the x's represent your student ID number). Note that ts is in lower case letters. Your password is your surname in lower case letters, except for the initial letter (in some cases, the initial letter is also in lower case). Click on Courses, then select NT 613 Romans. The course enrollment key is nt613. When you get to the web site for the course, you will see that it is divided into 3 columns. In the center section, you will find links to resources related to this course, including copies of the syllabus and Taylor's "Guide for Research and Writing."

For web sites that have material on Romans, see <http://bible.org/passage/312/romans>, <http://biblicalstudies.org.uk/romans.php>, <http://www.ntgateway.com/paul-the-apostle/romans/>, and <http://www.textweek.com/pauline/romans.htm>.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

There is a good bibliography of literature related to Romans in Robert Jewett, *Romans* (Hermeneia; Minneapolis: Fortress, 2007), xxxv-lxix. The major commentaries in English are those of C. K. Barrett (HNTC), C. E. B. Cranfield (ICC), J. D. G. Dunn (WBC), J. A. Fitzmyer (AB), R. Jewett (Hermeneia), E. Käsemann, D. J. Moo (NICNT, rev.), John Murray (NICNT), and T. R. Schreiner (BECNT). There is a wealth of helpful material on Romans in periodical literature. The most convenient way of locating relevant articles is through the use of the ATLA Religion database.