

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Evangel University

HOM/BNT 624 Expository Preaching and Exegetical Studies in the Epistles (Romans)
Fridays, 11:00 AM–1:45 PM

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Fall 2017

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines New Testament letters, focusing especially on biblical exposition for the purposes of research and the development of expository sermons that work through the entirety of individual letters. Special attention is given to historical-grammatical exegesis, discourse analysis, epistolary form, and the propositional mode of writing that characterizes epistolary literature. The course analyzes the role of grammar and syntax in unpacking the meaning of paragraphs and larger pericopae. This course will focus on the Apostle Paul's epistle to the Romans.

OBJECTIVES

Through required and optional reading, lectures and class discussion, student papers and presentations, and the completion of assignments, the student should fulfill the following course objectives:

Knowing

1. Understand the history of debates surrounding the practice of interpreting Romans, particularly portions focused on the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in a worship context.
2. Gain knowledge of the content of Romans, demonstrated by the recognition of major themes and the structure of the epistle.
3. Recognize how Romans provides a biblical foundation for Christian community in a contemporary context.

Being

1. Appreciate the New Testament epistolary form and its expression of theology.
2. Reflect on the impact of Romans on one's personal life and theology.
3. Be formed as a scholar-practitioner within a Pentecostal context.

Doing

1. Read Romans with an approach that is sensitive to the literary, historical, and theological nature of the text.
2. Effectively interpret Romans for the purposes of preaching/teaching and making application of the text to the present day.

3. Respond in a knowledgeable fashion to questions regarding Romans.

TEXTBOOKS

Fee, Gordon D. *Paul, the Spirit, and the People of God*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011. ISBN: 978-0801046247 (Also available in a variety of electronic formats)

Schreiner, Thomas R. *Romans*. Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament 2. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998. ISBN 978-0801021497.

Yinger, Kent L. *The New Perspective on Paul: An Introduction*. Eugene: Cascade, 2011. ISBN: 978-1608994632 (Also available in a variety of electronic formats)

For information on textbook pricing, go to <http://www.bkstr.com/evangelstore/home>.

BASIC OUTLINE

The course will be divided into two primary sections: lecture/discussion and preaching. The lecture/discussion portion of the course will cover a variety of topics that will guide students through vital aspects of interpreting the text for the purpose of research and sermon preparation. The second portion of the course will provide students the opportunity both to demonstrate their mastery of the skills from the first portion of the course and to gain experience preaching the text, along with constructively critiquing their preaching and the preaching of others. For more detailed information regarding the outline of the course, please refer to Appendix A.

METHODOLOGY

1. The course will utilize lectures, class discussion, papers, student preaching, professor and peer critiques, as well as reading and written assignments.
2. The first portion of the course will give attention to lectures and discussion regarding the theology of Romans, present-day application of the text, and clear communication of these concepts.
3. The remainder of the course will be devoted to student sermons presented in the classroom setting. Sermons will be critiqued by the professor and the other students. The student will then receive a video recording of their sermon to review for self-critique.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Students are expected to attend and participate in all class sessions. Class participation is constituted by engaging in class discussion and raising questions significant to the topic at hand. Absences should be for extreme circumstances only. Based on the student handbook, exceeding the absence limit will be regarded as an unofficial withdrawal and result in a grade of F.
2. The student will read ***all*** assigned materials. On the last day of class, a signed statement must be submitted noting all assigned course material has been read.

3. Students will read the book of Romans a total of five (5) times. On the last day of class, a signed statement must be submitted noting the text has been read the designated number of times.
4. Students will write an exegetical paper, 12–15 pages in length, that will focus on a passage in Romans. **NOTE:** The passage on which the student writes his or her paper will also be used for the sermon to be delivered later in the semester. Details regarding assignment components appear in Appendix B.
5. Students will prepare and deliver a 15-minute message expounding a passage from Romans. *Exceeding the time limit will result in a full letter grade reduction.* Details regarding assignment components appear in Appendix B.
6. Students will prepare and submit a 500-word self-critique of their sermon delivery. This critique should highlight both those things the student feels he or she did well, and areas where he or she needs to improve. This assignment is due within seven days of video availability.
7. All assignments are to be electronically submitted via Course Commons as a PDF no later than the beginning of class on the due date. Any assignments received after that time, if not accompanied with an acceptable reason for tardiness, shall result in a reduction of the student's score on that assignment at a daily rate of 3%. Given the request for electronic submission, weekends count in that daily reduction. If the assignment has not been submitted after 10 days, the student shall receive a grade of F for the assignment.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

It is assumed that students at AGTS will endeavor to be honest and of high integrity in all matters pertaining to Seminary life. A lack of respect and integrity is evidenced by cheating, fabricating, plagiarizing, misusing facilities, removing books and other property not one's own, and disrupting classes.

Cheating is defined as “intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise.” It is assumed that whatever is submitted by a student is the work of that student and is new work for that course. Fabrication is “intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise or form.” Plagiarism is “intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.” One who facilitates any of the above is equally responsible with the primary violator.

Penalties may include restitution, an “F” on an individual paper, exam, or course; loss of campus employment; disciplinary probation; removal from extracurricular activities; and suspension.—*AGTS Student Handbook.*

NON-DISCRIMINATORY LANGUAGE

Students should use non-discriminatory language in all written and spoken communication in this class. For specific guidelines, see the Student Handbook at: http://www.agts.edu/community/student_handbook/2010studenthandbook.pdf

DISABILITY ACCOMODATION

As defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary at Evangel University is committed to the provision of reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If AGTS students believe they qualify for accommodations, they should contact the AGTS Student Life Office, Room 218, telephone extension 8881.

COURSE COMMONS

This course will use Evangel's learning management system, Course Commons, powered by the Canvas Learning Management System. Login directly at: <https://courses.evangel.edu/> or go to the Student Portal/Course Commons

Use your Evangel username and password to login.

To access this course, hover over or click Courses at the top of the page after logging in.

- a. ***Before the class starts:*** Students will have access to Course Commons and this course seven (7) days before the official beginning of the semester. This does not mean all course content will be ready. Release of course content will be the prerogative of the professor. Students have until seven (7) days after the semester begins to complete financial registration. If financial registration is not completed by the seventh day, course access will be revoked and all submitted work will be lost.
- b. **Course Content:** All course content (syllabus, modules, course materials, assignments, quizzes, exams, discussions, grades, etc.) will be located on the navigation pane on the left hand side of our course. At the end of a semester, students will have limited access to the course through Course Commons. Only access to already submitted work and grades will be available.
- c. **Personal Settings:** After logging into Course Commons, be sure to go to Settings and adjust your personal profile settings. *Add in a profile picture of yourself (Smile!).*
 - I. Set your notifications: set how you'll be notified (EU email, personal email, text, Twitter, etc.) and how often.
- d. **Help:** *Click the Help button in the top right hand corner after you login. By clicking Help, you'll be able to ...*
 - i. Submit a question directly to your instructor
 - ii. Access Canvas Help Guides
 - iii. Submit a Course Commons Helpdesk Ticket
- e. **Course Commons Student Orientation:** All EU students are automatically enrolled in the [Course Commons Student Orientation site](#). What's available? [Getting Started](#) help, what to do [During Your Course](#), [Help and FAQ](#), the [Student Quick Start Guide](#), and much more.

- f. **Course Commons Troubleshooting:** Question about a quiz or course content? *Contact your instructor, first!* Technical question about the Course Commons? Click Help and submit a ticket through Report a Problem. *Can't access Course Commons?* Contact the EU IT Helpdesk: 417-865-2815 x8368 (phone) or helpdesk@evangel.edu (email) or help.evangel.edu (web).

GRADING PROCEDURE

The course grade will be based on the following percentages:

Exegetical Paper	40%
Course Sermon	40%
Sermon Self-critique	10%
Class participation	5%
Reading	5%
	100%

For further details regarding the contribution of each assignment to the course grade, please refer to Appendix C.

Any assignments received after the due date, if not accompanied with an acceptable reason for tardiness, shall result in a reduction of the student's score on that assignment at a daily rate of 3% of the total possible grade. Given the request for electronic submission, weekends count in that daily reduction. If the assignment has not been submitted after 10 days, the student shall receive a grade of F for the assignment.

Students should retain a copy of all work submitted, until they have received a grade for this work.

Students are expected to complete all course work in a timely fashion as specified in this syllabus. A grade of IP (In Process) will be issued if the course ends after the AGTS semester ends. A grade of I (Incomplete) may be granted at the discretion of the professor for extenuating circumstances upon the presentation of the Incomplete Grade Request form: <http://www.agts.edu/academics/forms.html>. The approved Incomplete request will extend the due date for up to ninety days, may include a grade reduction, and will be assessed a grade change fee. Students may not register for courses in a new term if carrying more than two IP or I grades.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Achtemeier, Elizabeth Rice. *Preaching as Theology and Art*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1984.
- Barth, Karl. *Homiletics*. Trans. G.W. Bromiley and Donald E. Daniels. Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1991.
- Bornkamm, G. "Baptism and New Life in Paul: Romans 6." In *Early Christian Experience*, 71–86. London SCM Press, 1969.
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- Chapell, Bryan. *Christ-centered Preaching: Redeeming the Expository Sermon*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.
- Edwards, J. Kent. *Deep Preaching: Creating Sermons that Go Beyond the Superficial*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2009.
- Fee, Gordon D. *God's Empowering Presence: The Holy Spirit in the Letters of Paul*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011.
- Galli, Mark and Craig Brian Larson. *Preaching that Connects: Using the Techniques of Journalists to Add Impact to Your Sermons*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994.
- Greidanus, Sidney. *The Modern Preacher and the Ancient Text: Interpreting and Preaching Biblical Literature*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.
- Keener, Craig S. *Romans: A New Covenant Commentary*. Eugene: Cascade, 2009.
- Kinlaw, Dennis F. *Preaching in the Spirit*. Grand Rapids: Francis Asbury, 1985.
- Knowles, Michael P. *The Folly of Preaching: Models and Methods*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2007.
- Knowles, Michael P. *We Preach Not Ourselves: Paul on Proclamation*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008.
- Lee, Jae Hyun. *Paul's Gospel in Romans: A Discourse Analysis of Rom 1:16–8:39*. Linguistic Biblical Studies 3. Leiden: Brill, 2010.
- Loscalzo, Craig A. *Evangelistic Preaching that Connects: Guidance in Shaping Fresh & Appealing Sermons*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1995.
- Lowry, Eugene. *The Homiletical Plot: The sermon as Narrative Art Form*. Louisville, Westminister John Knox, 2001.
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- Mounce, Robert H. *The Essential Nature of New Testament Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1960.
- Porter, Stanley E. "KATAΛΛΑΞΣΩ in Ancient Greek Literature and Romans 5: A Study of Pauline Usage." In *Studies in the Greek New Testament*, 195–212. New York: Peter Lang, 1996.
- Robinson, Haddon, and Craig Brian Larson, eds. *The Art and Craft of Biblical Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.
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- Westfall, Cynthia Long. *Paul and Gender: Reclaiming the Apostle's Vision for Men and Women in Christ*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2016.
- Wright, N. T. *Paul and the Faithfulness of God*. 2 Vols. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2013

SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Daniel I. Morrison, March 2016.

APPENDIX A—COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Class Session
Aug. 25	The Epistle as Literary Form Canonical Epistles: Finding the Stories Behind the Letters
Sept. 01	New Perspective on Paul (<i>Yinger reading must be complete</i>) Approaches to Romans <i>Passage Selection Day</i>
Sept. 08	Introductory Materials (1:1–1:17) The God Who Reveals: Righteousness, Wrath, and the Law (1:18–3:20)
Sept. 15	Righteousness, Justification, the Promise and Peace (3:21–5:11) Death and Life (5:12–6:14) <i>Exegetical Paper Thesis Statements Due</i>
Sept. 22	Free in Chains: The Already and Not Yet of Redemption (8:1–8:39) Theological Excursus on Election Salvation and God’s People (9:1–11:36)
Sept. 29	The Election of Israel (9:1–9:29) Rejection and The Remnant (9:30–11:10) <i>Exegetical Paper Outlines Due</i>
Oct. 06	God’s People: The Israel of God (11:11–11:36) Living as God’s People (12:1–14:23)
Oct. 13	Christ: Our Example Concluding Matters
Oct. 20	Fall Study Week (NO CLASS)
Oct. 27	Applying the Ancient Text to the Present Day Preaching from Romans <i>Exegetical Papers Due</i>
Nov. 03	Sermon Workshop Day
Nov. 10	Dealing with Theological Differences <i>Sermon Outlines Due</i>
Nov. 17	Library/Reading/Research Day <i>Sermon Manuscripts Due</i>
Nov. 24	Thanksgiving Holiday (NO CLASS)
Dec. 01	Sermons (Week 1)
Dec. 08	Sermons (Week 2)

APPENDIX B—PAPER AND SERMON PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS

EXEGETICAL PAPER

In preparation for the exegetical paper, students will submit a one-sentence thesis statement that will function as the main idea of their exegetical paper.

Due Date: _____

Students will submit a detailed outline of their exegetical papers. The outline should be carried at least to the third level of subordination (e.g., I. A. 1. a.).

Due Date: _____

Students will write an exegetical paper based on the thesis statement and outline previously submitted. This paper will be 12 to 15 pages in length and will interact with scholarly monographs, articles, and edited volumes. Guidelines for composition are available via Course Commons.

Due Date: _____

EXPOSITORY SERMON

In preparation for the Romans sermon, the student will use his or her exegetical paper outline and paper to develop a homiletical outline. The homiletical outline shall possess three main points: Exegetical Proposition, Theological Proposition, and Homiletical Proposition. NOTE: These are three distinct outlines combined into one. These main points should be expressed in complete sentences. The outline should be carried to the third level of subordination (e.g., I. A. 1. a.). A sample ETH outline is available via Course Commons. This outline is due one (1) week before sermon delivery.

Due Date: _____

Students will prepare a manuscript of the sermon written in prose style. The manuscript should reflect the content of your actual delivery, and read like a preached message—not an academic paper. This is due one (1) week before sermon delivery.

Due Date: _____

APPENDIX C—ASSIGNMENT WEIGHT

Exegetical Paper Assignments		40%
	Thesis Statement	5%
	Exegetical Paper Outline	10%
	Exegetical Paper	25%
Sermon Assignments		40%
	Exegetical outline and proposition	10%
	Sermon manuscript	15%
	Sermon delivery	15%
Class Participation		10%
Reading		10%
Total		100%