Syllabus for *Greek Exegesis I:*
2 Thessalonians & Philemon
GRK (621) – Fall 2012

A course offered at the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary

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Course Description:

The description of this course in the current BMATS catalog is as follows: “This course consists of exegetical and interpretive studies in the historical or apostolic writings of the New Testament. Translation skills are improved through an inductive study of Greek grammar and syntax. Vocabulary acquisition and retention are emphasized.” Not only will the entire books of 2 Thessalonians and Philemon be translated, but the students will engage in word studies to help discover the richness of the text. The vocabulary emphasized will come from the text of 2 Thessalonians and Philemon.

Course Textbooks:


5. The student should also bring a good literal English translation (KJV, NKJV, NASB).

6. The student would also benefit from a good analytical Greek lexicon (ex. George Wigram, dated but still good; William D. Mounce, Timothy & Barbara Friberg, Robinson & House, 2012).
Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, the student should . . .

1. possess a complete translation of the books of 2 Thessalonians and Philemon.

2. have a firm grasp of the vocabulary the Apostle Paul employs in 2 Thessalonians and Philemon.

3. demonstrate skill in formulating word studies that enhance one’s understanding of the text through analysis and synthesis.

4. be familiar with the necessary tools needed to exercise proper Greek exegesis, and be able to evaluate their usefulness in Greek studies.

5. demonstrate a greater ability in reading and translating the Greek text and how this can enhance one’s preaching and teaching.

6. have a greater appreciation for the books of 2 Thessalonians and Philemon as the inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word of God.

7. possess a practical tool for ministry that can be applied toward one’s teaching and/or preaching through 2 Thessalonians and Philemon.

Course Requirements:

Reading

The student is required to read the section of the commentaries by D. Michael Martin (pp. 21-44; 195-293), and Richard R. Melick, Jr. (pp. 334-70) that relate to 2 Thessalonians and Philemon. The student should read the commentaries in conjunction with the verses that will be discussed each day. The student will be asked on the final exam what percentage of this reading he or she has completed.

Translating

Over the course of this semester, the student will translate the entire books of 2 Thessalonians and Philemon. The professor will provide a reproducible sheet that the student may use for each verse. The translations may be handwritten or typed out on a personal computer. These translations should be compiled in a notebook that will be turned in at the time of the final exam.

Word Studies
The student will prepare four word studies (two from 2 Thessalonians and two from Philemon – see course schedule) throughout the course of this semester. These word studies must be prepared in a typed report and copies should be made for each student in the class. Also, on the day that the word studies are due, an oral presentation will be made in which the student will present his or her findings on the assigned word. Power Point may be used for these presentations, but is not required.

Late Work:

All assignments must be turned in according to the dates on the class schedule. Any work turned in late will be deducted 2 percentage points for every day it is late.

Course Examinations:

The student will be required to take a mid-term and a final exam. The final exam is not cumulative. Exams must be taken on the day they are scheduled.

Course Quizzes:

A total of ten quizzes will be given throughout the course of this semester. The words will come from the text of 2 Thessalonians and Philemon, and the professor will submit a list of words to study for each quiz. See the course schedule for the dates of these quizzes. The student may retake his or her two lowest quiz grades. Quizzes must be taken on the day they are scheduled.

Course Grading:

The student may work toward 1,000 points for this course. The percentage points will not be rounded up. For example, if the student earns 907 points for the course, the percentage will be 90.7%, which is a “B.” The student must earn the next level from B to A, C to B, etc. The point values and percentages break down as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term</td>
<td>200 pts.</td>
<td>(20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>200 pts.</td>
<td>(20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>200 pts.</td>
<td>(20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translation &amp; notebook</td>
<td>150 pts.</td>
<td>(15%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Word Studies</td>
<td>100 pts.</td>
<td>(10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>100 pts.</td>
<td>(10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Attendance &amp; Participation</td>
<td>50 pts. (5%)</td>
<td></td>
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Class Attendance & Participation

The students are expected to be in class for each class session. Missing class will result in a reduction in one’s overall grade (5 point reduction per miss). Missing more than ¼ of class
sessions, except for extenuating circumstances, can place the student at risk of failing the course. Three tardies is equal to one absence, so be on time! Students are allowed to use their personal computers in class for taking notes only, or for reading their translations (the translation must be the student’s own, and not merely reading from a version or a Bible program). Using the internet during class is strictly prohibited unless allowed by the professor. A violation of this rule may result in the prohibition of using computers in class. The students are expected to pay attention in class and not doing any other work for other classes.

**BMATS Grading Schedule:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>91-100%</td>
<td>F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>81-90%</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>71-80%</td>
<td>WP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>61-70%</td>
<td>WF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How To Do A Word Study

ANALYSIS

Step #1: Determine the word to be analyzed
- Typically these are theologically weighty main verbs in the text.
- Nouns may be studied in this way as well, but the main verbs tend to carry the meaning of the text.

Step #2: Look up your word in *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (BDAG)
- Write out the outline of the article in BDAG pertaining to your word.
- Particularly take note of whether or not BDAG includes your verse in any of the meanings it gives for your word.

Step #3: Look up your word in a concordance
- What you are looking for here is whether or not your author uses this word in any other books or contexts.
- If your author does not use this anywhere else, check to see if other authors use this word and note the context.
- Sometimes the word you choose for study is used only that one time in the text. If this is the case, see if BDAG alludes to non-biblical usage of your word.

Step #4: Determine whether or not your word has multiple meanings.

Step #5: Look up your word in the *New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology* (NIDNTT).
- This step will help to determine the broader context of your word.
- Your word will be part of a larger word group.
- Take note of the entire article on the word group.
- Pay careful attention to your particular word in the word group to see whether NIDNTT gives a particular meaning for your word in its context.

Step #6: Look up your word in the *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament Based on Semantic Domains* (2 volumes).
- List the domains given for your word.
- Determine particularly which domains include your verse in the discussion.

Step #7: Determine whether or not your word is used with any special emotional or moral connotation.
SYNTHESIS – Here you will summarize your analysis and offer a concluding decision on the meaning you have selected for your word and why.

Course Schedule:

Aug. 30th: Introduction to course / a word on translation / How to do a word study / Grammar Review

Sept. 6th: Grammar Review

Sept. 13th: Grammar Review / 2 Thessalonians 1:1-7 / Quiz #1

Sept. 20th: Galatians 2 Thessalonians 1:8-12 / Quiz #2 / 1st word study due (2 Th. 1)

Sept. 27th: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-7 / Quiz #3

Oct. 4th: 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 / Quiz #4 / 2nd word study due (2 Th. 2 & 3)

Oct. 11th: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17 / Quiz #5

Oct. 18th: MID-TERM EXAM

Oct. 25th: 2 Thessalonians 3:1-9 / Quiz #6

Nov. 1st: 2 Thessalonians 3:10-18 / Quiz #7

Nov. 8th: Philemon 1-7 / Quiz #8 / 3rd word study due (Philemon)

Nov. 15th: Philemon 8-16 / Quiz #9

Nov. 22nd: THANKSGIVING BREAK

Nov. 29th: Philemon 17-25 / Quiz #10 / 4th word study due (Philemon)

Dec. 6th: Final Exam / Translation notebook due

* The professor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus and course schedule at his discretion.

* This course will meet on Tuesdays from 2-5 PM in the Cherokee Room (last classroom on the left).
Addendum to Grk 621 Syllabus

This course is one of the highest level courses that BMATS offers at the Masters level. This means that much will be expected of you in this course. Being an upper level course also means that the course load is intense. This course is intended to advance student learning primarily through analysis, synthesis, and evaluation (although some knowledge and comprehension will be gained through the vocabulary from the books of 2 Thessalonians and Philemon, and the student will be applying what they have learned in previous Greek courses related to translation).

Course Learning Outcomes

The assignments for this course are based on the learning outcomes which are intended to help the student perform in the advanced levels of Bloom’s Taxonomy. The translation of the books of 2 Thessalonians and Philemon corresponds to course objectives #’s 1, 5, 7. The word studies correspond to course objectives #’s 3, 4, 7. The quizzes will help the student accomplish course objective #2. The reading from the commentary will help the student accomplish course objectives #4 and 6. The mid-term and final exam correspond to objectives #’s 2, 3, 5.

Program Outcomes

Every degree program at BMATS has a list of program objectives that should be obtained by each student in that program. For those in the MDiv program, this course should help the student to achieve objectives #1 (minister competently as a pastor, associate pastor, or as a pastoral counselor to a local church congregation) and #4 (understand and be able to communicate biblical and theological truths in the context of Christian ministry).

1 Bloom’s Taxonomy is a chart that was developed to show the various levels of educational objectives in the cognitive domain. There are six levels on the Bloom’s Taxonomy chart. These levels begin at the lowest level of learning and rise to the higher levels of learning. The first level is KNOWLEDGE, which entails rote memory and recall of specifics. The second level is COMPREHENSION, which entails basic understanding and putting an idea into your own words. The third level is APPLICATION, which entails applying a general principle to a new and concrete situation. The fourth level is ANALYSIS, which entails breaking the information into component parts in order to examine it and develop divergent conclusions. The fifth level is SYNTHESIS, which entails creatively or divergently applying prior knowledge and skills to produce a new or original whole. The sixth level is EVALUATION, which entails judging the value of material based on informed personal values/opinions resulting in an end product without a distinct right or wrong answer. A further description of these levels can be accessed at http://classweb.gmu.edu/ndabbagh/Resources/Resources2/bloomstax.htm
Course Syllabus Contract

I have carefully read through the syllabus for this course. I fully comprehend what is expected of me as a student in this course.

I have duly noted the due dates on the course schedule and agree that I will turn in all assignments on time.

If I am late for any assignments, I understand that they will be deducted 2 percentage points for every day they are late.

I understand that tests and quizzes must be taken on the day they are scheduled.

I understand the 1,000 point grading scale for this course, and further understand that percentage points will not be rounded up.

I understand that attending class is vital to my seminary education, and that missing class will result in 5 points deducted from my class attendance and participation grade for each day that is missed. I further understand that three tardies is equal to one absence according to the BMATS catalog.

By affixing my signature below, I fully comply with the procedures for this course:

Date ______________  Signature ________________________

Printed name ____________________