Syllabus for NT 621: *New Testament Exposition*

**Romans** (Fall 2015)

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 is a directed exposition of one of more of the New Testament writings. Emphasis is given to the discovery of the historical purposes, theological content, and practical applications of the teaching of the book(s) studied. **Note:** The course may be repeated when different books are studied. **Prerequisite:** NT 511 or 512, depending upon the book(s) studied." The particular book that will be the focus of this course is Romans.

**Course Textbooks:**

- Holy Bible - The student may bring the English version of the Bible of his or her choice. The version that will be used in class is the New American Standard Bible.


  *(additional note: This resource can be found at the library in the reference section if the student wishes not to purchase this volume. Reference works cannot be checked out, so it will always be available in the library).*

**Course Objectives:**

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

1. possess a firm grasp on the background, purpose, themes and literary characteristics of Paul’s epistle to the Romans.
2. possess a detailed outline of Romans that can be expanded and applied for teaching and preaching purposes.

3. be able to analyze Paul's presentation of the righteousness of God and how he develops this major theme throughout the epistle of Romans.

4. know how to critically analyze and evaluate scholarly articles related to Paul and thematical issues covered in Romans.

5. be able to create sermons or teaching outlines from the book of Romans.

6. gain a greater appreciation for the epistle of Romans as an inspired and infallible writing within the corpus of Holy Scripture.

7. be able to perform competent research and critical thinking through an analysis of a particular topic or passage in Romans using technical commentaries, monographs and journal articles.

Course Requirements:

Reading

The student is required to read the commentary by Robert H. Mounce in its entirety. The student should read the commentary in conjunction with the verses that will be covered each day (see course schedule). The student will also read selected articles from the Dictionary of Paul and His Letters (see list of articles on p. 5 of this syllabus). The student must also read the book of Romans three times through the course of the semester from three different English translations of the student's choosing.

Analysis Paper

From the 28 articles read from the Dictionary of Paul and His Letters, the student will write an analysis of five of those articles. This analysis is not a summary of the article, but rather the student's evaluation of the content of the article. The student needs to focus on points of interest in the articles, strengths and weaknesses perceived, and what particular value the article possesses for New Testament studies. Each article needs to be 2-3 pages in length, double-spaced using Times New Roman, 12 pt. font. The combined analysis report should be no more than 15 pages in length.

Research Paper

The student will write a 10-12 page research paper on a topic of his/her choosing from the book of Romans. The student may wish to explore a topic from the background of Romans or choose a passage in Romans in which to write an
exegetical paper. The student's work will be analyzed and graded based on the BMA Seminary Research and Writing Rubric. The student should strive to include 12-15 solid resources from technical commentaries, monographs, and journal articles. This paper must contain a title page, contents page, body of paper, and selected bibliography. The title page, contents page and bibliography do not count toward the 10-12 pages for the body of the paper. The body of the paper should be double-spaced using Times New Roman 12 pt. font.

Sermon or Teaching Outline

The student will choose a passage from Romans and develop a sermon or teaching outline to be used for preaching or teaching a Sunday School class. The outline should be 2-3 pages in length and may be formatted to the student's choosing. Included in the outline must be an introduction, thesis statement (main point of the lesson), content of the lesson outlined and a conclusion. (HINT: The passage the student outlines can be the same one used in the research paper.)

Late Work

All written assignments must be turned in according to the dates on the class schedule. All written assignments will be turned in via email as an attachment from a Word Document to the professor's email address on the first page of this syllabus. Any work turned in late will be deducted 2 percentage points for every day it is late. **In order to pass the class, all assignments must be turned in.**

Course Examinations

The student will be required to take a mid-semester exam and a final exam. The final exam is not cumulative. Exams must be taken on the days 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 earn 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:

- Mid-semester exam: 200 pts. (20%)
- Final exam: 200 pts. (20%)
- Research Paper: 200 pts. (20%)
- Analysis Paper: 150 pts. (15%)
- Sermon or Teaching outline: 100 pts. (10%)
- Reading: 100 pts. (10%)
- Class Attendance & Participation: 50 pts. (5%)
Class Attendance & Participation

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 1/4 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!

If for any reason the student must be absent from class, it is not the professor's responsibility to get the student caught up on notes missed for that class session. The student is responsible to seek out another student to receive the notes missed.

Students are allowed to use computers in class for taking notes only. 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.

Classroom Decorum

Students need to be prepared for each class session by reading the required text from the commentary and Bible that corresponds to the verses that will be discussed according to the course schedule. The primary mode of instruction will be lectures from the professor. Students are encouraged to ask questions that often result in classroom discussions. All discussions should be civil and the professor reserves the right to terminate any discussions that cease to be fruitful. Students are not allowed to eat snacks while class is in session as this can be a distraction for some students. A fifteen minute break will be given at the mid-point of the class period in which snacks may be consumed.
Articles from *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*

The following are a list of articles that must be read in this course:

1. Abraham, 1-9
2. Adoption, Sonship, 15-18
3. Apostle, 45-51
4. Center of Paul's Theology, 92-95
5. Chronology of Paul, 115-23
6. Civil Authority, 141-43
7. Conversion and Call of Paul, 156-63
9. Death of Christ, 201-09
10. Diatribe, 213-14
11. Election and Predestination, 225-29
12. Expiation, Propitiation, Mercy Seat, 279-84
13. Faith, 285-91
14. Flesh, 303-06
15. Gentiles, 335-39
17. Israel, 441-46
18. Jew, Paul the, 503-11
19. Justification, 517-23
20. Law, 529-42
21. Olive Tree, 642-44
22. Paul and His Interpreters, 666-79
23. Righteousness, Righteousness of God, 827-37
24. Romans, Letter to the, 838-50
25. Rome and Roman Christianity, 850-55
26. Salvation, 858-62
27. Sin, Guilt, 877-81
28. Wrath, Destruction, 991-93
### Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 31</td>
<td>Introduction to Course / Intro to Romans / Romans 1:1-17 (Mounce, p. 1-74)</td>
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<td>Sept. 7</td>
<td>Romans 1:18-2:16 (Mounce, p. 75-97)</td>
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<td>Sept. 14</td>
<td>Professor's Church in Revival Services with Dr. Mike Smith (NO CLASS)</td>
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<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td>Romans 2:18-3:20 (Mounce, p. 97-111)</td>
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<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>Romans 3:21-4:25 (Mounce, p. 113-32) (Sermon or Teaching Outline Due)</td>
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<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>Romans 5:1-6:23 (Mounce, p. 132-59)</td>
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<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>MID-SEMESTER EXAM (Cherokee County Association)</td>
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<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>Romans 7:1-8:17 (Mounce, p. 159-83)</td>
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<td>Nov. 2</td>
<td>Romans 10:1-11:36 (Mounce, p. 206-27)</td>
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<td>Nov. 9</td>
<td>Romans 12:1-13:14 (Mounce, p. 229-49)</td>
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<td>Nov. 16</td>
<td>Romans 14:1-23 (Mounce, p. 249-59) (Research Paper Due)</td>
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<td>Nov. 23</td>
<td>Romans 15:1-33 (Mounce, p. 259-71)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>Romans 16:1-27 (Mounce, p. 271-83)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
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*This is a tentative schedule and the professor reserves the right to make changes and adjustments at his discretion.*

*This class will meet on Monday evenings from 6:00-9:00 PM in the Grimsley Building.*

*This class will plan to meet on Labor Day (Sept. 7) evening since the professor will be out the next week on Sept. 14 due to revival services at his church.*
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.

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 the tests must be taken on the dates they are scheduled.

I understand that all assignments must be turned in to have a chance at a passing grade in the course.

I understand the 1,000 point grading scale for this course and further understand that percentage points will not be rounded up to allow for a better letter grade in the class.

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 class missed. I further understand that three tardies are equal to one absence according to the BMATS catalog.

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

Printed Name ____________________________

Date ____________  Signature ____________________________