

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
MATS Degree Completion Program
Springfield, Missouri

BNTD 533 STUDIES IN THE LETTERS OF PAUL:
PASTORAL EPISTLES (1 & 2 TIMOTHY, TITUS)

November 16, 21, 30, December 7, 14, 2006

Thursday evenings 6:00 – 10:00 pm

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Fall 2006

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

For this course the emphasis will be on the exegesis of the First and Second Epistles to Timothy and the Epistle to Titus, with attention given to the task of interpreting these inspired texts in light of their original setting and applying their messages to the contemporary Church. Class sessions will be conducted as an English Bible study with occasional reference to the Greek text. Prerequisites: It is recommended that students enrolled for BNT 533 have completed BNT 530.

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student should have demonstrated—in classroom discussions, presentations, papers, and on a final examination—the accomplishment of the following objectives in keeping with the mission of AGTS, which is to “...*Shap[e] servant leaders with knowledge, skill and passion to revitalize the church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit.*”

Knowledge

1. An understanding of the historical and social backgrounds of these letters
2. An awareness of the issues related to the authorship of these epistles
3. A close familiarity with the content and basic ideas of these letters
4. A solid grasp of the key theological and ethical issues raised in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus

Skill

1. The ability to rehearse orally or outline manually the author’s basic flow of thought
2. The ability to interpret these epistles for the contemporary Church in light of faithfulness to the intended message of the inspired author to his original hearers
3. The ability to evaluate the usefulness of, and apply the results of, biblical critical methods of exegesis in a manner consistent with Evangelical and Pentecostal commitments to the reliability of Scripture
4. Evaluate the arguments for and against Pauline authorship
5. Discuss relevant introductory issues, such as the setting and purpose of the Pastoral Epistles and the identity of the false teachers

6. Compare the leadership organization of the early Church as described in the Pastorals with the earlier epistles and Acts
7. Identify the creeds and “Faithful Sayings” in the Pastorals and explain their theological contributions
8. Describe the roles of women in the churches of Crete and Ephesus, and articulate a contemporary biblical theology of ministry that takes this data into account

Passion

1. A heightened appreciation and love for these letters as sacred Scripture
2. A desire to grow personally as spiritual leaders in and for the Church
3. An attitude of excitement about challenging the Church and its leaders, through preaching and teaching, to live in a manner consistent with the meaning and message of the Pastoral Epistles

TEXTBOOKS

The Bible (A contemporary translation such as the NIV, NASB, or NRSV)

Mounce, William D. *Pastoral Epistles. Word Biblical Commentary, Vol. 46.* Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2000.

BASIC OUTLINE

Thursday, Nov. 16	Introduction: Interpreting Epistles; Authorship, Setting and Date of the Pastoral Epistles (Mounce pp. xli – cxxxvi)
Tuesday, Nov. 21	1 Timothy 1:1 – 3:13 (Mounce pp. 1-212)
Thursday, Nov. 30	1 Timothy 3:14 – 6:19 (Mounce pp. 212-373)
Thursday, Dec. 7	Titus (Mounce, 375-460)
Thursday, Dec. 14	2 Timothy (Mounce, 461-603)

METHODOLOGY

The course will utilize lectures by the professor, dialogue between the professor and students, and seminar-type presentations by the students.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Regular class attendance and participation in discussions are expected.
2. Submission of your annotated reading log (including your concerns, questions and notations of items of interest for class discussion) for the textbook by Mounce. This should be typed, double-spaced. **DUE: Beginning of each class.**
3. An exegesis paper (approximately 12-15 pages) of one literary unit in 1 or 2 Timothy. Detailed instructions will be provided. Students will not be expected to utilize the Greek text, but should pay special attention to matters of scholarship surrounding the exegesis of the text. Students may make special arrangements with the professor to research and write a theological analysis on a specific theme in 1 or 2 Timothy or Titus in lieu of an exegesis paper. *By November 21, you must report, for the professor’s approval, the passage or theological topic that you have selected tentatively for your paper.* **DUE: December 14**

5. A seminar-type presentation (15 minutes) to the class of the preliminary findings of your exegesis or theology paper; this is to be presented on the date corresponding to the class discussion of your selected passage or topic.
6. Completion of a final exam over Bible content and interpretive issues relative to 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus.

GRADING PROCEDURE

Class Attendance and Participation	10%
Reading Log	25% (5 @ 5%)
Presentation Report	15%
Exegesis Paper	25%
Final Exam	25%

The grading scale will be that published in the AGTS Catalog.

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SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by David R. Bundrick June 30, 2006.