

BI 658D NEW TESTAMENT EXEGESIS II

Professor: David P. Moessner

January 2010 (3 credits)

PURPOSE AND CHARACTER:

This course introduces students to the principles and methods of interpreting the Greek text of a Pauline epistle and builds on the pre-requisite, NT Exegesis I, of interpreting the Gospels. This introduction is designed on the theory that the best way to learn exegesis of a Pauline letter is to apply the principles and methods of epistolary interpretation through the discipline of regular practice and discussion. Philippians is reasonably short and we will be able to translate the entire Greek text, while interpreting Philippians within the larger corpus of Paul's correspondence.

FORMAT AND PROCEDURE:

The course is organized so that students and professor conduct daily discussions in a seminar format. Critical exegetical issues of the assigned portion of text will dominate class time but short lectures and reports by both the professor and students will focus and sharpen our deliberations. *This means that regular preparation is essential to meeting the requirements of the course.*

REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION:

1. Assignments are set out in the syllabus. Usually the requirement entails the translation of a portion of the Greek text of Philippians, a continuing study of the meaning of the Philippians text, and a reading on methods and special issues of exegesis from a secondary source. Students will be asked to research specific topics and report to the class on their findings. The Greek text used is *Novum Testamentum Graece*, Nestle-Aland^{27th} edition (not the Bible Society's 4th edition).
2. Faithful class attendance and preparation for each class discussion of the exegetical issues are central to the course.
3. An exegesis paper on a passage from Philippians will be due on a date to be determined. The paper must be written in clear and cogent style and provide full bibliography and notes (see, e.g., Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers; The Chicago Manual of Style*, etc.).

Class report and class participation:	40%	
Exegesis paper		60%

BIBLIOGRAPHY (required purchase)

Nestle-Aland, *Novum Testamentum Graece*, 27th ed.

G. D. Fee, *The Epistle to the Philippians*, 1995

B. Reicke, *Re-examining Paul's Letters*, ed. D. P. Moessner and I. Reicke, 2001

L. C. L. Brenton, *The Septuagint with Apocrypha*, Greek—English, Hendrickson, 1986.

H. -J. Klauck, *The Religious Context of Early Christianity*, Fortress Press, 2003.