

## NT514: Greek Syntax & Exegesis

FALL, 2022

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Office Hours By appointment (NOTE: I do not have an office at the seminary, so we will need to arrange time for a face to face or virtual meeting)

### DESCRIPTION

This course teaches the process of exegeting the Greek New Testament. This includes the skills necessary for doing textual criticism, responsible lexical study, informed analysis of syntax and grammar and all with a growing sensitivity to matters of genre and historical background.

### OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, the student will:

1. Learn a responsible method for exegeting the Bible in Greek.
2. Understand how to use the textual apparatus to resolve textual problems.
3. Grow in proficiency with Greek through reading the Greek New Testament.
4. Learn all vocabulary words that occur 30 times or more in the Greek New Testament.
5. Make informed and judicious use of the standard lexica.
6. Engage with advanced commentaries.
7. Produce an exegetical paper, exercising all the skills learned in the class.

### REQUIRED TEXTS

Bauer, Walter, Frederick W. Danker, W. F. Arndt, and F. W. Gingrich, eds. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. 3rd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago, 2000.

Typically abbreviated as BDAG. **\*\*This should be provided digitally in your Logos package**

Fee, Gordon D. *New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors*. 3rd ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2002.

Metzger, Bruce M. *Lexical Aids for Students of New Testament Greek*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1997.

Wallace, Daniel B. *The Basics of New Testament Syntax*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000. This is an abridgment of Wallace's bigger *Greek Grammar beyond the Basics: An Exegetical Syntax of the New Testament* published in 1996.

## REQUIRED READING

*\*\*These will be on reserve in the library.*

Blomberg, Craig L. "Matthew [5:38–43]." Pages 26–29 in *Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament*. Edited by G. K. Beale and D. A. Carson, Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007.

Bock, Darrell L., and Buist M. Fanning, eds. *Interpreting the New Testament Text: Introduction to the Art and Science of Exegesis*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2006. [We will read selected chapters.]

Carson, D. A. "Word Study Fallacies." Pages 27–64 in *Exegetical Fallacies*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.

Campbell, Constantine R. "Deponency and the Middle Voice." Pages 91–104 in *Advances in the Study of Greek: New Insights for Reading the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015.

Crystal, David. *How Language Works: How Babies Babble, Words Change Meaning, and Languages Live or Die*. New York: Avery, 2005. [We will read selected chapters.]

Ehrman, Bart D. "Introduction." Pages 1–15 in *Misquoting Jesus: The Story Behind Who Changed the Bible and Why*. New York: Harper, 2005.

Gurry, Peter J. "How Your Greek NT Is Changing: A Simple Introduction to the Coherence-Based Genealogical Method (CBGM)." *JETS* 59.4 (2016): 675–689. [Online here](#).

Jongkind, Dirk. "Biblical Theology and the Transmission of the Text." Pages 101–108 in *An Introduction to the Greek New Testament Produced at Tyndale House, Cambridge*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2019.

Köstenberger, Andreas J., Benjamin L. Merkle, and Robert L. Plummer, "Tense and Verbal Aspect." Pages 227–243 in *Going Deeper with New Testament Greek: An Intermediate Study of the Grammar and Syntax of the New Testament*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2016.

Metzger, Bruce M. "Criteria Used in Choosing among Conflicting Readings in New Testament Witnesses." Pages 10\*–16\* in *A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament*. 2nd ed. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1994.

Metzger, Bruce M. and Bart D. Ehrman. "The Causes of Error in the Transmission of the Text of the New Testament." Pages 250–271 in *The Text of the New Testament: Its Transmission, Corruption, and Restoration*. 4th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Moo, Douglas J. "Law." Pages 450–461 in *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*. 1st ed. Edited by Joel B. Green, Scot McKnight, and I. Howard Marshall. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1992. [Note this is the *first* edition.]

Piper, John. "Text, Reality, and Sermon: Making the Connections Clear." Pages 159–167 in *Expository Exultation: Christian Preaching as Worship*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2018.

Silva, Moisés. "Determining Meaning." Pages 137–169 in *Biblical Words and Their Meaning: An Introduction to Lexical Semantics*. Rev. ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994.

## HELPFUL RESOURCES

*\*\*These are recommended but not required*

Aubrey, Michael. "Linguistic Issues in Biblical Greek." Pages 161–189 in *Linguistics and Biblical Exegesis*. Edited by Douglas Mangum and Josh Westbury. Bellingham, WA: Lexham, 2017.

Runge, Steven E. *Discourse Grammar of the Greek New Testament: A Practical Introduction for Teaching and Exegesis*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2010.

Bowne, Dale Russell. *Paradigms and Principal Parts for the Greek New Testament*. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1987. This is a thin but helpful volume that lists all the main paradigms for New Testament Greek. I use it regularly to check quirky forms.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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<b>1. Reading</b> [Outcomes 1, 2, 3]	15%	The student should be prepared for lots of reading as this course requires about 600 pages. This is partly to expose you to a range of good resources and to force you to read better and faster. The main textbooks (Wallace and Fee) should be read carefully. Additional readings are listed by the authors last name in the schedule. These should be cross referenced with the list under Course Texts.
<b>2. Translations</b> [Outcomes 1, 2, 4, 6]	20%	Before each class, the student is expected to provide a translation of the Greek text assigned for that day's class and answer any accompanying exegetical and syntactical questions. You may <i>not</i> use any Bible software or English translations for these assignments.
<b>3. Vocab Quizzes</b> [Outcomes 1, 2, 3]	15%	The vocab quizzes will be taken from Metzger's <i>Lexical Aids</i> and will expose you to all words used 30 times or more in the Greek New Testament. This will give you the ability to read with increasing proficiency, especially when using a reader's edition.
<b>4. Short Papers</b> [Outcomes 1–7]	20%	The short papers will prepare you for writing the full exegetical paper. Each paper will follow the class discussion on that topic. Further instructions will be given. The topics are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The word study paper should explain the meaning of <b>παραβολή</b> with <b>special reference to Luke 15.3</b>.</li><li>2. The text-critical study will treat the main variant in <b>Rom 1.29</b></li><li>3. The passage outlines will cover <b>Rom 2.12–16</b></li><li>4. The validation exercise will summarize and adjudicate whether <b>Rom 2.13</b> refers to a real justification of Spirit-empowered believers or to a potential (but never realized) justification of non-believers by works</li><li>5. The background study will consider the possible influence of <i>Wisdom of Solomon</i> 13–15 on <b>Rom 1.18–3.8</b></li></ol>
<b>5. Exegetical Paper</b> [Outcomes 1–7]	30%	The exegetical paper will combine the skills from the short papers with a verse-by-verse exegesis of <b>Rom 3.21–26</b> . The paper must include (1) an interpretive translation, (2) responsible use of BDAG, (3) concise discussion of at least one textual problem, (4) verse-by-verse commentary, and (5) brief reflections on the text's significance for today. Further instructions will be provided.

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## GRADING INFORMATION

Letter	Percentage	Points	Description
A+	100–97	4.0	
A	96–93	4.0	Excellent; superior achievement.
A–	92–90	3.7	
B+	89–87	3.3	
B	86–83	3.0	Good; commendable achievement.
B–	82–80	2.7	
C+	79–77	2.3	
C	76–73	2.0	Satisfactory; acceptable achievement.
C–	72–70	1.7	
D+	69–67	1.3	
D	66–63	1.0	Poor; marginal achievement.
D–	62–60	0.7	
F	59–0	0.0	Failure to advance in the course. No credit earned. Computed in GPA.

## SEMINARY ACADEMIC POLICIES

All Seminary policies affecting student work, appeals, and grievances, as outlined in the Student Handbook and/or Seminary Catalog will apply, unless otherwise indicated in this syllabus. See the respective sections of the [Student Handbook](#).

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

One of the strengths of Phoenix Seminary is the classroom interaction between instructors and students. Attendance and participation are essential components of the training process. **An absence is defined as when a student does not attend a class period whether it be for an on campus or an online course. Watching a recorded lecture in lieu of attending class does not constitute attendance.** When a student is going to be absent, it is important that the student consult with the instructor in advance about work to be missed. In the case of extenuating circumstances, students may request an exception to this policy by submitting a petition to the Academic Petition Committee.

Excessive absences may result in grade reduction or course failure as indicated on the following chart:

COURSE FORMAT	REDUCED GRADE	COURSE FAILURE
15-week	2nd missed class	4th missed class

## LATE WORK

I am usually generous with late work. Do not test my generosity as I reserve the right to dock points for it.

## USE OF TECHNOLOGY CLASS

Phoenix Seminary considers a student's character to be evidenced in part by their respect for their classmates, professors, and their valuable time in class. Please consider *how not to be rude* in the use of your technology by bearing in mind the following:

- a. Laptops and tablets are welcome in class to take notes and to access readings we're discussing. Using them for anything else (social networking, accessing non-course related websites, checking email) is discourteous and distracting to others.
- b. Phones must be silenced in class and stowed. That includes turning off the vibrate function. (We can hear it buzzing.) Is texting ok? No. If an emergency situation exists out of which you feel you must use your phone you should quietly step out of class to do so.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

Course schedule, topics, evaluation, and assignments may be changed at the professor's discretion to responsively meet the needs of this class.

	<i>Class</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
1	15-Aug	Introduction to exegesis; History of Greek	Bock & Fanning, pp. 23–32; Fee, pp. 1–4; Wallace, pp. 15–24 Translate Matt 5.1–12
2	22-Aug	Basics of Exegesis; Nominative and vocative	<b>Vocab Quiz 46–49×</b> Fee, pp. 5–38; Wallace, pp. 25–40 Translate Matt 5.13–20
3	29-Aug	Use of the OT in NT; Genitive	<b>Vocab Quiz 42–45×</b> Blomberg, pp. 26–29; Moo, pp. 450–461; Wallace, pp. 41–64 Translate Matt 5.38–48
	<b>5-Sep</b>	<b>Labor Day Holiday (no class)</b>	
4	11-Sep	Word Studies 1; Dative and accusative	<b>Vocab Quiz 38–41×</b> Fee, pp. 79–95; Silva, pp. 137–169; Wallace, pp. 65–92; Crystal, pp. 186–197, 224–229 Translate Luke 15.1–10
5	19-Sep	Word Studies 2; The Greek article	<b>Vocab Quiz 34–37×</b> Carson, pp. 27–64; Wallace, pp. 93–128 Translate Luke 15.11–19
6	26-Sep	Textual Criticism 1; Adjectives	<b>Word Study Due</b> Fee, pp. 59–70; Ehrman, pp. 1–15; Metzger & Ehrman, 251–271; Wallace, pp. 129–139 Translate Luke 15.20–32

	<i>Class</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Assignments</i>
7	3-Oct	Textual Criticism 2; Pronouns and prepositions	<b>Vocab Quiz 32–33×</b> Gurry, pp. 675–689; Metzger, pp. 10*–16*; Jongkind, pp. 101–108; Wallace, pp. 140–173 Translate Rom 1.18–27
8	10-Oct	Diagramming; Person and number	<b>Text Critical Study Due</b> Fee, pp. 41–58; Wallace, pp. 174–191 Translate Rom 1.28–2.4
9	17-Oct	Validation; Mood	<b>Passage Outlines Due</b> Bock & Fanning, pp. 155–166; Wallace, pp. 192–212 Translate Rom 2.5–16
10	24-Oct	Genre; Tense	<b>Validation Exercise Due</b> Wallace, pp. 213–239 Translate Rom 2.17–29
11	31-Oct	Background Studies; Tense (cont'd)	Bock & Fanning, pp. 167–196; Wallace, pp. 239–253 Translate Rom 3.1–8
12	7-Nov	Special Topic: Greek Voice; Infinitive and participle	<b>Background Study Due</b> Campbell, pp. 91–104; Wallace, pp. 254–285 Translate Rom 3.9–20
	<b>14-Nov</b>	<b>Reading Week (no class)</b>	
	<b>21-Nov</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break (no class)</b>	
13	28-Nov	Special Topic: Aspect and Tense; Clauses	<b>Exegetical Paper Due!</b> Köstenberger, et al., pp. 227–243 Translate Rom 3.21–26
14	5-Dec	Putting It All Together; Conditions and volition	<b>Vocab Quiz 30–31×</b> Fee, pp. 133–155; Wallace, pp. 286–322; Piper, pp. 159–167 Translate Rom 3.27–31