Course: **Paul’s Pastoral Epistles: 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus**

September-December 2022

Richard Lamb, MA

DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to give a general introduction to the life and writing of the Apostle Paul as found in his pastoral letters to Timothy (1 and 2) and Titus. We will read these texts with a view to understanding, comparing and contrasting the style, structure, and purpose of each of the these texts. Significantly, however, we will also be focused on mining these texts for direct applications to the preaching, teaching, training, discipleship and evangelistic strategies of leaders today. The course will model the use of scripture study as a source of insight into ministry, specifically in skills and character training and discipleship, and in ministry vision, equipping and empowerment.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: The course seeks the following goals for each student: (1) *Cognitive:* theoretical knowledge relating to the Biblical texts, their purpose and structure, and each one’s unique contribution to the growth and development of the early church; (2) A*ffective:* deepened appreciation for the pastoral, theological and strategic concerns of Paul; (3) *Skills*: capacity to use Paul’s teaching in his letters to engage young disciples in their own development.

COURSE FORMAT: The course will meet for ten 2.5-hour sessions, with work prepared before and after the class time. Much of the discussion-based class time will be spent in inductive scripture study led by the instructor. Students will be asked to present Bible studies in class that address passages in the book of Philippians. Students will then shape and adapt one or more Pauline passages studied to present it in a church setting, in a sermon or a discussion-based Bible study teaching setting, during the term, with detailed self-evaluations of both learning experiences.

REQUIRED READING: 600 pp. of required reading.

1. Biblical Texts: Read each subject epistle in a single sitting. Then, read through each book a second time, this time making a list of as many distinct textual and exegetical questions you can think of, at least one key question per chapter of each gospel.
2. Watch the Bible Project overview of each of the three books as an introduction to the structure and themes of each.

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/1-timothy/>

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/2-timothy/>

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/titus/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=os8M9ln2cM0> NT Wright on 1 Timothy 2:12-15

other video selections TBA

1. Selections.
   * Various Exegetical notes from the teacher, distributed in class.
   * Bumgardner, Charles J., “Kinship in Timothy and Titus”, Southeastern Theological Review, Winter 2016.
   * Cavins, Andrew, “Ethical Leadership Principles in 1 Timothy 6*”,**Journal of Applied Christian Leadership*, Vol. 12 [2018], No. 2, Article 1.
   * Downs, David J., “Faith(fulness) in Christ Jesus in 2 Timothy 3:15”, *Journal of Biblical Literature* 131, no. 1 (2012)*: 143-160*
   * Ghisalberti, Giosue, “The Christology of Shame and the Re-evaluations of Hellenic Ideas in 1 and 2 Timothy,” *The Heythrop Journal* LVII (2016), 625-637.
   * Guthrie, Donald. *The Pastoral Epistles*. IVP. 2015
   * Hubner, James, “Translating *authentein* in 1 Timothy 2”, *Priscilla Papers*, Vol 29, No 2 (Spring 2015).
   * Knight, George W. *The Pastoral Epistles*. Eerdmans. 2013
   * Marossy, Michael David, “The Rule of the Resurrected Messiah: Kingship Discourse in 2 Timothy 2:8-13,” *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 20 (2020), 84-100.
   * Westfall, Cynthia Long, “The Meaning of αὐθεντέω In 1 Timothy 2.12”, *Journal of Greco-Roman Christianity and Judaism* 10 (2014) 138-73.

Most of the above texts can be downloaded from the course google classroom resources or the dropbox folder [here](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/n164egybzkxgcs8/AADVEE6GfFYnrpEYvC2oCbI_a?dl=0). All assignments should be **single-spaced,** not double spaced, and attention should be paid to the word limits. No penalty for assignments well above the word limits, but assignments below the word limits will likely receive a penalty for not completing the assignment.

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENT:

1. **Exegetical Questions** from your readings of the 1 and 2 Timothy, and Titus. Follow the models presented in class for crafting good exegetical questions. This should include at least 2 exegetical questions per chapter, focusing on issues of real challenge, confusion or surprise for you. Three pages, 1000 words. (10%).
2. **Book Report: At least one commentary and one deep-dive article.** Students will write a five-page (1600 word) report on selected readings, including one of the commentary texts and at least one deep-dive article. Summarize the main points of each author briefly. Then, comment on what you found most helpful, what resonated with your context and what did not, areas of disagreement with the readings, etc. Share at least two critical insights you appreciate from this reading. (25%).
3. **Ministry In-Class Bible Study:** Students will prepare a short discussion-based study in Paul’s second letter to Timothy. We will leave the study of 2 Timothy in the class to the student Bible studies. Each student will come with their chosen passage, a set of discussion questions, and be prepared to lead students in an inductive study of the passage, followed by a short summary and challenge for application to the students’ context. After the in-class discussion, the student will write up their study and submit 1) the passage, discussion questions, and preparatory notes, and 2) a brief evaluation of the discussion itself and the learning process, both for themselves as teachers and for others in their small group. (3 pages, 1000 words, 25%).
4. **Congregational or Organizational Use of a Pauline Pastoral Epistle Text in teaching, training, or preaching:** Students will prepare an in-depth study of a subject epistle text (or shorter related texts) for use in a congregational or organizational teaching or training setting. A four-page exegetical paper and a one page reflection and self evaluation will be submitted after the presentation. (30%) (1600 words) -or-

**Examination of the 1 Timothy 2:** Student will make a full-throated defense of the position that they personally do not believe but will write a 3 page paper supporting from scripture, cultural analysis, and theological reflection the opposite position. The student will then take two pages to write why the student does not find this perspective persuasive, again from similar sources. The first three pages need to be well articulated (rather than straw arguments). (1600 words).

1. Attendance at all class sessions is mandatory, as is enthusiastic participation in class discussions and exercises. Grade will be reduced for unexcused absences or persistent lateness. (10%)

UPDATE ON ASSIGNMENTS:

**For Credit students, please read:** I had an interaction with Dean Joseph Raj about the writing expectations for courses at AOIC, and it was a bit of a wake-up call. He said that the expectation is about 2500 words for undergrads and 4000 words for graduates. I realized if you followed the writing guidelines for the minimum word count for my course assignments, you would end up writing about 5200 words! I do not want to make you do more work than is expected of you by the college. The learning I am hoping you experience is happening as we study scripture together and as you reflect upon it. So, I am going to give you a break.

1) **If you are enrolled in this class for your bachelors' degree**, please try to submit a minimum of 2500 words in total on the first three assignments, leaving off the "Congregational Use of a Pauline Pastoral Epistle Text". Now, if you have already begun to work on and schedule this, you are welcome to do beyond the minimum 2500 words, and of course I do not penalize longer word counts on any or all the assignments. But I suggest that you focus your efforts on your two remaining assignments, the book review and the writeup for the Bible study you have led or will lead in class

2) **If you are enrolled in this class for your masters' degree**, please try to submit a minimum of 4000 words in total for the first three assignments. Again, you may go on to do the fourth assignment, especially if you have already given some thought to it--I will review and grade any work turned in and it will count toward your grade.

Let me tell you what I will not count in the word count--large quotations from either the books you read or from the scriptures, so make sure that if you have MS Word do a word count for you you exclude those from your word count. I want 4000 (or 2500) of your own well-chosen words. I am not really worried about shirking with this group, but I just wanted to be clear.

ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES:

* Exegetical Questions on the epistle readings due the fifth day of class, 4 October, 2022.
* Bible Study In-Class Discussion due the seventh day of class for use in class, 18 October, 2022.
* Remaining assignments due the last week of term, December 16, 2022.
* All assignments turned in via email or Google Classroom MUST include your name in the title of the document.

**Course Schedule:**

* **Tuesdays, 8:00PM-10:30PM: September 8 through November 8th.**

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| **Session** | **Passages Studied** | **Topics** |
| 1  6 Sept | 1 Timothy 1, Acts 16 | Course Intro, Paul’s Life and Context; Introduction to Timothy in the NT |
| 2  13 Sept | 1 Timothy 2 | Issues in Ephesus, Paul and Women, *authentein* |
| 3  20 Sept | 1 Timothy 3-4 | Paul’s emphases, Leadership in the early church in practice |
| 4  27 Sept | 1 Timothy 5-6 | Timothy’s Ministry in Ephesus |
| 5  4 Oct | Titus 1-2 | Paul and Titus compared to Paul and Timothy, Titus’ mentions in NT |
| 6  11 Oct | Titus 2-3 | Titus and Leadership development |
| 7  18 Oct | 2 Timothy 1-2 | Student Bible Studies |
| 8  25 Oct | 2 Timothy 3-4 | Student Bible Studies |
| 9  1 Nov | 2 Timothy | 2 Timothy Summary and Key Themes |
| 10  8 Nov | Final Session | Paul’s relevance today |
| Dec 16 | **Final Due Date** | All Assignments due (AOIC requirement). |