

# Erskine Theological Seminary

*Christian Commitment and Excellence in Learning*

**GK 602**

**Greek IV**

**Spring Term, 2008**

**Thursday Evenings, 6-9 P.M.**

**Due West Campus**

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- I. Course Description:** The aim of this course is to increase the student's knowledge and understanding of New Testament Greek, building upon the exercises of Greek III. Students translate and analyze selected passages from the Septuagint, Paul, the Catholic Letters and select Church Fathers. In addition to reading, the student reviews principles of word-formation and syntax, enlarges Greek vocabulary, and uses an advanced Greek grammar to perform in-depth analysis of New Testament texts. *Prerequisites: GK 601 (Greek III).* ***A note regarding exegesis papers:*** In order to receive exegesis credit for this course, students must have successfully completed BI 502 Principles of Exegesis prior to taking this class. Please see Course Requirements below. *Required. Three hours.*
- II. Course Objectives:** The mission statement of Erskine Seminary indicates that its purpose is to educate its students "for service in the Christian Church", in particular, the study of the Bible "in its own literary, historical and theological settings", so that the student may "interpret it with relevance and meaning applicable for today." Competence in working with the New Testament Greek text is a major step towards achieving this mission statement. This course builds upon the grammatical and interpretative skills gained in GK 601, while expanding the nature and difficulty of the assigned readings. The student should gain confidence in using the Greek New Testament (and its apparatus), a Greek lexicon, and grammatical helps as study tools. These tools should provide the basis for a thorough exegetical discipline.
- III. Required Textbooks:** Note that the required textbooks may be ordered from the Erskine Theological Seminary Virtual Bookstore at [www.ecampus.com/erskine](http://www.ecampus.com/erskine) from January 4, 2008.

Nestle, Eberhardt, Nestle, Erwin, Aland, K., et.al. *Novum Testamentum Graece*, 27. Auflage. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1993.

Gingrich, F.W, Danker, F.W., ed., 2d. ed. *Shorter Lexicon of the Greek New Testament*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1983.

Jobes, Karen H. and Moises Silva, *Invitation to the Septuagint*, Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2000.

In addition, there will be small reading assignments and/or handouts throughout the course to help the student organize and understand the relatively large and diverse amount of material to be learned.

- IV. Course Requirements:** Students are expected to attend every class meeting. If a student must be absent due to an emergency or illness for all or part of a session, the student is responsible for all work done and due for that session. *No more than three sessions may be missed.* Due to the nature of the course, missing classroom discussion will almost certainly adversely affect the student's performance on the scheduled exams.

Students are expected to be adequately prepared for each class session, particularly the Biblical translation assignments due. Classroom discussion will constitute an important element of our learning together, and will be adversely affected by poor preparation.

An objective exam will be administered, related to review material, new grammar and vocabulary, and the New Testament apparatus. The test must be taken on the assigned date. See course outline below for the test date.

Each student will prepare a book review treating the material in *Invitation to the Septuagint*. A guide sheet for this exercise will be provided by the professor.

Each student will be required to present the results of **an exegetical exercise** based on a portion of the New Testament text (exceptions may be made in the case of the Septuagint). This text will be discrete from the passage selected for the exegesis paper. A guide sheet will be provided for the preparation and presentation of this exercise.

Each student will research a New Testament text as the basis for a thorough **exegesis paper**. Please consult the professor for details and exegesis guidelines. Although a exegesis paper is normally expected in this class, a student wishing to write a research paper dealing with the Greek text of extra-biblical sources may do so in consultation with the professor.

- V. Evaluation:** The Seminary grade scale (*Catalogue*, p. 36) will be used in determining a letter grade. The student's final grade will be calculated as follows:

Test = 25%  
Book Review = 25%  
Exegesis Exercise = 25%  
Exegesis Paper = 25%

Note: Completed and graded tests and papers will be returned to the student in a subsequent class period. Papers and tests tendered at the end of the semester (where impossible to return in class) will be held by the professor for pick-up by the student. Alternately, if the student wishes, the paper/test may be placed in the student's campus mailbox, or mailed to the student. In such cases, the student should indicate the mailbox number on the paper/test, or, when mailed, supply a SASE.

**VI. Class Meeting Dates:** This course will meet on Thursday evenings, from 6-9:00 P.M., in Due West. Class room TBA. Note: There will be no class during Holy Week, March 17-21.

**VII. Seminary Policies:** Once you have completed, signed, and submitted your registration to the Registrar for this class, it is a binding contract. The student is encouraged to read the Erskine Seminary 2007-2008 *Catalog* for important information regarding drop/add procedures and deadlines (p. 1, "Academic Calendar" and p. 48), class withdrawal (p. 33), as well as the correct manner of dealing with the grade status of "incomplete" (p.36). Please consult the Student Handbook for policies re. writing style and ethics, e.g., inclusive language and plagiarism, as well as the Seminary *Catalog*, p. 36f. A brief summary of these policies is as follows:

A grade of "**incomplete**" is not a privilege if the student. It is the prerogative of the professor. It can be given as a final grade only when (1) the student has completed most of the assigned coursework and (2) when the student has been providentially hindered from completing the rest. The student and professor must complete the appropriate form before an "incomplete" can be given. The final date that an "incomplete" can be changed to a grade for the Spring semester is August 1, 2008. After this date, the grade of "incomplete" will automatically become an "F", and cannot be altered. Note that there is a fee associated with "incompletes".

If the student needs to **withdraw from a course**, a withdrawal form may be procured from the Registrar's office. A professor cannot withdraw a student from a class. A student who fails to go through the proper withdrawal procedure will be charged full tuition for the course, regardless of attendance.

The Seminary encourages all students to make use of language, in reference to human beings, that is **inclusive** rather than needlessly exclusive. It is the mark of a good communicator to build bridges rather than barriers; therefore, such

language should be used in all written work and oral presentations. The Seminary Catalogue stands as an example of recommended usage.

Papers submitted in this class should be submitted in typed, double-spaced format, and written according to Erskine Seminary's "Style and Form Standards for All Master's Level Programs". The student must be especially careful regarding citation of sources in all Seminary course work, including both footnotes and a full bibliography. Failing to cite a reference, or claiming other's material as one's own constitutes a type of fraud known as **plagiarism**. A charge of plagiarism is serious, and can result in the student's expulsion from the Seminary.

## Course Outline

### **Weeks 1-4, February 7, 14, 20 and 28:**

**Introduction/Lectures:** An introduction to the epistolary form; new grammatical material.

**Exegetical Work:** Passages will be assigned for translation and analysis for each Thursday session. In the first weeks, we will concentrate on selected texts of Paul.

### **Weeks 5-8, March 6, 13, (20) and 27: Note: No class during Holy Week (March 20)!**

**Lectures:** Grammar; introduction to the Catholic Epistles and their form.

**Exegetical Work:** Passages will be assigned from the Catholic Epistles.

**Test:** Weeks 1-8 will be evaluated by means of a test which will touch upon the lecture material, and allow the student to demonstrate competence in using the New Testament critical apparatus and interpreting its significance to the interpretation of the related passage. The text will be administered during the first hour of class on **April 3**.

### **Weeks 9-12, April 3, 10, 17 and 24:**

**Exegetical Work:** Our translation selections will be derived from the book of Luke, Hebrews and the Septuagint.

**Work due:** Student exegetical presentations will begin on **April 10**.

### **Weeks 13-14, May 1 and 8:**

In our final class sessions, we will hear any outstanding student presentations, and will translate, *DV*, selected passages from the Apostolic Fathers.

**Work due:** The exegesis paper, in hard copy, will be due no later than **May 14**.

