

#2340 Exegesis of Romans 1-4
Western Reformed Seminary (<http://wrs.edu>)
John A. Battle, Th.D.
Fall 2010

COURSE INFORMATION

Course goals

In this course the student will translate Romans 1-4 from Greek to English and will be able to translate any part of this section on sight. He will read the passage in four English versions, and will carefully read a standard commentary on Romans 1-4. The student will learn an outline of the book of Romans, and will be acquainted with the major theological themes of Romans 1-4. He will also prepare a research paper and present to the class his conclusions regarding a major exegetical question in this passage.

English Bible assignment

Read carefully four different translations of Romans 1-4. Especially be aware of the unique features or excellent renderings in each translation.

Romans outline

A basic outline of Romans will be distributed for memorization. You will reproduce this outline from memory during the course.

Introduction reading

Read either the relevant chapter in a NT introduction text or the introductory section of a major commentary on Romans. Choose one of the following:

- Romans chapter in NT introduction by E. F. Harrison
- Romans chapter in NT introduction by Donald Guthrie
- Introduction in commentary by Sanday and Headlam (Old *ICC*)
- Introduction in commentary by C. E. B. Cranfield (New *ICC*)

Commentary reading

Read one of these two standard commentaries on Romans 1-4:

John Murray, *NICNT* on Romans (2 volumes in 1)

C. E. B. Cranfield, *ICC* on Romans (2 volume edition, not the 1 volume edition)

Translation

Translations will be due according to the schedule below. Translations should be prepared in the format described in class. In class you will be asked to translate portions orally, with minimal reference to your written translation.

Exegetical paper

The student is to submit a typed research paper of approximately 3,000 words which will discuss a major exegetical question in Romans 1-4. Explain the various options for interpreting the passage, the advantages and disadvantages of each, and the reasons for your preference. Follow the style in the *SBL Handbook of Style*.

Quizzes

During the semester there will be a quiz on introductory matters, and there will be six quizzes covering translation and grammatical analysis. For these quizzes you may not use a lexicon, but you may use a provided vocabulary sheet of infrequently used Greek words.

Grading

English Bible reading	5%
Introduction reading	5%
Translation	15%
Commentary reading	10%
Quizzes	35%
Exegetical paper	20%
Attendance and participation	10%

Course schedule

Date	Class Topic	Translation Due	Other Assignment Due	Quiz in Class
Sept. 13	Introduction			
Sept. 20		Rom 1:1-8	Introduction reading	Quiz 1: Introduction & Outline

Sept. 27		Rom 1:9-17	English Bible reading	
Oct. 4		Rom 1:18-27		Quiz 2: Rom 1:1-17
Oct. 11		Rom 1:28 – 2:4		
Oct. 18	(ARTS meeting; no class)			
Oct. 25		Rom 2:5-16		Quiz 3: Rom 1:18 – 2:4
Nov. 1		Rom 2:17-29	Research paper topic due	
Nov. 8		Rom 3:1-12		Quiz 4: Rom 2:5-29
Nov. 15		Rom 3:13-22a		
Nov. 22		Rom 3:22b – 4:3		Quiz 5: Rom 3:1-22a
Nov. 29		Rom 4:4-15	Commentary reading due	
Dec. 6		Rom 4:16-25		Quiz 6: Rom 3:22b – 4:25
Dec. 13			Research paper and presentation due	