

#2319 Galatians
Western Reformed Seminary
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Fall 2014

COURSE INFORMATION

Course goals

You shall become familiar with the background of Paul's letter to the Galatians, and shall be able to set forth the main arguments for the major positions regarding the date and recipients of the letter. You shall translate the entire book from Greek to English, and shall be able to translate any portion of the book with minimal helps. You shall be able to use grammatical and other analysis in order to exegete portions of the book. You shall be able to intelligently discuss Paul's teachings in the book, and to relate them to other relevant New Testament passages.

Translation

The book of Galatians is to be translated from Greek to English in the format described in class. Please use either the UBS 4th edition or the Nestle-Aland 28th edition of the Greek New Testament. Please follow the format described in class. You should be able to translate orally the section for each class session with minimal assistance.

Assigned reading

- *Machen's Notes on Galatians*, edited by John H. Skilton. Machen covers Galatians 1-3, with special application for modern liberal theology and ecclesiology. His grammatical questions (pp. 182-199) cover chapters 1-4; they are a real help in mastering exegetical details.
- A standard commentary on the book of Galatians, incorporating the Greek text.

Special assignment

Choose one of the following:

- Write a research paper on an interesting or controversial passage in Galatians. Use standard format. The paper should be about 3,000 words long.
- Read a contemporary scholarly article about Galatians, and write a response that would be suitable to publish in a journal.

- Read a book dealing with a subject related to Galatians, and write a 2-3 page review.
- Prepare five outlines for a series of sermons or Bible studies on the book of Galatians.

Examinations

There will be two examinations, the midterm and the final. These examinations will cover primarily translation of portions of Galatians from the Greek, and will include questions about the grammar and interpretation of those portions. The midterm examination also will include introductory material about the book of Galatians. For these exams you are to use only a Greek New Testament and a provided sheet of uncommon NT words.

Grading

Weekly translation assignments	25%
Class attendance and participation	10%
Special assignment	15%
Midterm exam	25%
Final exam	25%

Course schedule

Sept.	8	Introduction to Galatians
	15	Gal 1:1-14
	22	Gal 1:15-24
	29	Gal 2:1-10
Oct.	6	Gal 2:11-21
	13	Gal 3:1-20; <i>Machen's Notes on Galatians</i> due
	20	Midterm Exam (Gal 1:1 – 3:20 and Introduction)
	27	Gal 3:21 – 4:7
Nov.	3	Gal 4:8-20
	10	Gal 4:21 – 5:1
	17	Gal 5:2-21
	24	Gal 5:22 – 6:8
Dec.	1	Gal 6:9-18; Special Assignment due
	8	Final Exam (Gal 3:21 – ch. 6)