

# Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary

## Advanced Greek Exegesis

NT-611 (3 units)  
Spring, 2007  
(Prerequisite: NT-608)

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Class meeting times to be arranged

- Since this is a directed study format, number and times of class meetings will depend on student numbers and student schedules.

This class times in this course will be spent processing material that students will have read concerning the need for and the theory of textual criticism as well as reading texts in Greek.

Assignments include preparation for class times, a midterm test and an exegetical paper.

### **Desired Outcomes of the Course**

At the end of the course, students should have:

- learned both the theory and the methods of New Testament textual criticism
- gained greater ability to read the New Testament and interpret its meaning on the basis of grammatical and semantic considerations
- demonstrated the ability to carefully analyze a New Testament passage in Greek and write an exegetical paper interpreting that text (with special attention to text critical issues)

### **Text Books** (also on 1-day reserve in the library)

1. Aland, Barbara, et. al. *The Greek New Testament* 4th rev. ed. 1993.  
(The Nestle-Aland Greek NT is an acceptable alternative.)
2. Metzger B. *A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. UBS, 1994.
3. Metzger, Bruce and Bart Ehrman. *The Text of the New Testament: Its Transmission, Corruption, and Restoration*. 4th ed. Oxford: University, 2005.

NOTE: An equally good resource text on textual criticism is *The Text of the New Testament* by Kurt and Barbara Aland. However, class discussion will be based on reading Bruce Metzger.

### **Course Plan**

The first half of the course

During the first half of the course we will be learning the principles of textual criticism by working through the textbook *The Text of the New Testament* (Metzger/Ehrman). "Study Questions" will be made available which are to guide the student's reading and learning. When the class meets, these questions will be used to test the student's preparation and comprehension of the material to be covered that week.

### The second half of the course

During the second half of the course we will read a variety of texts from the New Testament. Students will be given the opportunity to suggest texts to be read. We will also be sensitive to the text critical issues involved in the texts read.

Course Schedule: to be arranged later.

### Course Assignments

1. Regular attendance and participation in class sessions.
2. Regular preparation for each class period (Metzger text and Greek reading)
3. Midterm Test (to be scheduled around March 1)
4. Write one major paper (12-15 pages) on any New Testament text. Your assignment includes establishing the authentic text (i.e. applying textual criticism) and interpreting the text (with special attention to the Greek). Due date: Apr. 27 (graduating seniors, Apr. 20).

### Grading

25 %	Midterm Test
60 %	Major Paper
15 %	Regular Attendance and Participation in Class

**Class Participation** is one of the most significant parts of the shared learning experience at MBBS. Any student who misses more than 25% of the class time in a course may have their grade reduced by a full letter grade and may be at risk for failing the course. Exceptions to this policy may be considered because of medical or family emergencies; but all exceptions must be approved by the faculty member and the Academic Dean.

Formatting specifications for research papers. On questions of style and citation form, consult Carole Slade's, *Form and Style: Research Papers, Reports, Theses*, 10th ed. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1997. The preferred documentation format is the parenthetical citation style, either the MLA (pp. 210-34) or APA (pp. 235-60).

Academic Policies are available online at [www.mbseminary.edu](http://www.mbseminary.edu).