

Reformed Theological Seminary
Greek Exegesis
NT5150 (2 Credit Hours)
Fall 2026
Wednesday: 2:00-4:00 PM
Professor: Dr. G. K. Beale
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TA: Riley Mitchell
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NOTE: THE CLASS WILL NOT MEET ON Wednesday, August 26, 2026. THE FIRST CLASS SESSION WILL BE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2. For the first day of class, the students should be prepared with either a hard copy of this syllabus or have a copy downloaded to their laptop.

I. Course Objectives

- Learn how to construct a discourse analysis and gain a basic knowledge of the use of the Old Testament in the New Testament.
- Refine a basic knowledge of Greek grammar, syntax, and vocabulary.
- Learn how to write an exegesis paper.

II. Course Description taken from the Catalogue

- “By studying the text of selected passages students learn grammatical analysis, apply hermeneutical principles, and develop exegetical skills” (p.68)
- Professor’s Application of This Course Description:

This course consists of an analysis of the Greek text of 1 and 2 Thessalonians. There are three aims for the course: (1) to achieve a better understanding of the argument and content of the epistle, as these emerge from an exegetical study of the Greek text and to understand their place in Pauline theology; (2) to involve the student in an exegetical process which concentrates on firsthand study of the original text on his/her own and, consequently to increase the student's syntactical and exegetical skills, especially with respect to tracing the author's flow of thought and detecting the main logical points which he emphasizes; (3) understanding the NT use of the OT; (4) to encourage the student to think from the exegetical process to the sermonic and application to life.

III. Texts

Required

- Accordance Bible Software: the “Greek Starter:” \$100 (recommended are added modules of the Greek Septuagint [Rahlfs tagged edition = \$89.00] and the English

Septuagint [NETS = \$60.00]; also recommended is the “[Academic Green Bundle Level 1](#),” which includes Greek and Hebrew; about \$400; a flyer will be distributed for information and contacts)

- English Bible with cross references (HCSB, ESV, NASB, etc.). The student is expected to bring one of the above (preferably the NASB) to class.
- Bauer, Arndt, Gingrich, and Danker, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament on Accordance* (3d ed., 2000).
- Greek New Testament –Nestle Aland (28th ed.)
- *Connecting Scripture New Testament: A Study Bible of Biblical Allusions and Quotations*. Edited by G. K. Beale and Benjamin L. Gladd. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2025. A segment on 1 and 2 Thessalonians will be sent to the student.
- Beale, G. K. *Handbook on the Use of the Old Testament in the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2012, 148pp.
- Beale, G. K. et al. *An Interpretative Lexicon of the Greek New Testament*. Zondervan, 2014. It’s recommended that students download the Discourse Analysis tool: <https://sourceforge.net/projects/datool/> (or use the online version? <https://sots1689.github.io/DA-Tool/>)
- Fee, G. D. *New Testament Exegesis, A Handbook for Students and Pastors. Third Edition*. Philadelphia: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002, 185pp.
- Wallace, Daniel. *New Testament Greek Syntax*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009 (chart only)
- Daniel B. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996 (selected portions of reading = about 300pp.)
- DA and Hermeneutical Use Laminated Chart

**The student should always bring all of the above resources and books to every class. Seven of the above ten sources students may have already bought for last year’s Greek and Hermeneutics class, if they took that class. The only ones that may need to be bought are Accordance, Bauer, and Beale’s *Handbook on the Use of the Old Testament in the New Testament*.

IV. Procedures and Methods

- This class will be a combination of lecture, reading, daily written assignments, and discussions of assignments and class lectures. Each class the student should be prepared to translate the assigned passage for the class session, to discuss what they have learned from their reading and written assignments, as well as taking good and thorough class notes.
- This class is tailored for MDiv students who have taken and passed the first-year Greek course.

V. Course Requirements

- **Term Paper-** One, final paper will be assigned to provide the student with hands-on experience in interpreting a passage in Thessalonians, which will not have been lectured on in the class lectures (this will be done in consultation with the professor). Late papers will result in a loss of one letter grade. Late papers will

only be accepted after one week past the due date. Only in family emergencies (or other similar emergencies) will the professor accept papers following the one-week deadline. **EXEGESIS PAPER DUE on Thursday, Dec. 18 (2:00 p.m.);** to be submitted in the mail basket outside the professor's office)

- **Reading-** Reading the assigned pages for each class session is required for an accurate understanding of the lectures and discussions. Both Fee, *NT Exegesis* and Beale, *Handbook* must be read by **Wednesday, Sept. 16. Students are to report whether or not they have read this assigned material on a reading checkoff sheet to be distributed on the same days**, and it will have columns for a percentage read or skimmed. We will discuss these two books in class on **Wednesday, Sept. 16, so students should take notes on their reading, especially noting any questions they may have about any sections of the books.**
- Daniel B. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996). The student will read assigned segments from Wallace's book for various class sessions. **Students are to report whether or not they have read the assigned material on a reading checkoff sheet to be distributed on the session the reading is due (this will be part of the class participation grade)**
- **Weekly Assignments-** Nearly every week, students will be assigned a particular passage of Greek text to exegete. Most of these entail translation, English version comparison, parsing, and discourse analysis. *See the "Weekly Assignment Example" to be sent by email to the student.* **Unless otherwise specified, weekly assignments must be submitted as a hardcopy and at the beginning of class. Do not submit weekly assignments on Canvas. Late assignments will result in a loss of one letter grade on the assignment per class.**
 - **Translation:** Students should translate orally **by sight** (without use of translation notes) assigned passages in class.
 - There will be six to eight daily exegetical assignments: typically students will be assigned a passage from an epistle of Paul on which the following should be done: **On the first page, there should be a Discourse Analysis with brackets on it. On a second page** there should be the written Discourse Analysis assignment, where there should be English translation of the text following the structure recommended in class. Words and phrases in English should be underlined which are interpretative renderings of the significance of some of the logical relationships (note in-class examples). **On a third page**, state a one sentence exegetical idea of the passage. Underneath it try to transform the exegetical idea into a one-sentence homiletical idea (see Robinson, Biblical Preaching, for how to do this). **On a fourth page**, compare the translations of the NASB, NIV, RSV, KJV, and JB for the passage; list the major differences in chart form on a separate sheet of paper and say with which translation the Discourse Analysis most agrees. **On the fifth page**, just list all the marginal

references in the NA²⁸ for each verse of your passage. This assignment will be discussed in class. **On the sixth page**, give a brief prose summary of the logical development of thought in the paragraph.

- **Hermeneutical Use of the OT:** in addition to the above, if the weekly assignment includes a formal quotation or allusion, students are required to determine the hermeneutical use of the quotation and include it in the weekly assignment (under the main exegetical and homiletical idea statement). Please consult Beale, *Handbook*, 55-93, for a discussion of each hermeneutical use. Keep in mind that nearly all of the quotations/allusions employ multiple hermeneutical uses (e.g., analogy AND abiding authority).
- **Further Note on Discourse Analysis:** Discourse analysis is essential for understanding the logical flow of texts, and students are required to learn Discourse Analysis for Greek Exegesis. Seven videos are listed at the end of this syllabus (in an appendix) that demonstrate how to do and create a Discourse Analysis. Students should watch these videos.
- **In-Class Electronics Use-** Unless the professor has made an exception, students are prohibited from using computers, phones, and tablets during class translation of Greek. Students are, however, encouraged to bring their laptops to class, so that we can learn how to use Accordance and for other purposes.
- **The first class on Wednesday, September 2 will be introductory:**
THE FIRST DAILY ASSIGNMENT IS DUE FOR Wednesday, September 2, 2026 which is the following in three parts:
 - (1) The first class on Greek Exegesis (NT 5150) on Wednesday, September 2, 2026, will be introductory. The student should read the syllabus beforehand and be prepared to ask questions about the syllabus. Also, the student should be prepared to translate 1 Thess. 1:2-5 (including being able to parse verbs and decline nouns and adjectives). Also, the student should bring Accordance on their computer, since we will go over some basic functions on Accordance.
 - (2) In read pages 62-65 and 85-101, 106-113 (here mainly pay attention to pages 62-65 and pages 86-101). This “Packet” was sent to you by Riley, my TA. We will talk about principles of doing Discourse Analysis. You are on your honor NOT to read pp. 102-105c, since these are examples of your first written assignment on 1 Thess. 1:2-5.
 - (3) Also, if you want to do extra credit, you can read Beale’s “Packet of Handouts on New Testament Exegetical Methods,” pages 66-72 on Sentence Flows (here mainly pay attention to pages 65-70). Then do a sentence flow on 1 Thess. 1:2-5, which is not due for extra credit in written form until the second class session. We will go over this orally during the first class session to get a jump start on the extra credit for the second class session. The extra credit grade for the sentence flow will be a check mark (✓) for attempting to do it (which will = a “100” to be averaged in to the other daily assignments).
- **Attendance-** Students are expected to attend all lectures, which is a component of

the total grade for “class participation.” *Students who have more than one unexcused absence will be penalized on their final course grade 2% per additional unexcused absence. Presbytery meetings and all conferences (ETS/SBL, T4G, North Texas Presbytery, etc.) are deemed unexcused.* Students should consult their calendar at the beginning of the semester and discuss any conflicts with the professor. Sickness and family emergencies are considered excused. If you are sick or have a family emergency, you must email the professor asap.

- **Final Exam-** There will be no final exam.
- **Grading:**
 1. Paper 45%
 2. Weekly Assignments 38%
 3. Class participation (including attendance), oral translation of Greek, submitting of vocabulary list for verses that have been given previously as translation assignments in the class (at end of semester) 8%
 4. Exegetical Notebook 9%

Extra Credit: A full-length sermon manuscript in outline and sentence form (approx. 8 pp.) on the same text as the exegesis paper (for a sample, consult the copies of the sermon manuscript on 1 Jn. 2:3-11 and sermon manuscripts on other NT passages on reserve). The outline should include illustrations and applications. Attention: this is not merely a rehash of the exegesis but an exegetical-expository sermon outline. For help in this regard see: G. D. Fee, New Testament Exegesis, pp. 131-136; H. W. Robinson, Biblical Preaching (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1980), pp. 9-209, 217-220. In fact, it is required that Robinson be read before the sermon outline is begun. This would be due on Friday, Dec. 18 at 2pm. If the sermon manuscript is considered to be “sufficient,” then **two points** will be added to the student’s final number grade in the course.

- **Grading Scale:** The grading scale for this course is the seminary’s grading scale. You may find it listed at the *RTS Catalog*, p.44.
- **Plagiarism:** Any cheating (quiz, paper, exam, etc.) will result in a failure of the course.

VI. Paper Requirements

Exegesis Paper

- Appendix for the exegesis paper is due **Friday, Dec. 4.**
- The paper must include your name, date, and word count (footnotes included).

- 10 Pages, double-spaced (word count should be about 3,500 words).
- It must be in SBL style.
- The bibliography must be integrated into the footnotes and then appended to the end of the paper in alphabetical order.
- Ten commentaries and 10 articles (from journals or edited volumes, on which see ATLA) must be consulted.
- The student must write on a paragraph from 1 or 2 Thessalonian (to be announced).
- The professor will distribute in class further instructions about the exegesis paper.
- Selected passages from Thessalonians will be assigned for the Greek Exegesis paper.
- Students are required to read a model paper two weeks ahead of the due date for their exegesis paper.

**REQUIRED READING CHECK-OFF LIST FOR GREEK EXEGESIS
(NT5150) TO BE SUBMITTED ON THE DAY ON WHICH THE EXEGESIS
PAPER IS DUE (FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18 AT 2PM).**

Name: _____

The following required readings are taken from the syllabus and listed in alphabetical order. Please check off the readings when each is completed, and place the check-off sheet in the front of the exegetical notebook, which should be submitted at the end of the semester on Friday, Dec. 18. The total amount of required reading below is approx. **635 pp.** (this page count does not include the reading of 1 & 2 Thessalonians in the NASB, which is still required to be read). **Remember that Fee, *NT Exegesis* and Beale, *Handbook* must be read by MONDAY, Sept. 16.** Some of these readings may be required to be read at the time of particular class sessions; the other readings should be read at the student's own pace. Remember that less than 80% of the reading will result in a grade of no higher than a B+. Less than 65% of the reading will result in a grade of no higher than a C. Less than 50% of the reading will result in a grade of no higher than a D. Less than 40% of the reading will result in a grade of no higher than a F. Students who do not read all of the 1 and 2 Thessalonians in the NASB will receive a grade of no higher than a "C."

- ☐ Beale, G. K. *Handbook on the Use of the Old Testament in the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2012, 148pp.
- ☐ Fee, G. D. *New Testament Exegesis, A Handbook for Students and Pastors. Third Edition*. Philadelphia: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002, 185pp.
- ☐ Daniel B. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996), pp. 38-64, 72-254, 587-663 (= 285pp.).
- ☐ The reading of a sample sermon manuscript in outline and full-sentence form, if possible on the passage on which students have written their exegesis paper (approx. 7 pp.).
- ☐ The reading of 1 and 2 Thessalonians in the New American Standard Bible (not included in the above total amount of pages required to be read).
- Discourse analysis videos by Tyler Milliken (considered ten pages).

APPENDIX: DISCOURSE ANALYSIS VIDEOS:

https://youtu.be/5_qq0yGQnpU

DA Tutorial 1: Defining Propositions

<https://youtu.be/5G8Kf-HhLp0>

DA Tutorial 2: Propositions and Prepositions

<https://youtu.be/DQ3ZO9MMrro>

DA Tutorial 3: Coordinate Propositions

<https://youtu.be/6zNrLlwy6JI>

DA Tutorial 4: Support by Restatement

<https://youtu.be/IAS7MyBoDaI>

DA Tutorial 5: Support by Distinct Statement

https://youtu.be/cMEIU_TBbZg

DA Tutorial 6: Discourse Analysis of Epistles

<https://youtu.be/uiIa7RQKu4o>

DA Tutorial 7: Discourse Analysis of Narrative

Course Objectives Related to M.Div. Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Greek Exegesis (NT5150)
 Professor: G. K. Beale
 Campus: Dallas
 Date: Fall 2023

<u>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</u>		<u>Rubric</u>	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Strong	Course basic exegetical principles for interpreting Scripture
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	See course title and description
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Reformed distinctives on Scripture and its interpretation are carefully considered
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Scripture is the primary means of grace, its study ought to be an act of love toward God
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Strong	Focused on interpreting Word of God rightly
Winsomely Reformed	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Minimal	Though we hope the professors and students exemplify this spirit
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Moderate	Must understand what the text means to preach it rightly
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Minimal	Course is relevant to worship but is not centered on worship, as such

Shepherd	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Moderate	Using Scripture rightly is central to good shepherding
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	Though alternative approaches to Scripture will be considered and application of original meaning to contemporary contexts