Note: This syllabus is the “mini-syllabus” and is not to be confused with the large syllabus that contains all the class-lecture notes, biblio, various articles, etc. This large syllabus will be posted on “Self Service” and is needed for all the class lectures. For the first day of class, the student should be prepared with either a hard-copy of the large syllabus or have it downloaded to his laptop.

Prerequisites: None.

Required Texts:

Trinity Psalter.
D. Carson and D. Moo. An Introduction to the NT, 2d ed.
H. Ridderbos, Paul: An Outline of His Theology.
J. G. Machen, The Origin of Paul’s Religion. (PDF of entire book included in mega-syllabus.)

Professor

* Dr. Bob Cara (technically, Dr. Robert J. Cara or Robert J. Cara, Ph.D.).

Class Participation

* Attend class and participate (intelligently!) when called on. Loose points for not being in class and/or not participating.

* Bring and sing Psalter.

Purpose of Course (Course Objectives)

* The overarching purpose is to enable the student to better interpret / apply Pauline Epistles for one's self, the church and the world.

* Secondary purposes:

  * Learn the content of each book.

  * Learn the major biblical-theological (BT) categories of Paul / book (e.g., “present evil age,” humiliation/exaltation scheme) along with methodology to do further BT interpretation.
* Interact with and be aware of major systematic theology (ST) doctrines (e.g., J by F, three uses of the law) which are based on our texts.

* Learn enough about critical views to:
  1) Utilize common grace insights in critical commentaries.
  2) Provide an intelligent global critique of critical theories.

* Course objectives as coordinated with MDiv Student Learning Outcomes are shown at the end of this document.

Course Requirements

1. Reading
   * H. Ridderbos, *Paul: An Outline of His Theology*, 13-562
   * J. G. Machen, *The Origin of Paul's Religion*, 141-69
   * 1 Cor thru Phlm (read twice)

2. Reading Questions (RQ) for C-M, Ridderbos, and Machen
   * Questions for C-M and Ridderbos located at the beginning of each lecture.
   * Questions for Machen at end of this lecture.
   * Do not hand in but will be on appropriate tests. Machen will be on first test.
   * Cara will not answer these questions directly. You may / should enquire of a fellow student *in this class*.

3. Lecture Review Questions (LRQ)
   * Questions located at the beginning of each lecture.
   * Do not hand in but will be on appropriate tests.
   * Cara will not answer these questions directly (except as part of class lecture). You may / should enquire of a fellow student *in this class*.

4. Weekly Quizzes on outlines and chapter identification
   * Possible quiz questions given in advance and located at the beginning of each lecture.
   * Covers Bible content.
   * Quizzes are cumulative.
   * May drop one quiz.

5. Paper
   * This should be a serious research paper of at least several serious commentaries and a few BT’s. Must also footnote at least one journal article. Note helpful annotated biblio at end of Cara syllabus.
   * 10-15 typed pages.
   * Due on ???, severe penalty for lateness (32.2 f/s/s).
* Paper is to concentrate on Pauline theology. Choose any topic / theme that is included in more than one Pauline epistle (you may use Romans). Note, many times a minor topic / theme makes better papers for “budding” theologians. A typical paper would (1) evaluate in context each location (or representative locations) where the theme is mentioned and (2) make a conclusion (i.e., “theologize”).

* Format is to follow JBL or SBL Handbook of Style or JETS standards. See “Real Paper Comments” at end of this lecture.


GRADES

1. Tests

   * 2 tests: midterm (includes Machen) and final.
   * .85% of test will be verbatim questions from LRQ’s and RQ’s.
   * Remaining 15% will be misc questions from lectures and all readings.
   * Each test worth 20% of grade; hence, 40% of grade.

2. Weekly Quizzes

   * 10% of grade

3. Paper

   * 40% of grade

4. Credit for reading 1 Cor thru Phlm twice and Ridderbos

   * On midterm, must have read 100% of 1 Cor thru Phlm once and appropriate Ridderbos sections.
   * On final, must have read 100% of 1 Cor thru Phlm for the second time and appropriate Ridderbos sections.
   * 10% of grade.

5. Trinity Psalter

   * Loose points if you do not bring and sing.
# Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes

With Mini-Justification

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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| **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 | 1. Pauline theology  
2. Historical-critical view of Paul  
3. Significant academic paper on a Pauline theology topic |
| **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 | 1. Major part of class is exegeting Pauline texts  
2. Original languages are used in class and encouraged in academic paper  
3. It’s a BIBLE class! |
| **Reformed Theology** | Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards. | Moderate | 1. Traditional Reformed categories are used for explaining many Pauline categories  
2. References to creeds |
| **Sanctification** | Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification. | Moderate | 1. Psalm singing in class  
2. Personal application is made in class to many Pauline texts |
| **Desire for Worldview** | Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. | Moderate | 1. Multi-faceted applications are made from Pauline texts, e.g. environment, politics  
2. Paul’s passion to conform all of life to X is emphasized |
| **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.) | Strong | 1. Common grace use of historical-critical scholars is discussed & required in paper  
2. Paul’s winsomeness is shown in Philemon |
<p>| <strong>Preach</strong> | Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm. | Moderate | 1. Many times preaching applications are made from Pauline texts |</p>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Additional Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>2. Paul’s view of preaching is explicitly discussed at 1 Thess 2:13</td>
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<td>Shepherd</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>1. Ridderbos book has extended discussion of Pauline view of worship</td>
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<td>Church/World</td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>1. Paul’s method of dealing with spiritual problems in the church is highlighted in 1 Corinthians</td>
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<td>1. Creed explanations</td>
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<td>2. Occasional political discussions (e.g. 2 Thess 3:10,13)</td>
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