1. **Course Details**
   - Four credit hours
   - Mondays from 1:00–5:00pm
   - Course Description: *An exposition of Paul’s epistles in chronological order that emphasizes the application of Paul’s theology to the pastoral needs of the churches of his day and ours.*

2. **Instructor Information**
   - Gregory R. Lanier, Assistant Professor, RTS-Orlando
   - Email: glanier@rts.edu
   - Office: Main administrative building
   - Office Hours: Email to set up appointment

3. **Objectives**
   - To understand the Acts of the Apostles in the context of redemptive history and the Jewish and Greco-Roman world(s).
   - To understand the relationships between the apostolic circle and Jesus Christ, between Paul and the historical Jesus of the Gospels, and between Paul and the other apostles.
   - To understand the main structure of Paul’s theology as expressed in Acts and his thirteen letters, including his use of the OT; his understanding of God, Christ, and Spirit; his “gospel” and teachings on salvation and redemptive history; and his ethical and ecclesiological instructions for the church of his day and their contemporary relevance.
   - To strengthen one’s ability to read, exegete, and teach/preach the letters of Paul, with special attention to their key issues, internal logic, and contribution to Christian doctrine.
   - To learn how to engage with scholarship on Acts and Paul—such as the New Perspective, Apocalyptic Paul, critical views on authorship/dating, etc.—in a responsible manner.

4. **Required Texts**
   - The Holy Bible: each student must bring his/her own copy of the Bible (in a modern English translation, e.g., ESV, NASB, NIV) to class each day. Students who have taken Greek are encouraged to bring a critical Greek edition (UBS4/5 or NA27/28). Electronic versions (Logos, Bibleworks, Accordance) are acceptable.
   - Additional suggested readings will be provided at the start of the course.
5. **Course Assignments**

- **Reading of Biblical Texts**
  - Assignment for students who have not had Greek:
    - Read Acts **once** in English
    - Read each of Paul’s 13 letters **twice** in English
  - Assignment for students who have had Greek:
    - Read Acts in English **once**
    - Read each of Paul’s 13 letters **once** in English
    - Read Romans 3–8 in Greek (no translation or parsing required—just read)
  - Evaluation: on the final exam, you will be asked to indicate “yes”/“no” whether you have completed 100% of this reading. There is no partial credit.

- **Reading of Assigned Textbooks**
  - Assignment
    - Read the sections on Acts, the Pauline Letters (incl. ch. 9), and the thirteen letters of Paul in Carson/Moo. Read the entirety of Johnson and Ridderbos.
    - You are free to read according to a schedule of your own choosing.
  - Evaluation
    - Two reading quizzes must be taken before the last day of class.
    - Quiz 1 = Carson/Moo and Johnson. Quiz 2 = Ridderbos.
    - Each quiz is to be taken on Canvas (Assignments tab). You will be allotted 30 minutes to complete the quiz. The quiz will be closed book, and the honor system is in play.
    - Grading: each quiz will include 15 objective (e.g., T/F or multiple choice) questions covering major points of each assigned reading (not minutiae). The grade will be determined on the basis of the number of questions answered **out of 10**. For example, 8 correct = 80%; 10+ correct = 100%.

- **Research Paper**
  - Assignment
    - Complete a research paper of 4,500-7,000 words, including footnotes, excluding title page and bibliography. Indicate word count on the title page.
    - Footnotes (not endnotes) and bibliography of works **cited** (not just consulted) must conform to either SBL or modified Harvard style (examples will be provided on the first day of class).
    - Use headers/sub-headers to structure your main text.
    - Formatting: 1.5 line spacing and 12pt font in the body; single spacing and 10pt font in footnotes. Any Greek or Hebrew must be provided as such, not in transliterated form unless quoting a source that is transliterated.
    - Must cite (in a legitimate, not trivial, manner) at least 7 sources, including at least 4 of the following types of resources:
      - Non-evangelical/critical commentary
      - Scholarly monograph (e.g., not a popular level book)
      - Scholarly journal article (e.g., not Christianity Today)
      - Theological dictionary (e.g., TDNT, EDNT, IVP Dictionaries)
- Lexicon (e.g., BDAG, LSJ, LEH, BDB, HALOT)
- Greek or Hebrew grammar (e.g., Wallace, Robertson, BDF, Waltke/O’Conner, Joüon/Muraoka)
- Septuagint (e.g., Rahlfs-Hanhart)
- Old Testament Pseudepigrapha or other post-biblical writing (Philo, Josephus, NT apocrypha)
- Textual apparatus of the UBS/NA text (or BHS for the OT)
- Pre-1900 commentary
- Church father
- Further details on these sources will be provided on the first day of class. If you have any questions about any of these types of sources, feel free to ask the instructor at any time.

- Students must submit their paper topic to the instructor via Canvas by the last day of spring break.
- Five types of papers will be permissible (further details will be provided on the first day of class):
  - Exegetical paper
  - Biblical-theological paper
  - “Pastoral issue” paper
  - Historical/background issue paper
  - Hybrid of any of the above
- Papers must be submitted electronically in PDF format via Canvas by the RTS-Orlando term paper deadline (May 13, 11:00am).

  Evaluation
  - Argument (30%): Is the paper arguing a clear, coherent thesis throughout?
  - Scholarship (40%): Has the paper handled the biblical text responsibly? Has the paper made careful and discerning use of secondary sources, including honest engagement with viewpoints with which the author disagrees?
  - Quality (25%): Is the paper well-structured, logical, and cohesive? Is it well-written for its target audience? Is it clear and easy to read?
  - Style (5%): Does it meet the required style guidelines? Are footnotes and bibliography composed correctly?

• Midterm and Final Examinations
  - Assignment
    - Each exam will cover content from lectures only. The midterm will cover lectures leading up to the date of the midterm; the final will cover lectures between the midterm and the final.
    - Each exam will consist of the following:
      - Short essays, requiring ~5-7 sentences to answer. Student will choose 6 to answer out of 12 provided.
      - Long essays, requiring ~1.5–2 sheets of paper to answer. Student will choose 3 to answer out of 6 provided.
    - Additionally, the midterm will require the student to provide a bullet-point outline (think chapter-level, not verse-level) of a Pauline letter. Four options will be provided, and the student must outline one of them.
6. Evaluation
   - Short essays = 8% each (total 48%)
   - Long essays = 15% each (total 45%)
   - Outline (midterm) or memorized passage (final) = 7%

6. Grading
   • Reading of biblical texts 5%
   • Reading of assigned textbooks 5%
   • Research paper 30%
   • Midterm examination 30%
   • Final examination 30%

   100%

7. Schedule
   • A detailed lecture schedule will be provided on the first day of class.
   • Class will meet from 1–5pm weekly as follows:

     February 8  March 14  April 18
     February 15 (Spring break, no class) April 25
     February 22 March 28  May 2
     February 29  April 4  May 9
     March 7  April 11  (Term papers due, May 13)

8. Other Details
   • Attendance is expected. To miss one day of class is to miss four lectures. Student must notify the instructor by email regarding any absence.
   • The “skeleton” of course notes will be provided in electronic form by the instructor.
   • Students are permitted to use laptops or tablets in class. Phones must be turned on silent mode. You are expected to make use of technology in a way that honors Christ and respects your brothers/sisters sitting near you. Keep in mind that you, your spouse, donors, your parents, and/or your church are paying ~$40 per hour you spend in class, and all will be called to account for how they have stewarded such time and resources!
## Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course:</th>
<th>NT518 – Acts &amp; Pauline Epistles</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professor:</td>
<td>Gregory R. Lanier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus:</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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</tbody>
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### MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

*In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.*

*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scripture</td>
<td>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.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reformed Theology</td>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanctification</td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire for Worldview</td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winsomely Reformed</td>
<td>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.)</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preach</td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
<tr>
<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>Minimal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<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>
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