

# McMaster Divinity College

NT 2J03/6J06  
New Testament Exegesis (Greek)  
Ephesians

Cynthia Long Westfall, Ph.D.  
Phone: 905-525-9140 x23605  
Email: westfal@mcmaster.ca

Winter 2010 (Term 2)  
Tuesdays 1:30-3:20 p.m.

---

## I. Course Description

A translation and interpretative study of the Greek text of the Epistle to the Ephesians. This class involves the discussion of introductory matters of structure, content, message, context, the genre of epistle in its literary environment. In addition, this class involves interaction with the annotated Greek text of Romans in the Open Text Project.

## II. Course Objectives

Specific Objectives – Through reading, translation, discussion and the completion of assignments the student will:

### Knowing

1. Increase one's knowledge of the Greek of the New Testament through interaction with Ephesians and its vocabulary, and the use grammars and modern tools
2. Understand Ephesians in its social, historical, literary and religious contexts
3. Consider the message and structure of the text as a whole and in terms of its component parts

### Being

4. Become skilled in Greek in order to benefit from advanced commentaries and articles
5. Integrate the scholarship of exegesis and translation with the devotional commitment and obedience to Scripture

### Doing

7. Translate Ephesians interpretively for a target group and discuss issues of grammar, syntax, discourse and lexicography
8. Utilize the annotated Greek text of Ephesians at <http://divinity.mcmaster.ca/OpenText> for analysis and interpretation, and participate in the forum
9. Apply an exegetical method for studying the New Testament
10. Apply Ephesians to concrete ministry contexts.

## III. Course Prerequisite

Prerequisites for NT 2J03: NT 1A03 & NT 1C03 or equivalent of a one-year course in elementary Greek

Prerequisites for NT 6J06: NT 1A03 & NT 1C03 or equivalent, and admission to either the M.A. or Ph.D. program of McMaster Divinity College

## IV. Course Requirements

### A. Class Participation (assumed)

1. Student participation in translation, interactive lectures and discussion based on all assigned materials.
2. Participation in the Open Text forum online: Each student is required to make at least one significant posting to the on-line discussion each week, and to respond appropriately to the comments of others.

3. NT 6J06: In addition, MA/PhD students will teach a translation session or ½ hr. presentation from a chapter of *Idioms*.

B. Weekly Translation/Interpretation

1. NT 2J03: Translation (20%)  
Interpretively translating Ephesians
  - a. Each student should bring his or her written-out translation of the assigned passage (see schedule below), with appropriate parsings, and interpretive and exegetical comments gleaned from observation and/or reading. The student should make a photocopy of the translation for retention. The penalty for late assignments is 2% a day.
  - b. Study groups: students are encouraged to work together and to use and share appropriate study tools.
2. NT 6J06: Translation with Mini Commentary (20%)  
Each MA/PhD student should bring a translation and mini-commentary of the assigned passage. The penalty for late assignments is 2% a day.

C. Reading (10%)

Greek Grammar, a selected commentary on Ephesians, any assigned readings  
See the Daily Schedule at the end for the precise dates and pages

1. Read the pages for the required reading prior to class on the due dates (see Daily Schedule below). *Idioms of the Greek New Testament* is assumed for each session, but those who have already read the text are required to select another suitable grammar from the list below.
2. Sign up and read the selected commentary on Ephesians, and be prepared in class to offer insights from the commentary when translating.
3. On April 13, reading reports will be turned in with an estimation of what percent of the assigned reading was completed.
4. NT 6J06 will read an additional 5,000 pages selected from Romans commentaries and Greek Grammars.

D. Written Assignments for NT 2J03

**In order to pass the course, all written assignments must be completed**

1. Research Paper (20%)
  - a. Each student will select a passage from Ephesians
  - b. Each student will write a research paper on the background of their selected passage including historical-cultural contexts and literary relationships and contexts. **It will be due February 2, 1:30 p.m.** Late papers lose 2% each day.
  - c. Length & style: It should be no more than 3000 words (about 12 pages) of text, excluding footnotes and bibliography. For all matters of style and form, consult Turabian.
  - d. Approach: Research the socio-historical background of Ephesians (genre, authorship, recipients, situation of author and recipients) and the background of any events, customs or people referred to in the passage. Study the context of the entire book in terms of its structure and message and how

the specific passage fits into the entire book as well as directly preceding and subsequent passages. Further examine the context of the Pauline corpus and other Hellenistic and/or Judaic literature.

2. Exegetical Paper (20%)

- a. Each student will write an exegetical paper on the same passage selected for the research paper. **It will be due March 9, 1:30 p.m.** Late papers lose 2% each day.
- b. Length & style: It should be no more than 3000 words (about 12 pages) of text, excluding footnotes and bibliography. For all matters of style and form, consult Turabian.
- c. Approach: Attention should be given to the approach modeled in class including translation, lexical analysis, grammatical observations such as the force of a verb or the use of a connective or other discourse marker, syntactical observations about the order of words, phrases and other elements and the relationship between them, and the explanation of significant interpretive problems. Finally, your findings should be synthesized together with the background information from the first assignment into a comprehensive summation. A detailed handout will be distributed in class that defines a procedure and required contents.

3. Sermon or Project & Presentation (20%)

- a. Each **NT 2J03** student will write a sermon or teaching unit on their exegetical passage, creatively and effectively utilizing and contextualizing the structure and insights from the exegetical study
- b. The sermon/project is due **April 13, 1:30 p.m.**
- c. Each NT 2J03 student will present their project

4. Vocabulary (10%)

Two vocabulary exams will be given on special vocabulary (Kubo) and any word that occurs 10x or more. Eph 1-3 vocabulary will be tested on **February 16, 1:30 p.m.** Eph 4-6 vocabulary will be tested on **April 6, 1:30 p.m.**

E. Written Assignments for NT 6J03

1. Grammatical/linguistic Paper (25%)

- a. Each student will write a paper on a grammatical feature or a linguistic topic using Ephesians as the body of data examined. **It will be due February 2, 1:30 p.m.** Late papers lose 2% each day.
- b. Length & style: It should be no more than 6,000 words (about 24 pages) of text, excluding footnotes and bibliography. For all matters of style and form, consult Turabian.

2. Interpretive Problem Paper (25%)

- a. Each student will write a paper on a significant interpretive problem in Ephesians. **It will be due March 9, 1:30 p.m.** Late papers lose 2% each day.
- b. Length & style: It should be no more than 6,000 words (about 24 pages) of text, excluding footnotes and bibliography. For all matters of style and form, consult Turabian.

3. Teaching Unit (20%)

Each student will prepare and present one teaching unit on grammar or a selected exegetical topic

F. Grading Summary

**NT 2J03**

1.	Reading	10%
2.	Translation	20%
3.	Research Paper	20%
4.	Exegetical Paper	20%
5.	Project	20%
6.	Vocabulary	10%

**NT 6J06**

Teaching unit	20%
Reading	10%
Translation	20%
Grammatical/linguistic Paper	25%
Interpretive Problem Paper	25%

**IV. Textbooks and Materials**

**A. Textbooks**

1. A standard edition of the Greek New Testament
  - a. Nestle-Aland (26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> edn)
  - b. UBS (3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> edn)
  - c. Westcott-Hort
2. A “formal equivalent” translation of the Bible (literalistic) such as the NASB
3. The annotated Greek text of Ephesians at <http://divinity.mcmaster.ca/OpenText>
4. Greek Grammar
  - a. Porter, Stanley E., *Idioms of the Greek New Testament* (Biblical Languages: Greek 2; Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn, 1994).
  - b. *For those who have already read Idioms*: A selection from the Greek grammars below (inform the professor of your selection)
5. S. Kubo, *Reader’s Greek-English Lexicon of the Greek New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1975).
6. A Commentary on Ephesians (selections will be made in class)

**B. Textbook Purchase**

All required textbooks for this class are available from the College’s book service, READ On Bookstore, Room 217A, McMaster Divinity College. Texts may be purchased on the first day of class. For advance purchase, you may contact READ On Bookstores, 195 The West Mall, Suite 414, Etobicoke, ON M9C 5K1: phone 416-622-0655 ext 308; fax 416-622-2308; e-mail [books@readon.ca](mailto:books@readon.ca). Other book services may also carry the texts.

**V. Classroom Behavior**

**A. Attendance**

1. Students should be on time to class or be prepared to offer an explanation to the professor.
2. Students are expected to stay for the entire class session, unless arranged in advance.

**B. Participation**

1. Please respect the opinions of others without disrespect or ridicule, even if you do not agree with them. However, feel free to respond logically and critically in an orderly manner.
2. Students are not expected to be doing work on any other subject except that which is appropriate in the course outline.
3. Students are not to carry on off-topic conversations in class.
4. Students may eat or drink in class if they do not distract others and they clean up their desks.

Students who fail to respect these guidelines will be dismissed from the class with consequences.

**C. Academic Honesty**

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence that may take any number of forms, including plagiarism, the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which previous credit has been obtained, and/or unauthorized collaboration

with other students. Academic dishonesty can result in severe consequences, e.g., failure of the assignment, failure of the course, a notation on one's academic transcript, and/or suspension or expulsion from the College.

Students are responsible for understanding what constitutes academic dishonesty. Please refer to the Divinity College Statement on Academic Honesty: [www.madciv.ca/regs/honesty.php](http://www.madciv.ca/regs/honesty.php) and the McMaster University Academic Integrity Policy, specifically Appendix 3: [www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac\\_integrity.htm](http://www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm)

#### **D. Gender Inclusive Language**

McMaster Divinity College uses inclusive language for human beings in worship services, student written materials, and all of its publications. In reference to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected. The NRSV and TNIV are examples of the use of inclusive language for human beings. It is expected that inclusive language will be used in chapel services and all MDC assignments.

#### **Appointments:**

Contact me if I can assist you in any way via E-mail: [westfal@mcmaster.ca](mailto:westfal@mcmaster.ca)

Phone: 905-525-9140 ext. 23605

Office hours: Wednesday 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m., Thursday 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m

**Please Note:** This syllabus is the property of the instructor and is prepared with currently available information. The instructor reserves the right to make changes and revisions up until the first day of class.

## NT 511 Daily Schedule

DATE	Passage Translated	Idioms
Jan 5	<b>Introduction</b>	Open Text initiation:
Jan 12	Eph 1:1-14	Chs. 1, 21
Jan 19	Eph 1:15-22	Chs. 2-3
Jan 26	Eph 2:1-10	Ch. 4
Feb 2	2:11-22 <b>Research Paper due</b> <b>Grammatical/linguistic Paper due Eph</b>	Chs. 5-6
Feb 9	Eph 3:1-13	Chs. 7-8
Feb 16	Eph 3:14-21 <b>Vocabulary test</b>	Chs. 9
Feb 23	Reading Week	
Mar 2	Eph 4:1-10	Chs. 10-12
Mar 9	Eph 4:11-24 <b>Exegetical Paper due</b> <b>Interpretive Problem Paper due</b>	Chs. 13-14
Mar 16	Eph 4:25-5:5	Chs. 15-16
Mar 23	Eph 5:6-20	Chs. 17-18
Mar 30	Eph 5:21-6:4	Chs. 19-20
Ap 6	Eph 6:5-24 <b>Vocabulary test</b>	
April 13	<b>Project/paper</b>	

## *Bibliography for Study of the Greek New Testament*

The following is a select bibliography to give the student initial guidance in the subject of exegesis in the context of Greek study. There are many more specialized studies on a range of topics.

### *Greek Grammars*

#### *Intermediate*

- Brooks, J.A., and C.O. Winbery, *Syntax of New Testament Greek* (Washington, CD: University Press of America, 1979).  
Chamberlain, W.D., *An Exegetical Grammar of the Greek New Testament* (repr. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1979).  
Dana, H.E., and J.R. Mantey, *A Manual Grammar of the Greek New Testament* (n.p.: Macmillan, 1955).  
Nunn, H.P.V., *A Short Syntax of New Testament Greek* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1938).  
Wallace, D.B., *Greek Grammar beyond the Basics* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996).  
Zerwick, M., *Biblical Greek* (Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute, 1963).

#### *Advanced*

- Blass, F., and A. Debrunner, *A Greek Grammar of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (trans. R.W. Funk; Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1961).  
Moule, C.F.D., *An Idiom Book of New Testament Greek* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2nd edn, 1959).  
Moulton, J.H., *A Grammar of New Testament Greek. I. Prolegomena* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 3rd edn, 1908).  
Robertson, A.T., *A Grammar of the Greek New Testament in the Light of Historical Research* (Nashville: Broadman, 4th edn, 1934).  
Turner, N., *A Grammar of New Testament Greek. III. Syntax* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1963).  
Winer, G.B., *A Treatise on the Grammar of New Testament Greek* (trans. W.F. Moulton; Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1882).

#### *Specialized*

- Burton, E.D.W., *Syntax of the Moods and Tenses in New Testament Greek* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1898).  
Decker, R.J., *Temporal Deixis of the Greek Verb in the Gospel of Mark with Reference to Verbal Aspect* (Studies in Biblical Greek 10; New York: Lang, 2001).  
Doudna, J.C., *The Greek of the Gospel of Mark* (SBL Monograph Series 12; Philadelphia: Society of Biblical Literature, 1961).  
Fanning, B.M., *Verbal Aspect in New Testament Greek* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1990).  
McKay, K.L., *A New Syntax of the Verb in New Testament Greek* (Studies in Biblical Greek 5; New York: Lang, 1994).  
Porter, S.E., *Verbal Aspect in the Greek of the New Testament, with Reference to Tense and Mood* (Studies in Biblical Greek 1; New York: Lang, 1989).

- Porter, S.E., and D.A. Carson (eds.), *Biblical Greek Language and Linguistics: Open Questions in Current Research* (JSNT Supplement Series 80; Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1993).
- Porter, S.E., and D.A. Carson (eds.), *Discourse Analysis and Other Topics in Biblical Greek* (JSNT Supplement Series 113; Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1995).
- Porter, S.E., and D.A. Carson (eds.), *Linguistics and the New Testament: Critical Junctures* (JSNT Supplement Series 168; Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999).
- Thrall, M.E. *Greek Particles in the New Testament: Linguistic and Exegetical Studies* (New Testament Tools and Studies 3; Leiden: Brill, 1962).

### *Greek–English Lexicons*

- Abbott-Smith, G., *A Manual Greek Lexicon of the New Testament* (Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1986).
- Bauer, W., *A Greek–English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (trans. W.F. Arndt and F. W. Gingrich; Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1979; trans. F.W. Danker; Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000).
- Liddell, H., and R. Scott, *An Intermediate Greek–English Lexicon* (Oxford: Clarendon, 1987).
- Louw, J.P., and E.A. Nida, *Greek–English Lexicon of the New Testament Based on Semantic Domains* (2 vols.; New York: United Bible Societies, 1989).
- Newman, B.M., *A Concise Greek–English Dictionary of the New Testament* (New York: United Bible Societies, 1971).
- Souter, A., *A Pocket Lexicon to the Greek New Testament* (Oxford: Clarendon, 1916).
- Thayer, J.H., *A Greek–English Lexicon of the New Testament* (New York: American Book Company, 1897).

### *Exegesis*

- Carson, D.A., *Exegetical Fallacies* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2nd edn, 1996).
- Conzelmann, H., and A. Lindemann, *Interpreting the New Testament: An Introduction to the Principles and Methods of New Testament Exegesis* (trans. S.S. Schatzmann; Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1988).
- Fee, G.D., *New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors* (Philadelphia: Westminster, 1983).
- Green, J.B. (ed.), *Hearing the New Testament: Strategies for Interpretation* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995).
- Hayes, J.H., and C.R. Holladay, *Biblical Exegesis: A Beginner's Handbook* (Atlanta: John Knox, 2nd edn, 1987).
- Kaiser, O., and W.G. Kümmel, *Exegetical Method: A Student's Handbook* (trans. E.V.N. Goetichius and M.J. O'Connell; New York: Seabury, 2nd edn, 1981).
- Marshall, I.H. (ed.), *New Testament Interpretation: Essays on Principles and Methods* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1977).
- McKnight, S. (ed.), *Introducing New Testament Interpretation* (Guides to New Testament Exegesis; Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989).
- Porter, S.E. (ed.), *Handbook to Exegesis of the New Testament* (New Testament Tools and Studies 25; Leiden: Brill, 1997).
- Silva, M., *Explorations in Exegetical Method: Galatians as a Test Case* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996).
- Stenger, W., *Introduction to New Testament Exegesis* (trans. D.W. Scott; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993).

### *Textual Criticism*

- Aland, K., and B. Aland, *The Text of the New Testament* (trans. E.F. Rhodes; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2nd edn, 1989).
- Greenlee, J.H., *Introduction to New Testament Textual Criticism* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1964).
- Kenyon, F.G., *The Text of the Greek Bible* (rev. A.W. Adams; London: Duckworth, 3rd edn, 1975).
- Metzger, B.M., *The Text of the New Testament: Its Transmission, Corruption, and Restoration* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2nd edn, 1968).
- Metzger, B.M., *A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament* (New York: American Bible Society, 1971; 2nd edn, 1994).
- Vaganay, L., and C.-B. Amphoux, *An Introduction to New Testament Textual Criticism* (trans. J. Heimerdinger; Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991).

### *Vocabulary*

- Kubo, S., *A Reader's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1975).
- Metzger, B.M., *Lexical Aids for Students of New Testament Greek* (Princeton: p.p., 1969).
- Scott, B.B., M. Dean, K. Sparks and F. LaZar, *Reading New Testament Greek* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1993).
- Trenchard, W.C., *The Student's Complete Vocabulary Guide to the Greek New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992).
- Van Voorst, R.E., *Building your New Testament Greek Vocabulary* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990).

### *Linguistics and New Testament Greek*

- Black, D.A., *Linguistics for Students of New Testament Greek: A Survey of Basic Concepts and Applications* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1988).
- Cotterell, P., and M. Turner, *Linguistics and Biblical Interpretation* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1989).
- Louw, J.P., *Semantics of New Testament Greek* (SBL Semeia Studies; Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1982).
- Silva, M., *Biblical Words and Their Meaning: An Introduction to Lexical Semantics* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2nd edn, 1994).

### *Commentaries on Ephesians*

The following is a selection of commentaries. Those especially good on the Greek text have an asterisk after the entry.

Anders, Max. *Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians & Colossians*, Holman New Testament Commentary Nashville: Holman, 1999.

\*Barth, Markus. *Ephesians*. 2 Vols. AB. New York, Doubleday, 1974.

\*Best, Ernest. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on Ephesians*. ICC. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1998.

- \*Bruce, F. F. *The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, and to the Ephesians*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984.
- Edwards, Mark J, Edited by Mark J. Edwards. *Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians*, Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture New Testament, 8. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1998.
- Foulkes, Francis. *The letter of Paul to the Ephesians: an introduction and commentary*, Tyndale New Testament Commentaries. 2nd ed. Leicester: Inter-Varsity Press, 1989.
- \*Hoehner, Harold W. *Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.
- Liefeld, Walter L. *Ephesians*. IVPNTC. Downers Grove: IVP, 1997.
- \*Lincoln, Andrew. *Ephesians*. Word Biblical Commentary. Waco: Word, 1990.
- MacDonald, Margaret Y. *Colossians and Ephesians*. Sacra Pagina. Collegeville: Liturgical, 2000.
- \*Muddiman, John. *A Commentary on the Epistle to the Ephesians*. BNTC. New York: Continuum, 2001.
- Patzia, Arthur G. *Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon*. New International Biblical Commentary. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1984, 1990.
- Perkins, Pheme. *Ephesians*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1997.
- \*Schnackenburg, R. *The Epistle to the Ephesians*. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1991.
- Snodgrass, Klyne. *Ephesians*. NIVAC. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.
- Stott, John. *God's New Society: The Message of Ephesians*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1979.