



The University of Manchester



School of Arts, Languages & Cultures, Faculty of Humanities  
Course Unit Descriptor

23.02.2016

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Credit Rating	10
Course Unit Title	<b>Introduction to Paul</b>
Unit Code	8124
Unit Level	1
Contact Hours	n/a
FHEQ Level	4
Teaching Period	Flexible delivery
Teaching Staff	Dr Stephen I. Wright
ECTS	5

**EXTERNAL FACING COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW**

The first half of the unit begins with an overview of Paul's career and background and goes on to explore the letter genre and assess debates about authorship. In addition, major Pauline theological themes are explored including Christ, Church, salvation, grace holiness and some attention is given to the apocalyptic frame which shaped Paul's views, not least his expectations of *Parousia*. In the second half of the unit five shorter Pauline letters are explored with a view to developing exegetical skills as well as knowledge of Paul's life and thought.

**COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW**

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**AIMS**

To provide an introductory survey of the life and thought of Paul and his letters.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Knowledge and Understanding**

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Outline the background, career and significance of the Apostle Paul
- Recognise the general features of the letter genre

### Intellectual Skills

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Understand the debates on the authorship of some Pauline letters
- Identify major Pauline themes

### Practical Skills

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Demonstrate exegetical skills on Pauline texts
- Communicate the meaning of Paul's letters for themselves and for the Church

### Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Assess other people's views on texts
- Structure and communicate their ideas effectively in writing

### Employability Skills

Students will consolidate skills such as reading texts appropriately, managing information, organizing and presenting their ideas. These skills are vital to a range of employment contexts.

## SYLLABUS

1. Welcome
2. Letters and how to read them
3. The gospel according to Paul
4. Who was Jesus Christ according to Paul?
5. The Church - the People of God
6. The Law
7. Living the Christian life: Living between the times
8. 1 Thessalonians
9. Galatians
10. Philippians
11. Introduction to the Pastorals
12. Church life in the Pastorals

## TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

Distance learning

Unit materials are available at Spurgeon's *Online* to support student learning

## ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment task	Length	Weighting within unit
<b>Formative:</b>		
• An online test	10 questions	n/a
<b>Summative:</b>		
• An exegetical essay	2000 words	100%
• A learning journal*		Pass/fail*

\* Distance learning students are required to pass this element. So long as this element has been passed, they will be eligible for compensation if the overall unit mark is within the compensation zone (30-39%), and the compensatable credit allowance as set out in the Degree Regulations has not been exceeded.

## FEEDBACK METHODS

Written feedback on formative and summative written submissions within 15 working days

## REQUISITES

Available on which programme(s)?	BA in Theology
Available as Free Choice (UG) or to other programmes (PG)?	Available as Free Choice (UG)
Pre-requisite units	8103 Reading and Using the Bible or equivalent
Co-requisite units	n/a

## RECOMMENDED READING

Drane, John, *Introducing the New Testament*, 3rd edn (Oxford: Lion, 2010)  
Dunn, James D.G. (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to St Paul* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003)  
Elwell, Walter A., and Robert W. Yarbrough, *Encountering the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005)  
Gombis, T., *Paul: A Guide for the Perplexed* (London: T&T Clark, 2010)  
Hawthorne, Gerald F., Ralph P. Martin and Daniel G. Reid (eds), *Dictionary of Paul and his Letters* (Leicester: IVP, 1993)  
Horrell, David, *An Introduction to the Study of Paul*, 3rd edn (London: Bloomsbury, 2015)  
Jones, Simon, *The World of the Early Church: A Social History* (Oxford: Lion, 2011)  
Marshall, I. Howard, Stephen Travis and Ian Paul, *Exploring the New Testament. II. The Letters and Revelation*, 2nd edn (London: SPCK, 2011)  
Richardson, Neil, *Paul for Today: New Perspectives on a Controversial Apostle* (London: Epworth, 2008)  
Wenham, David, *Did St Paul get Jesus Right? The Gospel According to Paul* (Oxford: Lion Hudson, 2010)

## SCHEDULED ACTIVITY HOURS

n/a

## PLACEMENT HOURS

n/a

## INDEPENDENT STUDY HOURS

100 hours

## ADDITIONAL NOTES

## APPROVAL

Date approved by UGC	
Valid from Date (Publishing Date)	