



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>A Pauline Letter in English</b>        |
| Unit Code         | 223 (8223 for distance learning version)  |
| Unit Level        | 2   |
| Contact Hours     | 22 (n/a for distance learning version)    |
| FHEQ Level        | 5   |
| Teaching Period   | Flexible delivery                         |
| Teaching Staff    | Dr Stephen I. Wright / Rev Simon M. Jones |
| ECTS              | 5   |

**EXTERNAL FACING COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW**

Students consider the destination, structure and purpose of the letter alongside a study of its major themes and exegesis of selected passages. The letter chosen will normally be Romans but may be 1 Corinthians.

**COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW**

Students consider the destination, structure and purpose of the letter alongside a study of its major themes and exegesis of selected passages. The letter chosen will normally be Romans but may be 1 Corinthians.

**AIMS**

To enable students to understand and interpret one of Paul's major letters.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Knowledge and Understanding**

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

- Explain the structure and major themes of the letter
- Formulate a critically informed opinion of its purpose and audience

**Intellectual Skills**

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

- Identify and analyse the particular theological emphases of the text and its contribution to our knowledge of Paul and his ministry
- Demonstrate developed exegetical skills through working on the text

**Practical Skills**

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

- Explain the possible implications of the letter's themes for today's church
- Interpret an ancient text with sensitivity to its genre, occasion and worldview

## Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities

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

- Assess other people's views on the texts under consideration
- Structure and communicate their ideas effectively

## Employability Skills

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

## SYLLABUS

### ROMANS

- 1: introduction to and overview of the Letter
- 2: The history of Christianity in Rome; Romans 16
- 3: The new perspective on Paul; overview of 1:16-32
- 4: Romans 2:1 - 3:20; how Paul uses the Old Testament
- 5: Romans 4; the righteousness of God and the faith of Jesus Christ
- 6: Romans 5; the apocalyptic mindset
- 7: Romans 6; Paul retelling the history of Israel
- 8: Romans 7; the place of the Law and the 'I' of v7-25
- 9: Romans 8:11-17; the role of the Spirit in the life of the believer
- 10: Romans 9-11
- 11: Romans 12-15, focussing on 12 and 13:1-7

### 1 CORINTHIANS

- 1: Introduction to the unit: Corinth, the Church and 1 Corinthians
- 2: Divisions and the gospel of the cross
- 3: Divisions and the role of Christian leaders
- 4: Immorality
- 5: Marriage and divorce
- 6: Idolatry
- 7: On not exercising rights
- 8: Christian gatherings
- 9: Concerning spiritual gifts
- 10: The resurrection
- 11: The resurrection body
- 12: The end and the beginning

## TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

- 223: Interactive lectures  
8223: Distance learning

## ASSESSMENT METHODS

| Assessment task                             | Length     | Weighting within unit |
|---|------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Formative:</b>                           |            |                       |
| • 223: An essay plan                        | 500 words  | n/a                   |
| • 8223: An essay plan                       | 500 words  | n/a                   |
| <b>Summative:</b>                           |            |                       |
| • 223: An essay                             | 2500 words | 100%                  |
| • 8223: An essay<br>and a learning journal* | 2500 words | 100%<br>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

- Oral feedback in class (223 only)
- 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  | n/a                           |
| Co-requisite units   | n/a                           |

## RECOMMENDED READING

### APPLICABLE TO BOTH LETTERS

- Bassler, Jouette M., *Navigating Paul: An Introduction to Key Theological Concepts* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2007)
- Brondos, David A., *Paul on the Cross: Reconstructing the Apostle's story of redemption* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2006)
- Malherbe, Abraham J., *Social Aspects of Early Christianity*, 2nd edn (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993)
- Dunn, James D.G., *The New Perspective on Paul*, rev. edn (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008)
- Hawthorne, Gerald F. and Ralph P. Martin, eds, *Dictionary of Paul and his Letters* (Downers Grove and Leicester: IVP, 1993)
- Wright, N.T., *Paul: Fresh Perspectives* (London: SPCK, 2005)

### ROMANS

- Donfried, Karl P., ed., *The Romans Debate*, 2nd edn (Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1991)
- Grieb, A. Katherine, *The Story of Romans: A Narrative Defense of God's Righteousness* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2002)
- Kruse, Colin G., *Paul's Letter to the Romans*, Pillar New Testament Commentary (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans; Nottingham: Apollos, 2012)
- Moo, Douglas J., *Encountering the Book of Romans: A Theological Survey* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002)
- Morgan, Robert, *Romans* (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1995)
- Oakes, Peter, *Reading Romans in Pompeii: Paul's Letter at Ground Level* (Minneapolis / London: Fortress / SPCK, 2009)
- Sumney, Jerry L., *Reading Paul's Letter to the Romans* (Atlanta: SBL 2012)
- Wedderburn, Alexander J.M., *The Reasons for Romans* (Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1988)
- Westerholm, Stephen, *Understanding Paul: The early Christian Worldview of the Letter to the Romans* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2004)
- Wright, N.T., 'The Letter to the Romans' in Leander E. Keck, ed., *The New Interpreter's Bible*, vol. X (Nashville: Abingdon, 2002), 395-770

### 1 CORINTHIANS

Bailey, Kenneth E., *Paul Through Mediterranean Eyes: Cultural Studies in 1 Corinthians* (London: SPCK, 2011)

Ciampa, Roy E. and Brian S. Rosner, *The First Letter to the Corinthians*, Pillar New Testament Commentary (Nottingham: Apollos, 2010)

Dunn, J.D.G., *1 Corinthians* (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1995)

Fee, Gordon D., *The First Epistle to the Corinthians*, New International Commentary on the New Testament (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987)

Hays, Richard B., *First Corinthians, Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1997)

Malcolm, Matthew R., *The World of 1 Corinthians: An Exegetical Source Book of Literary and Visual Backgrounds* (Milton Keynes: Paternoster, 2012)

Murphy-O'Connor, Jerome, *Keys to First Corinthians : Revisiting the Major Issues* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009)

Thiselton, Anthony C., *First Corinthians: A Shorter Exegetical and Pastoral Commentary* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2006)

Witherington, Ben, *Conflict and Community in Corinth: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on 1 and 2 Corinthians* (Carlisle: Paternoster, 1995)

**SCHEDULED ACTIVITY HOURS**

22 contact hours (n/a for distance learning version)

**PLACEMENT HOURS**

n/a

**INDEPENDENT STUDY HOURS**

78 (100 for distance learning version)

**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

**APPROVAL**

|                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Date approved by UGC              |  |
| Valid from Date (Publishing Date) |  |