



# LEAVELL COLLEGE

AT NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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## LCBS3334-65: NT Interp: Paul and the Early Church

Spring 2020 (203)

Monday 8x Hybrid 6:00 pm – 7:50 pm

Class Dates: 2/3, 2/17, 3/2, 3/16, 3/30, 4/13, 4/27, 5/11

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### Mission Statement

*New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.*

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### Core Value

Each academic year, a core value is emphasized. This academic year, the core value is *Spiritual Vitality*: We are a worshipping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.

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### Course Description

Students will be introduced to the academic study of Acts and the Pauline Letters. Emphasis will be given to the various critical issues related to the composition, reception, and interpretation of the books. Additionally, students will study relevant texts and theological themes related to the books. Prerequisites: New Testament Survey and Hermeneutics

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### General Education Competencies (GECs)

Leavell College has identified four General Education Competencies:

1. Critical Thinking
2. Oral Communication

3. Written Communication

4. Quantitative Reasoning

This course addresses GEC #1 and #3.

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**Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministry Program Student Learning Outcomes (BACM PSLOs) AND Bachelor of Arts in Music with an Emphasis in Worship Program Student Learning Outcomes (BAM PSLOs)**

Leavell College has identified three program Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Biblical Interpretation (BACM PSLO #1)

1. Worship Leadership (BAM PSLO #1)

2. Service and Leadership (both BACM PSLO #2 and BAM PSLO #2)

3. Historical and Theological Interpretation (both BACM PSLO #3 and BAM PSLO #3)

This course addresses BACM SLOs #1 and #3 and BAM PSLO #3.

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**Course Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)**

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will be able to

- 1) understand the background materials and the text related to the Gospels in light of the historical background;
- 2) demonstrate his/her understanding of the text in the historical context through discussions and written assignments; and
- 3) relate his/her understanding of the importance of the Gospels and the teachings related to Jesus.

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**Course Texts**

The following textbook is required:

Longenecker, Bruce W., and Todd D. Still. *Thinking Through Paul: A Survey of His Life, Letters, and Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014.  
ISBN 13: 978-0-310-33086-8.

Any modern English translation of the Holy Bible (NIV, ESV, NASB, HCSB, etc.)

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**Course Requirements and Grading**

1. Each student is required to read the assigned material prior to coming to class. This includes both readings from the textbook and from the Gospels. *This assignment relates to BACM PSLO #1 and #3, and CSLO #3.*

2. Throughout the semester, various daily assignments will be made in order to prepare for discussion or to put into practice the information. *This assignment relates to GECs #1 and 3, BACM PSLO #1 and #3, and CSLO #3.*

3. The student will be assigned four essays throughout the semester. Each essay will be graded on content and presentation. The topics will be assigned a week before they are due. *This assignment relates to GECs #1 and 3, BACM PSLO #1 and #3, and CSLO #3.*

Essay #1: The Bottom Line: Truths on Freedom from Galatians

Essay #2: Dealing with the Difficult Church: Lessons from the Corinthian Correspondence

Essay #3: The Significance of and Teachings from Philemon

Essay #4: The Value of Life Investment in others (Pastoral Epistles)

4. The student will complete a book summary for each letter of Paul studied. The summation should follow the outline given in class and must be submitted through Blackboard in order to receive credit. *This assignment relates to GECs #1 and 3, BACM PSLO #1 and #3, and CSLO #3.*

5. The student will complete a mid-term and a final exam.

**Course Evaluation:**

The final breakdown for the course will be tabulated according to the following percentage breakdown:

Reading/Written assignments	20%
Four essays	20%
Letter summations	30%
Mid-Term/Final Exam	30%

**Grading :**

The grading scale as outlined in the Leavell College catalog will be utilized:

- A = 93-100
- B = 85-92
- C = 77-84
- D = 70-76
- F = 69 and below

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**Course Outline**

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings	Assignments
1	Monday <b>February 3</b> <b>Class Meeting</b>	Introduction / Syllabus  Chronology  Early Life	   Longenecker Pgs. 19-56	

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings	Assignments
2	February 10-16		<i>Acts 7:1-9:31</i> <i>Acts 11:19-30; Acts 13-14</i>	
3	Monday <b>February 17</b> <b>Class Meeting</b>	<i>Conversion</i> <i>First Journey</i> Galatians	<i>Acts 7:1-9:31</i> <i>Acts 11:19-30; Acts 13-14</i> <i>Galatians</i> Longenecker Pgs. 87-106	
4	February 24-March 1			<b>Summation of Acts and Galatians</b> <b>Essay 1</b>
5	Monday <b>March 2</b> <b>Class Meeting</b>	<i>Second Journey</i> <i>1 Thessalonians</i> <i>2 Thessalonians</i>	<i>Acts 15:36-18:22</i> <i>1 &amp; 2 Thess.</i> Longenecker Pgs. 57-86	
6	March 9-15			<b>Summation of 1 &amp; 2 Thessalonians</b>
7	Monday <b>March 16</b> <b>Class Meeting</b>	<i>Third Journey</i> <i>1 Corinthians</i> <i>2 Corinthians</i>	<i>Acts 18:23-21:14</i> <i>1 &amp; 2 Corinthians</i> Longenecker Pgs. 107-138	
8	March 17-22	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK</b>	
9	March 23-29			<b>Summation of 1 &amp; 2 Corinthians</b> <b>Essay 2</b> <b>Mid Term Due March 28<sup>th</sup></b>

Week	Dates	Topic	Readings	Assignments
10	Monday <b>March 30</b>  <b>Class Meeting</b>	<i>Romans</i>  <i>Jerusalem/Caesarea</i>  <i>Rome</i>	<i>Romans</i>  Longenecker Pgs. 163-193	
11	April 6-12			<b>Summation of Romans</b>
12	Monday <b>April 13</b>  <b>Class Meeting</b>	<i>Col/Phm.</i>  <i>Eph</i>  <i>Phil</i>	Longenecker Pgs. 211-238;  239-260;  193-210	
13	April 20-26			<b>Summation of Col, Phm., Eph, and Phil</b>  <b>Essay 3</b>
14	Monday <b>April 27</b>  <b>Class Meeting</b>	<i>1 Timothy</i>  <i>2 Timothy/Titus</i>  <i>Final Days</i>	Longenecker Pgs. 261-296  <i>1 &amp; 2 Timothy, Titus</i>	
15	May 4-10			<b>Summation of 1 &amp; 2 Timothy and Titus</b>  <b>Essay 4</b>
16	Monday <b>May 11</b>  <b>Class Meeting</b>	<i>Themes</i>  <i>Application</i>  Review		
		<i>Exam</i>		<b>Final Exam on Blackboard Due May 13<sup>th</sup></b>

## Additional Course Information

1. Attendance Policy: Per the Leavell College catalog, school policies regarding absences and tardies will be strictly enforced. Any student missing more than 2 hybrid classes will automatically receive a grade of “F” for the course. Every three occasions of arriving late for class or leaving early for class will be counted as one hour of absence. The student is responsible for contacting the teacher if he or she is tardy, and the roll has been taken. The student is responsible for all material, including that which was covered during an absence.
2. Blackboard/Self-Serve: The student is responsible to check Blackboard for grades, assignments, course documents, and announcements. The student is also responsible for maintaining current information and current e-mail address on the Blackboard system and Self-Serve. As Blackboard and Self-Serve do not communicate with one another, students will need to enter updates on both platforms.
3. Writing Style Guide: Writing assignments should follow the NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style (revised August 2019). To access this manual on the seminary website, please use the following link:  
<https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>.
4. Netiquette: Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times in the online environment.
5. Academic Honesty Policy: All students, whether on-campus, Internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.
6. Plagiarism Policy: A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all Leavell College students. Copying another person’s work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and committing other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. *Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited.* Any infraction may result in failing the assignment and the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Leavell College for further action.
7. Emergency Plan: In the event the NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event or epidemic, go to the seminary’s website for pertinent information. Class will continue as

scheduled through the Blackboard site. Please note announcements and assignments on the course's Blackboard site.

8. *For Technical Assistance*: For general NOBTS technical help, go to:  
[www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/)

### Course Bibliography

Barton, John and John Muddiman, eds. *The Pauline Epistles*. The Oxford Bible Commentary. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001.

Bruce, F. F. *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1977.

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Hawthorne, Gerald F. Ralph P. Martin, and Daniel G. Reid, eds. *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993.

Malina, Bruce J. and John J. Pilch. *Social Science Commentary on the Letters of Paul*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2006.

Picirilli, Robert E. *Paul the Apostle: Missionary, Martyr, Theologian*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 1986.

Phillips, Thomas E. *Paul, His Letters, and Acts*. Library of Pauline Studies. Grand Rapids, MI: Backer Academic, 2009.

Piper, John. *The Future of Justification: A Response to N. T. Wright*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2007.

Polhill, John B. *Paul and His Letters*. Nashville, TN: B&H Publishers, 1999.

Sanders, E. P. *Paul and Palestinian Judaism: A Comparison of Patterns of Religions*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 1977.

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Schreiner, Thomas R. *Paul, Apostle of God's Glory in Christ: A Pauline Theology*. Downers

Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2001.

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Witherington, Ben. *The Paul Quest: The Renewed Search for the Jew of Tarsus*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1998.

Wright, N. T. *Justification: God's Plan and Paul's Vision*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2009.

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