

PH.D. SUPERVISED READING COLLOQUIUM
NTRC9204 NT Introduction and Pauline Studies
Dr. Gerald L. Stevens
Spring 2011

Description

The four Ph.D. supervised reading colloquiums in New Testament are comprised of structured discussions based upon assigned bibliography covering New Testament areas of backgrounds, methodology, linguistics, semantics, Johannine studies, New Testament theology, Synoptics, Jesus research, text and canon, critical introduction, and Pauline studies. Colloquiums meet once a month, or four times in the semester. Reading lists for each colloquium are available from the New Testament secretary's office. Assignments for each meeting are derived from the reading list for that particular colloquium.

Purpose

The purpose for the supervised reading colloquiums is to develop for each colloquium member in general:

- (1) an expanded understanding of the New Testament field that will augment research done in New Testament seminars
- (2) a broader preparation for New Testament teaching and research by discussing current issues in New Testament study in a dialogical format
- (3) an adequate New Testament bibliography that will support and sustain New Testament research and writing,

and, in particular, for this Methodology, Introduction, and Pauline Studies colloquium:

- (4) an understanding of the historical development and hermeneutical nature of the historical-critical method, as well as form, redaction, and rhetorical criticisms.
- (5) an appreciation for, and an understanding of, the range of interpretation regarding critical introductions to the New Testament documents
- (6) a competency for engaging current discussion and relevant issues in Pauline research and understanding how these issues impact the shape of Pauline studies

Requirements

- (1) **Bibliography:** all colloquium members will read all texts. That is, each member should be broadly familiar with the thesis, outline, content and development, and conclusions, as applicable, for each book assigned for that colloquium session.
- (2) **Assignments:** colloquium members will be assigned specific books for book reviews. Written assignments are two-fold:
 - a.) **book reviews:** each colloquium session turn in a typed, single-spaced, *one page* review of your assigned book. Format is a header with bibliographic and author data, followed by a paragraph summarizing content, a paragraph summarizing two reviews, if available, in academic journals, and a paragraph of your evaluation and statement of significance for the New Testament field. Copies of your review should be made available for all colloquium members.
 - b.) **annotated bibliography:** colloquium members will work cooperatively and corporately to provide an annotated bibliography of all books on the reading list

for the colloquium. Each annotation should include bibliographic and author data, followed by *one to two paragraphs* of no more than 300 words that synthesizes and integrates the “best of” comments and observations made in book reviews submitted to the colloquium. This work best could be done in a cumulative fashion during the semester. The colloquium will be expected to organize itself for this assignment and to share responsibilities. The annotated bibliography is due one week after the last colloquium.

- (3) **Participation:** dialogue and discussion are the essence of the colloquium. Each colloquium member will be required to participate actively and regularly in all session discussions. Participation will be monitored closely. Should the degree of participation be unsatisfactory, the colloquium member will be notified after the session by e-mail. Failure to respond with a greater degree of participation in the next session will be grounds for dismissal from the colloquium and a failing grade for the colloquium.
- (4) **Absence:** the colloquium meets only four times. Thus, no absence is excused. A missed session will require a make-up session with the professor before the next scheduled meeting. *Any assigned work is still due the date of the assigned session.* Two missed sessions is an automatic failing grade for the colloquium.

Texts

New Testament Methodology:

- (1) Edgar McKnight, *What Is Form Criticism?* Guides to Biblical Scholarship (Fortress)
- (2) Norman Perrin, *What Is Redaction Criticism?* Guides to Biblical Scholarship (Fortress)
- (3) Edgar Krentz, *The Historical-Critical Method*, Guides to Biblical Scholarship (Fortress)
- (4) C. Clifton Black and Duane F. Watson, eds., *Words Well Spoken: George Kennedy's Rhetoric of the New Testament*, Baylor University Press, ISBN: 1602580642

New Testament Introduction:

- (5) *Anchor Bible Dictionary*, 6 vols. (Doubleday, 1990)
- (6) Raymond Brown, *An Introduction to the New Testament* (Doubleday, 1997)
- (7) Helmut Koester, *New Testament Introduction*, 2 vols. (Fortress, 1982)

Pauline Studies:

- (8) Jürgen Becker, *Paul, Apostle to the Gentiles* (Westminster, 1993)
- (9) J. Christiaan Beker, *Paul the Apostle: The Triumph of God in Life and Thought* (Fortress, 1980)
- (10) E. Randolph Richards, *Paul and First-Century Letter Writing: Secretaries, Composition and Collection* (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2004)
- (11) Francis Watson, *Paul and the Hermeneutics of Faith* (London, New York: T&T Clark, 2004)
- (12) James D. G. Dunn, *The Theology of Paul the Apostle* (Eerdmans, 1998)
- (13) E. P. Sanders, *Paul and Palestinian Judaism: A Comparison of Patterns of Religion* (Fortress, 1977)

NTRC9204–SUPERVISED READING COLLOQUIUM (SPRING 2009)

SESSION 1: METHODOLOGY Jan. 21	(1) Organization of colloquium (2) Discussion of Krentz, <i>The Historical-Critical Method</i> (3) Discussion of McKnight, <i>What Is Form Criticism?</i> (4) Discussion of Perrin, <i>What Is Redaction Criticism?</i> (5) Discussion of Black and Watson, <i>Words Well Spoken</i>
SESSION 2: INTRODUCTION Feb. 18	(1) Discussion of <i>Anchor Bible Dictionary</i> (2) Discussion of Brown, <i>An Introduction to the New Testament</i> (3) Discussion of Koester, <i>New Testament Introduction</i>
SESSION 3: PAULINE STUDIES March 25	(1) Discussion of Becker, <i>Paul, Apostle to the Gentiles</i> (2) Discussion of Beker, <i>Paul the Apostle</i> (3) Discussion of Richards, <i>Paul and First-Century Letter Writing</i>
SESSION 4: PAULINE STUDIES April 15	(1) Discussion of Sanders, <i>Paul and Palestinian Judaism</i> (2) Discussion of Dunn, <i>The Theology of Paul the Apostle</i> (3) Discussion of Watson, <i>Paul and the Hermeneutics of Faith</i>