

**BSNT8302 EXEGETICAL STUDIES
IN THE NT (EPHESIANS)**
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Biblical Studies Division
Fall 2026 (October 8-17)

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MISSION STATEMENT

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary prepares servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar offers a practical study of Ephesians. The focus is development and use of a sound method of biblical interpretation as a source for responsible exegesis, with the results being applied to the demands of ministry in the contemporary setting.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will gain an understanding of the historical/theological issues in Ephesians
- Students will exegete selected passages from the English text of Ephesians
- Students will develop a broad understanding of the text of Ephesians
- Students will appreciate the value of Ephesians for teaching and preaching

TEXTS

Arnold, Clinton E., *Ephesians*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010.

Bruce, F. F. *The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, and to the Ephesians*. The New International Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984.

Extra credit reading: DeSilva, David. *A Week in the Life of Ephesus*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2020.

COURSE TEACHING METHODOLOGY

This is a course designed as part of a study trip. The class will meet periodically on the trip, and students are required to attend the nightly Ephesians study. Much of the work of this class will be done privately before and after the trip.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Each student will prepare a **critical introduction** paper for Ephesians utilizing at least four critical resources. The papers should be 3-4 pages (single-spaced) and cover

authorship, date, place of writing, audience, purpose, and any critical issues which arise in the research. The critical introduction is due at the start of the trip **Oct. 8, 2026. 20%**

2. Each student will keep a **travel log (journal)** with notes on the sites, lectures, and personal impressions. This journal or a copy is due by **Nov. 20, 2026. 10%**
3. Each student will read through Ephesians in two separate translations. Students will submit a statement regarding their reading and what translations were used by the end of the trip **Oct. 17, 2026. 10%**
4. Each student will submit a **reading log** statement regarding the Ephesian commentaries. The student will provide what percentage of the books were read and the date the reading was completed. The reading is due by **Nov. 20, 2026. 15%**
5. Each student will prepare a **background study** on one of the topics given below. The student will select a topic of their choice in consultation with the professor and will write the study. The background study should be 4-6 pages double-spaced. Students should consult at least 5-8 critical sources for the topic under consideration. The background study is due **Dec. 4, 2026. 20%**

Slavery in the First Century
The Role of Women in the First Century
Travel in the First Century

6. Each student will prepare an exegetical paper from a selected text in Ephesians. The exegesis paper should be 10-12 pages (double-spaced). The introduction should set the section in the larger historical and literary context dealing with issues of authorship, date, etc., but also setting the passage within the context of the letter. This section should be no more than 3 pages. The body of the paper should deal with the text verse-by-verse or section by section detailing the meaning of the text. This should be the largest part of the paper. The final part of the paper should be an application section which applies the text to today's audience. This section should be no more than 2 pages. The exegetical paper is due **Dec. 4, 2026. 25%**

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.

Evaluation

10% - Ephesians Reading
10% - Travel Log/Journal
15% - Commentary Reading
20% - Background Study
20% - Critical Introduction
25% - Exegetical Paper

Attendance Policy

Students must attend and participate fully in the trip to Rome in October 2026. Students must also attend the teaching time with the group during the nights of the trip.

Extra Credit Reading

The student may earn a maximum of three (3) points extra credit to be added to the final average by reading *A Week in the Life of Ephesus* by DeSilva and writing a two-page, single spaced critique of the book. The critique must be turned into the professor by November 20, 2026. By turning in a critique, the student affirms that he/she has read the entire book.

Course Schedule:

The class will meet after the Bible study on the first night to discuss other possible meeting times during the trip.

Due Dates for Assignments

Critical Introduction	10/8/26
Ephesians Reading	10/17/26
Travel Log (Journal)	11/20/26
Commentary Reading	11/20/26
Background Study	12/4/26

Technical Assistance

Here is the contact information for the ITC support team, who are to help you with your NOBTS/LC technical questions/issues/support requests:

1. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email general technical questions/support requests. If you are not sure who to contact, use this email address!
2. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu or My.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
3. Canvas@nobts.edu - Email technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Canvas Learning Management System, [Canvas.nobts.edu site.](http://Canvas.nobts.edu) / [nobts.instructure.com.](http://nobts.instructure.com)
4. VCHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email technical questions/support requests with NOBTS Microsoft Teams (Flex & Live classes)
5. 504.816.8180 - Call for any technical questions/support requests. (Currently available Mon, Tues & Thurs 7:30am-7:00pm, Wed 7:30am-6:00pm & Fri 7:30-12:00pm Central Time)
6. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Disability Accommodations

Accommodations for students with disabilities are determined and approved by the Assistant Dean of Students for Student Affairs. If you, as a student, believe you are eligible for accommodations but have not obtained approval please contact Conner Hinton immediately at chinton@nobts.edu or 504-816-8246. Students must complete the Accommodation Request Form and provide documentation of their disability. The Assistant Dean of Students notifies students and faculty members of approved academic accommodations and coordinates implementation of those accommodations. While not required, students and faculty members are encouraged to discuss details of the implementation of individual accommodations. The seminary reserves the right to consider each request for special accommodations on a case-by- case basis pursuant to the criteria enumerated above.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Arnold, Clinton. *Ephesians*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010.

Best, Earnest. *Ephesians*. ICC. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1998.

Bock, Darrell *Ephesians*. Tyndale New Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove, IL: 2019.

Bruce, F. F. *The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, and to the Ephesians*. New International Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1984.

Campbell, Constantine R. *The Letter to the Ephesians*. Pillar New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2023.

Carson, D. A., Douglas J. Moo, and Leon Morris. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing, 2005.

DeSilva, David A. *Ephesians*. New Cambridge Bible Commentary. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2022.

Drane, John. *Introducing the New Testament*. 4th ed. Oxford: Lion Hudson Limited, 2019.

Elwell, Walter and Robert Yarbrough. *Encountering the New Testament*. 4th ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2022.

Hoehner, Harold W. *Ephesians*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2002.

Hughes, R. Kent. *Ephesians: The Mystery of the Body of Christ*. Preaching the Word. Wheaton: Crossway, 1990.

Klein, William W. *Ephesians*. REBC 12. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.

Köstenberger, Andreas and Charles Quarles. *The Cradle, the Cross, and the Crown: An Introduction to the New Testament*. 2nd ed. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Academic,

2016.

Liefeld, Walter. *Ephesians*. IVP New Testament Commentary. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2010.

Lincoln, Andrew. *Ephesians*. Word Biblical Commentary. Dallas: Word, 1990.

Moo, Douglas. *A Theology of Paul and His Letters*. Biblical Theology of the New Testament. Andreas Köstenberger, ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2021.

Porter, Stanley. *The Apostle Paul: His Life, Thought, and Letters*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 2016.

Richards, E. Randolph. *Paul and First-Century Letter Writing*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2004.

Schreiner, Tom. *Paul, Apostle of God's Glory in Christ: A Pauline Theology*. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 2001.

Snodgrass, Klyne. *Ephesians*. NIVAC. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

Thielman, Frank. *Ephesians*. Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2010.