



BLUE RIDGE INSTITUTE FOR THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

NT 510: ACTS & ROMANS

Online (Zoom)
Thursdays 6:30-8:30 PM
January 28-May 6, 2021

Dr. Peter Moore
p.c.moore1@gmail.com

Brite-VA.org

Course Description

This course considers Acts' inspired account of the advance of the gospel from Jerusalem to Rome and the magisterial expression of that gospel in the Epistle to the Romans. Close attention is paid to the purpose, structure, and main themes of these books, as well as their relation to the broader theology of each author and their significance in the NT canon.

Course Objectives

By the end of the class, students should:

1. Be able to explain the purpose, structure, and major themes of each book.
2. Be able to articulate important features of the relation of Acts and Romans to the other writing(s) and theology of Luke and Paul as well as the contribution of these books to NT biblical theology.
3. Have engaged with significant interpretive and theological issues found in each book.
4. Have carefully expounded a passage in Romans in an exegetical paper.
5. Better appreciate the relevance of Acts and Romans for life and ministry and have considered how to exposit these books in preaching and teaching.

Required Texts (BRITE requires 750-1000 pages of reading for a 3-credit class)

- *Carson, D. A., and Douglas J. Moo. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2005. (Chapter 9, 37 pages)
- Gaffin, Richard B. *Perspectives on Pentecost: New Testament Teaching on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R, 1979. (Chapters 1-3, 46 pages)

- Kruger, Michael J. ed. *A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the New Testament: The Gospel Realized*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2016, pp. 137-194. (58 pages)
Note: This text will be used in the other three New Testament courses as well.
- Moo, Douglas J. *Encountering the Book of Romans: A Theological Survey*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2014. (about 196 pages)
- Thompson, Alan J. *The Acts of the Risen Lord Jesus*. NSBT 27. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2011. (180 pages)
- Vos, Geerhardus. *The Pauline Eschatology*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R, 1979. (Preface and chapters 1-2, 64 pages) This text is also available for free as an ebook published by Monergism Books, see <https://www.monergism.com/pauline-eschatology-ebook>.
- *Wright, N. T. *Justification: God's Plan & Paul's Vision*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2009. (Chapter 7; 71 pages)
- *Journal articles or other book/commentary sections on particular topics or texts. (TBD, about 100 pages)

*.pdf provided by the professor.

Assignments and Assessments

Thompson Mini-Reviews: For each week's reading assignment of Thompson, *The Acts of the Risen Lord*, students are to write a roughly one-page (single-spaced) "mini-review." Half to three-quarters of the review should be given to summary. The remainder should evaluate the reading, highlighting insights, asking clarifying questions and/or offering critique, and pointing to contemporary implications. The review may include short quotations, but should be primarily in the student's own words.

Midterm Exam: The midterm exam is a two-hour, take-home exam covering lectures and readings on Acts. It is due Tuesday, March 9, 11:59 PM.

Moo and Wright Comparison: Based on the readings, students will write a three to four page (double-spaced) paper comparing and evaluating Moo's and Wright's interpretations of Romans 1-4, focusing particularly on matters at the heart of the New Perspective debate: the righteousness of God, faith, works, and justification.

Exegetical Paper: Students will write a seven to eight page (double spaced) exegetical paper on a passage in Romans. Further instructions for the paper will be provided in a separate document. The passage selection is due by class on March 18; the paper is due Monday, May 3, 11:59 PM.

Final Exam: The final is a two-hour, take-home exam covering lectures and readings especially from the second half of the class. It is due Friday, May 7, 11:59 PM.

Participation and Attendance: Students are required to attend each class and participate in class discussions. The professor should be notified in advance if a student anticipates an unavoidable absence. Persistent absence may affect a student's course grade beyond the allotted 5% for participation.

Reading: It is strongly recommended that students complete assigned readings prior to each class as listed in the course schedule. Students should keep track of the percentage of reading they have completed and submit a report of this percentage by Friday, May 7, 11:59 PM.

Late Assignments

Late assignments will be penalized, in general 5% for each day late, subject to the professor's discretion.

Plagiarism

Please review the Institute's policy on plagiarism in the Academic Catalog. Plagiarism may result in failing the course and possible disciplinary action.

Dropping Policy

According to the decision of the Academic Committee, drops from credit to audit may not occur beyond the 5th week of the course.

Grades

5%	Class Participation and Attendance
10%	Course Reading Completed
15%	Thompson Mini-Reviews
15%	Midterm Exam
10%	Wright and Moo Comparison
20%	Exegetical Paper
25%	Final Exam

The grading scale for this course follows BRITE's grading scale as listed in the Academic Catalog.

Course Schedule

This schedule may be revised by the professor.

	Reading Due*	Assignment/ Assessment Due*	Class Topic
January 28	Acts in English Translation		Course Introduction, Introduction to Acts
February 4	Kruger, <i>BTINT</i> , Ch. 5; Thompson, <i>ARLJ</i> , Introduction and Ch. 1	Mini-Review 1	The Promised Kingdom, Already and Not Yet
February 11	Thompson, <i>ARLJ</i> , Ch. 2	Mini-Review 2	Christ's Resurrection in Acts
February 18	Thompson, <i>ARLJ</i> , Ch. 3-4 Gaffin, <i>Pers</i> , Chs. 1-3	Mini-Review 3	Pentecost and the Spirit
February 25	Thompson, <i>ARLJ</i> , Ch. 5-7	Mini-Review 4	The Growing Word and the Gentile Church
March 4	Carson and Moo, <i>INT</i> , 354-375		Acts' Presentation of Paul
Midterm Exam due Tuesday, March 9, 11:59 PM			
March 11	Romans in English Translation Kruger, <i>BTINT</i> , Ch. 6; Moo, <i>EBR</i> , Pt 1		Introduction to Romans
March 18	Vos, <i>PE</i> , Preface and Chs. 1-2.	Exeg. Paper Passage	The Gospel of the Son and the Righteousness of God
March 25	Moo, <i>EBR</i> , Pts 2-3 Wright, <i>Just</i> , pps. 177-224	Moo-Wright Comparison	Faith, Works, and Justification in Romans
No class April 1, Easter break			
April 8	Commentary/Article Selections		The Argument of Romans 2
April 15	Moo, <i>EBR</i> , Pt 4 Wright, <i>Just</i> , 224-240 (8)		New Life and the Hope of Glory, Romans 5-8
April 22	Moo, <i>EBR</i> , Pt 5		Israel and the Promises of God, Romans 9-11
April 29	Moo, <i>EBR</i> , Pts 6-7		Living as the Eschatological People of God, Romans 12-16
Exegetical Paper due Monday, May 3, 11:59 PM			
Final Exam and Reading Percentage Report due Friday, May 7, 11:59 PM			

*Unless otherwise noted, all readings and assignments are due by class time.

Academic Resources on BRITE Website

On the BRITE website (www.brite-va.org) you will find the **Academic Resources Webpage** (<https://www.brite-va.org/academic-resources/>). There you will find an ever-expanding treasure trove of resources to aid you in our studies, research, and writing during your time at BRITE. While not every class may demand the same level of research and writing rigor, you're likely to find something on that webpage each semester that will benefit you. Check back often to that webpage. The items there are curated by the BRITE faculty in order to be of assistance to you: guidelines as to how you should format your formal academic papers, examples of well-written course papers to guide your own work, Open Access (free) journal article databases to aid you in your academic writing and research, and even a growing catalogue of instructional YouTube videos which will be of assistance to you. We also have access to a variety of theological journals online via Galaxie Journals which may be of interest to you in your writing and research. Please ask the professor for information on how to log on to this e-journal portal.