Essential Information
Please refer to the following resources for information essential for the successful completion of courses and degree programs at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Links to these resources are available in the Essential Information section at http://support.nts.edu.

- NTS Mission Statement & Purpose and Master of Divinity Objectives
- Tips for online learning success
- NTS library services
- NTS textbook information
- Online technical requirements and Moodle support information
- NTS Student Handbook including statements on quality of work, plagiarism, and academic probation
- A Handbook for Inclusive Language

Instructor Information
Professor: Andy Johnson, Ph.D.  
Email: ajohnson@nts.edu
Office: (816) 268-5485
Office Hours: By appointment

Catalog Description
Translation and exegesis of Galatians. Attention will be given to syntax, style, and vocabulary.

Enlarged Description: This class will be conducted seminar style with each student expected to contribute to the learning environment in each class session. Some attention will be given to recent studies on socio-historical and theological aspects of Galatians, particularly with regard to how such matters impact the translation, and therefore, the possibilities for the meaning of the epistle.

Course Narrative & Rationale
Paul’s Epistle to the Galatians has been a consistent source of light for the Church’s path throughout its history. But often where there’s light, there’s also heat and such has been the case with Galatians, arguably Paul’s most heated letter. It originated in a context of controversy, was at the center of controversy during the Reformation, and together with Romans, continues to be at the center of controversy over the doctrine of justification today. In this class, we’ll be discussing some of the aspects of this letter that factor in to the controversy, e.g., the meaning of important phrases like pistis Christou and erga nomou, the proper background against which to hear the letter, Paul’s view of Israel. Along the way, we’ll be asking large theological questions having to do with the nature of atonement, what salvation is, and how we might conceive of the relationship between justification and sanctification. We’ll certainly be paying close attention to the Greek of Galatians as our first task. However, we won’t be able to do that without giving attention to how rhetorical, epistolary, socio-political, narrative, and theological aspects of Galatians impact its
translation, and therefore, the possibilities for the meaning of the epistle. Reading Galatians in Greek can be a bit like going on a journey—a complex, frustrating, and (hopefully) joyfully transforming journey. Every time I take that journey, I learn something new. I invite you to join me on that journey this semester.

**Degree Objectives Directly Addressed by This Course**

**MDiv**
2. The articulation of the knowledge of this God through prayerful, scholarly study and a deepening understanding of the Christian Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. (See all course outcomes)

**MA(TS)**
**General Academic Track**
1. Students will develop a comprehensive knowledge of the major theological disciplines and their interrelationships. (This course only addresses the student’s knowledge of biblical studies directly but it will also address a rudimentary knowledge of systematic theology and church history as it relates specifically to the material in Romans. See all course outcomes.)

**Research Track**
1. Students will gain specialized knowledge in designated theological disciplines as a basis for further graduate studies. (See all course outcomes.)

**MACE**
1. Appropriate and enhance the student's ecclesial understanding of the Word of God, the heritage of the faith, the doctrines of the church, and the fellowship of believers, sufficient to enable him or her to deepen a personal commitment to God and His Church and to inform a passionate, vital, and redemptive ministry. (See all course outcomes.)

**MAICS**
2. Graduates will demonstrate the integration of theological convictions and cultural sensitivity in order to foster individual and social transformation. (See all course outcomes. Since all biblical interpretation [especially translation!] is in some sense “cross cultural,” it requires familiarity with another culture to interpret/translate the Bible well.)

**Course Outcomes**
Upon successful completion of the course you will have (R = Course requirement directed toward achieving objective):

1. Demonstrated an ability to translate advanced grammatical constructions in Romans and to offer a compelling defense of your translation (R1).
2. Demonstrated an awareness of how a translator’s understanding of a variety of background issues impacts her translation (R1, R3).
3. Demonstrated an awareness of how a translator’s theology and/or current ecclesial situation impacts his translation (R1, R2, R3).
4. Demonstrated a basic understanding of the content and theology of this epistle (R1, R2, R3).

**Required Texts & Course Materials**

A Greek New Testament (either the UBS text or the Novum Testamentum).


Rahlfs, Alfred. *Septuaginta*. (We will be referring to this fairly often. An electronic copy is acceptable.)
Choose one of the following commentaries in consultation with the instructor (the sooner you contact me, the more likely you are to get your first choice):


**Additional Required Reading:** In addition to what is below there may be a small amount of additional reading assigned on an ad hoc basis. If there is, it will be made available through the NTS library or through Moodle and I will base a portion of your translation grade for the day on how well you demonstrate familiarity with it. The reading of Campbell and Wright will be due on November 19, the first day of the Justification discussion. The reading of Dunn, Hays, and Stubbs, as well as any other additional reading, will be assigned based on the particular passage we will be covering in class.

Campbell, Douglas. Select Passages from *The Deliverance of God: An Apocalyptic Rereading of Justification in Paul* (available in PDF form in Moodle).


Recommended Websites

http://www.thepaulpage.com/
One of the best overall websites on Paul, a part of the NT Gateway sites (see below).

http://www.ntgateway.com/paul-the-apostle/galatians/introduction-to-galatians/
This is the Galatians section of the NT Gateway site. NT Gateway is one of the best sites on the Web for generally reliable information on Galatians and the rest of NT studies.

http://www.torreys.org/bible/
This is another one of the best overall websites for NT studies in general.

Course Outline
See Course Calendar below.

Course Assignments & Requirements

1. Oral Translation/Discussion of Assigned Readings (Related to Objectives 1-4). You will be expected to be able to orally translate any portion of the assigned passage for each class period, including any portion of the LXX that Paul may be **rather obviously** alluding to in the letter. After preparing your translation, read the corresponding section in the commentary you have chosen and any additional reading assigned for the session. You will be expected to be familiar with your commentator’s positions on important exegetical issues and to be able to defend them or to defend alternate positions you have taken in your translation in dialogue with your commentator. You will also be expected to be familiar with the additional assigned reading and be able to articulate how it might impact the way you translate/understand the text. You may **not** bring a written translation to class. Oral translation and discussion of the assigned reading missed due to unexcused absences may not be made up. You may earn up to 800 points over the semester for your oral translations and discussion of assigned readings.

2. Justification Discussion (Related to Objectives 3 & 4). If there are six or more students in the class, I will divide the class into groups, the number of which will depend on the number of students in the class. Otherwise, the entire class will function as one discussion group. Each group will discuss the views of justification represented in Campbell, Wright, and Gorman. We will devote the entire class periods on November 19 and 26 to this discussion. The session on November 19 will be a group discussion of the views of Campbell and Wright. The session on November 26 will be a group discussion of the views of Gorman. Toward the end of the class period on November 26, your group will be given 20 minutes to orally summarize the positions of these three scholars on justification noting in particular the use they make of Galatians to shape their views. Each group member will give a part of the group’s oral summary. I will evaluate your group’s oral summary on the basis of: (1) how well it summarizes the positions of these three scholars including what your group understands to be the strengths and weaknesses of each; (2) how well your oral summary shows familiarity with their use of Galatians in constructing their positions. Your group may earn up to 100 points for this assignment.

**Note Carefully:** I will not be in class with you on November 19. I will be at a professional conference. Someone will, however, be there to monitor the discussions. In addition, each group will be responsible for recording their conversations. If it becomes apparent to me that you were not prepared and made little contribution to your group efforts, I will assign an individual grade to you that reflects the level and quality of your participation.
3. Nazarene Articles of Faith IX and X: Justification and Sanctification (http://nazarene.org/ministries/administration/visitorcenter/articles/display.html) (Related to Objectives 2, 3 & 4). If there are six or more students in the class, I will divide the class into groups, the number of which will depend on the number of students in the class. Otherwise, the entire class will function as one group. Each group will engage in an online discussion in Moodle and formulate a written response to the following question: “Given our exploration of Galatians this semester, we would rewrite articles 9 and 10 as follows.” Your written response should be no more than 1,000 words in the text itself but should include a copious number of footnotes of no more than 1,000 additional words justifying your position in the text. You will orally present your written project on December 10, the last day of class. I will evaluate your project on basis of: (1) how well it demonstrates awareness of the way Greek constructions in Galatians impact your response; (2) your ability to demonstrate familiarity with your reading and the content of class discussions during the semester; (3) how well it demonstrates a grasp of the biblical and theological implications of the position you take; (4) your use of correct English. On December 10, make sure to bring enough hard copies of this assignment to class so that everyone in the class has one. Your group may earn up to 100 points for this assignment.

Distribution of Student Learning Hours

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Face-to-face Class Sessions</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in group</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Translating</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Method for Submitting Assignments

The single written assignment for this class is to be submitted in hard copy form on the last day of class.

Form and Style Expectations

There are no style requirements for the single written assignment other than what is mentioned in the description of that assignment.

Inclusive Language

NTS is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, NTS urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussions, and in their writings. All written work presented to meet course requirements must use gender inclusive language.

Policy Regarding Attendance

Since the majority of your grade is based on in-class oral translation, it is crucial that you attend class regularly and participate in the daily discussions. Attendance will be taken daily. An absence will only be excused in accordance with the guidelines established in the NTS catalogue and 4 or more absences may result in failing the course. If you must be absent because of extenuating circumstances, contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss the situation. In general, if the absence is excused, you will have to submit a written translation of the assigned passage (or a section of it) with footnotes detailing your defense of grammatical constructions as well as giving evidence of a dialogue with your
commentary. Daily attendance records must be reported for those obtaining V.A. and Department of Education benefits. Students must make the professor aware if their attendance must be recorded.

**Course Grading**

The final grade will be computed using the following point scale. There are 1,000 possible points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800</td>
<td>Daily Oral Translations</td>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Justification Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Articles of Faith Paper</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The following point scale will determine letter grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>1,000-900</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>899-800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>799-700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>699-600</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>599-0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Documented Learning Disabilities**

In accordance with the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, NTS is committed to providing students with disabilities the opportunity to participate and benefit from its programs and activities. Accordingly NTS will make reasonable modifications to its programs and activities to accommodate otherwise qualified students with disabilities, unless such modifications would impose an undue burden on the operation of the particular program or activity or would fundamentally alter the nature or purpose of the program or activity. Students needing accommodations should contact the Office of the Registrar. They also should contact the instructor no later than the end of the first class session to discuss learning needs and adaptive strategies which have been beneficial for the student in the past.

**Course Calendar** *(The additional reading referred to above will be assigned based on what passage is to be covered for a particular week.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09/10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Translation of select passages in Galatians and read commentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/17</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Translation of select passages in Galatians and read commentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09/24</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Translation of select passages in Galatians and read commentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/01</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Translation of select passages in Galatians and read commentary</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/08</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Translation of select passages in Galatians and read commentary</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Translation of select passages in Galatians and read commentary</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/22</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Reading and Research Week: No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/05</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Translation of select passages in Galatians and read commentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Translation of select passages in Galatians and read commentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/19</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Justification Discussion: Campbell and Wright</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/26</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Justification Discussion: Gorman and Oral Summary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/03</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Translation of select passages in Galatians and read commentary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Articles of Faith Paper and Oral Presentation</td>
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</tbody>
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