**A Theology of Paul and His Letters**

**Course Syllabus THE 485 & 585**

**Appalachian School of Theology**

**Fall 2025**

1. **Class Meeting Place, Dates and Time**Meeting Place: First Baptist Church Family Life Center, 11606 Nickelsville Hwy, Nickelsville, VA 24271. While the instructional site will be at our Nickelsville location the class is also offered as a hybrid class online utilizing Zoom technology as students will receive a weekly link to join classes online.

Dates: Each Monday Night beginning August 25th, 2025, and ending December 8th, 2025.

Time: 6:30 – 8:30 PM
2. **Course Instructor:**Tammy Lane, Cell phone: 276-690-4465, Email: academicdean@astva.org
3. **Course Description**This course is designed to acquaint and encourage participants to obtain a deep, if not deeper, understanding of the Apostle Paul’s theology and his thirteen letters within the New Testament. Attention is given to the religious history of the period as well as the life and theology behind the letters of the Apostle Paul.
4. **Learner-Center Outcomes/Course Objectives**
This course is designed to provide participants with a deeper understanding of the theology given to the Apostle Paul directly from the Lord Jesus Christ himself. As a result of enrollment and participation each class member should:

1. gain a deeper understanding of the theological contribution of each Pauline letter
2. recognize the focus of Pauline theology and understand how his various letters

 contribute to our understanding of living as a community of believers in today’s world.
3. appreciate the essential unity of how Paul’s teaching on key issues combines in an

 overall unity of believers.
4. recognize how Pauline theology interfaces overall with the New Testament and with

 biblical theology.
5. encourage personal reflection on Paul’s teaching and how it applies to each of us

 individually in our personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

1. **Required Texts and Materials**

In addition to your Bible, you will need one textbook which is as follows: Douglas J. Moo, *A Theology of Paul and His Letters*, Zondervan Academic, 2021, ISBN 9780310270904
2. **Learning Activities and Evaluation for Students Enrolled in Our Associates and bachelor’s Programs**

1. Attendance – 20% of final grade

 a. Students are expected to attend all class sessions.

 b. If for any reason it is not possible to attend a class, it is common courtesy to inform the instructor beforehand, or in case of an unavoidable emergency, at the earliest opportunity.

 c. The policy of the Appalachian School of Theology is: *Any student who misses four or more class sessions will automatically be assigned a final grade of “F” for the course.*

2. Reading & Participation – 20% of final grade

 a. There will be regular reading assignments from the textbook, the Bible, and other sources in preparation for the class.
b. Class participants are expected to do all the assigned readings prior to each session and come to class prepared to critically discuss the main themes covered in their reading assignments.

3. Mid-term Exam – 30% of final grade

 a. All students will be expected to complete and submit the mid-term exam by or

 before the indicated due date. Students who submit their exams after the due date

 will have their grade for their exam adjusted based on the tardiness of their

 submission.

4. Research Paper – 30% of final grade

 a. Students enrolled in our associates and bachelor’s programs will prepare one academic research paper focusing on the book *A Theology of Paul and His Letters.* This paper should be a minimum of 4 to 6 double spaced pages in length and reflect your understanding of Paul’s theology as presented in his epistles. You will **write a letter** addressed to a church, identifying and responding to at least two major challenges the 21st-century church encounters in proclaiming the gospel in today’s society.

1. **Learning Activities and Evaluation for Students Enrolled in the Master’s and Doctorate Programs**

1. Attendance – 20% of final grade

a. Students are expected to attend all class sessions.

 b. If for any reason it is not possible to attend a class, it is common courtesy to inform

 the instructor beforehand, or in case of an unavoidable emergency, at the earliest

 opportunity.

 c. The policy of the Appalachian School of Theology is: *Any student who misses four*

 *or more class sessions will automatically be assigned a final grade of “F” for the*

 *course.*

 2. Reading & Participation – 20% of final grade

 a. There will be regular reading assignments from the textbook, the Bible, and other

 sources in preparation for the class.

 b. Class participants are expected to do all the assigned readings prior to each session

 and come to class prepared to critically discuss the main themes covered in their

 reading assignments.

 3. Mid-term Exam – 30% of final grade

 a. All students will be expected to complete and submit the mid-term exam by or

 before the indicated due date. Students who submit their exams after the due date

 will have their grade for their exam adjusted based on the tardiness of their

 submission.

 4. Research Paper – 30% of final grade

 a. Students enrolled in our master’s and doctorate programs will prepare one academic

 research paper focusing on the book *A Theology of Paul and His Letters.* This paper

 should be a minimum of 6 to 8 double spaced pages in length and reflect your

 understanding of Paul’s theology as presented in his epistles. You will **write a letter**

 addressed to a church, identifying and responding to at least two major challenges

 the 21st-century church encounters in proclaiming the gospel in our contemporary

 setting.

1. **Plagiarism**1. Students are expected to write their own work. While students are encouraged to study

and talk with fellow students and the instructor, each student must write their own

 assignments.
2. If you borrow more than 3 or 4 words in a row from another source, it should be

 properly referenced using quotation marks and full bibliographical information

 including page numbers. When you borrow ideas, but not actual words, you may cite

 the source at your discretion to help the reader follow up on your writing.

1. **Writing Guidelines**

*Book Reviews and Research Papers* should be typed, double spaced in Times New Roman 12-point font. Final papers should be submitted electronically via email as a Word document or Google docs attachment (preferably Word document). Margins are to be one inch. You must use page numbers. You do not need a front/title page (title pages and citation pages will not count towards the total number of pages required for an assignment). Simply put your name, course number and assignment (such as “mid-term exam” or “Research Paper) at the top of your paper on thefirst page. Sources are always to be cited by students using a standard citation style (e.g. Chicago, Turabian, APA, MLA, etc.). Whatever citation style you choose, be consistent. Use quotation marks when quoting a source verbatim, whether ancient or modern. Avoid long citations of ancient texts or modern scholars. Do not make assertions that you cannot support without direct evidence. Aim for a polished writing style (idiomatic, yet semi-formal); avoid contractions, slang or informal expressions, run-on sentences, switching between past and present tenses in the same sentence, passive voice, common verbs (try to use more descriptive, precise verbs), and the pronouns “you,” “we,” and “us.” Write clearly and concisely. Avoid unnecessarily long, complex sentences with numerous subordinate clauses. Clear written expressions are one goal of this course. Please remember to proofread and use your computer’s grammar and spellcheck!

1. **Teaching Methodology**This course is designed to be an interactive learning experience. As such we will employ lecture, interactive discussion, and intense Bible study. The facilitator will provide a copy of his/her teaching outline to each participant; however, students are expected to prepare for each session by completing their reading and written assignments in order that they may actively and positively enhance our learning environment by their intense participation.
2. **Grading Scale**
A+ 98-100 (4.3) The student has demonstrated above average mastery of the

material and its application

A 95-97 (4.0)
A- 93-94 (3.7)
B+ 90-92 (3.3) The student has demonstrated average mastery of the
B 87-91 (3.0) material and its application
B- 85-86 (2.7)
C+ 82-84 (2.3) The student has demonstrated the required mastery of the
C 79-81 (2.0) material and its application
C- 77-78 (1.7)
D+ 74-76 (1.3) The student has demonstrated below average mastery of the
D 71-73 (1.0) material and its application
D- 69-70 (0.7)
F 68 – below (0.0) The student has failed to master the material
P Passing WP Withdrew Passing
I Incomplete WF Withdrew Failing

1. **Library Support**1. Our students are able to use resources of the Regional Library at First Baptist Church

in Nickelsville, but without borrowing privileges.
2. Virginia residents and UVA/Virginia Tech graduates can use and borrow books from

 the University of Virginia and Virginia Tech libraries by using a Virginia driver’s

 license.
3. Access to free, full text journals is available at <http://www.doaj.org>.

1. **Expectations of Students**1. Regular attendance in class is required of all students. Any student who is absent in

 more than 25% of his/her class sessions cannot expect to pass the course. The faculty

 is responsible for enforcing this policy.
2. Students are expected to be on time for class and ready to study and engage in

 interactive discussion.

1. **Late & Make-up Assignments**Unless other arrangements are made with the facilitator and faculty all assignments are due as listed.
2. **Use of Technological Devices**Students may use laptops, tablets, smart phones, & mini recorders for class.
3. **Class Schedule**

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| Date | Readings | Topics |
| 8/25/2025Week #1 | Textbook pgs. 3-53 | Approaching Paul’s TheologyThe Shape of Paul’s ThoughtsPaul, Missionary Theologian |
| 9/01/2025Week #2 | Labor Day – No Class | Labor Day - No Class |
| 9/08/2025Week #3 | Textbook pgs. 54-87 | Galatians |
| 9/15/2025Week #4 | Textbook pgs. 88-110 | 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians |
| 9/22/2025Week #5 | Textbook pgs. 111-158 | 1 Corinthians |
| 9/29/2025Week #6 | Textbook pgs. 159-191 | 2 Corinthians |
| 10/6/2025Week #7 | Textbook pgs. 192-243 | Romans |
| 10/13/2025Week #8 | Reading Days – No Class | Reading Days - No class |
| 10/20/2025Week #9 | Textbook pgs. 244-265 | Colossians, PhilemonMid-term Exam due |
| 10/27/2025Week #10 | Textbook pgs. 266-295 | Ephesians |
| 11/03/2025Week #11 | Textbook pgs. 296-315 | Philippians |
| 11/10/2025Week #12 | Textbook pgs. 316-339 | 1 Timothy, Titus |
| 11/17/2025Week #13 | Textbook pgs. 340-348 | 2 Timothy |
| 11/24/2025Week #14 | Textbook pgs. 349-458 | Final Research Paper DueStudents will share research papers in class |
| 12/01/2025Week #15 | Textbook pgs. 459-567 | Students will share research papers in class |
| 12/08/2025Week #16 | Textbook pgs. 568-647 | The People of the New RealmLiving in the New Realm |