

Important: **ALL TIMES EASTERN** - Please see the [University Policies](#) section of your Syllabus for details

Week	Module	Activities and Assignments	Available/End/Due Dates	Weight (%)
Week 1	Module 01 : Sources for the Study of Paul	Introduce Yourself	Due Monday, September 13, 2021 at 11:55 PM	Ungraded
		Discussion Posting #1 (Initial Post)	Due Monday, September 13, 2021 at 11:55 PM	3.5%
		Discussion Posting #1 (Response Post)	Due Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 11:55 PM	1.5%
		Virtual Check-in: Meeting Each Other	Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 10:00 AM	1% (Bonus)
Week 2	Module 02 : Greco-Roman and Jewish World	No Activities or assignments due		
Week 3	Module 03 : Paul's Life as Seen in His Letters and in Acts	Quiz #1 (Modules 01-02)	Available Friday, October 1, 2021 at 8:00 AM Ends Sunday, October 3, 2021 at 11:55 PM	5% (Best 4 of 5 quizzes total 20%)
Week 4	Module 04 : Paul the Letter Writer: 1 Thessalonians & Philemon	Virtual Check-in: Focus, Thesis Statement	Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 10:00 AM	1% Bonus
		Discussion Posting #2 (Initial Post)	Due Monday, October 4, 2021 at 11:55 PM	3.5%
		Discussion Posting #2 (Response Post)	Due Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 11:55 PM	1.5%
Reading Week (Saturday, October 9, 2021 to Sunday, October 17, 2021)				
Week 5	Module 05 : Galatians: Faith vs. Law?	Book Study Assignment (Part 1: Thesis Statement/Outline)	Due Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 11:55 PM	5%
			Available Friday, October	5%

	Quiz #2 (Modules 03-04)				
	Discussion Posting #3 (Initial Post)				
Week 6	Module 06 : 1 Corinthians: Problems in the Life of a New Congregation	Discussion Posting #3 (Response Post)			
Week 7	Module 07 : 2 Corinthians: Paul in Trouble with His Own Movement?	Critical Analysis Workshop for RS 236 			
	Discussion Posting #4 (Initial Post)				
	Discussion Posting #4 (Response Post)				
Week 8	Module 08 : Philippians: Christ and Wisdom — A Study of an Early Hymn	Virtual Check-in (Focus: Part 2 - Book Study)			
	Quiz #3 (Modules 05-07)				
Week 9	Module 09 : Romans: A Manifesto of God's Peace and Justice	Book Study Assignment (Part 2: Final Essay)			
Week 10	Module 10 : Paul After Paul? Pseudepigraphy: 2 Thessalonians and Colossians	Quiz #4 (Modules 08-09)			
	Final Assignment : Letter of "Paul" (Available in the dropbox)				
	Discussion Posting #5				

Ends Sunday, October 24,
2021 at 11:55 PM (Best 4 of 5
quizzes total
20%)

Due Monday, October 25,
2021 at 11:55 PM **3.5%**

Due Thursday, October 28,
2021 at 11:55 PM **1.5%**

Available anytime to help
with writing a critical Book Study Not Graded

Due Monday, November 8,
2021 at 11:55 PM **3.5%**

Due Thursday, November
11, 2021 at 11:55 PM **1.5%**

Thursday, November 11,
2021 at 10:00 AM **1% (Bonus)**

Available Friday,
November 12, 2021 at 8:00
AM **5%**
(Best 4 of 5
quizzes total
20%)

Ends Sunday, November
14, 2021 at 11:55 PM

Due Sunday, November 21,
2021 at 11:55 PM **15%**

Available Friday,
November 26, 2021 at 8:00
AM **5%** (Best 4 of
5 quizzes total
20%)

Ends Sunday, November
28, 2021 at 11:55 PM

Available Sunday,
November 28, 2021 at 12:00
AM

Due Monday, November 29,

	(Initial Post)	2021 at 11:55 PM	3.5%
Week 11	Module 11 : Ephesians: "Gathering Up All Things in Christ"	Discussion Posting #5 (Response Post)	Due Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 11:55 PM 1.5%
	Virtual Check-in: Focus - Final Assignment	Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 10:00 AM	1% (Bonus)
Week 12	Module 12 : Introduction to Pastoral Letters and Concluding Assessment of Paul	Quiz #5 (Modules 10-12)	Available Friday, December 10, 2021 at 8:00 AM Best 4 of 5 quizzes total Ends Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 11:55 PM 20%
	Book Study Assignment (Bonus Option opportunity)	Due Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 11:55 PM	4% (Bonus)
Week 13		Discussion Posting #6 (Initial Post)	Due Sunday, December 12, 2021 at 11:55 PM 3.5%
		Discussion Posting #6 (Response Post)	Due Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 11:55 PM 1.5%
Week 14		Final Assignment : Letter of "Paul"	Due Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 11:55 PM 30%

There is no final examination for this course

Contact Information

Announcements

Your instructor uses the **Announcements** widget on the **Course Home** page during the term to communicate new or changing information regarding due dates, instructor absence, etc., as needed.

You are expected to read the announcements on a regular basis.

To ensure you are viewing the complete list of announcements, you may need to click **Show All Announcements**.

Discussions

A [General Discussion](#) topic* has also been made available to allow students to communicate with peers in the course. Your instructor may drop in at this discussion topic.

Contact Us

Who and Why

Contact Details

Instructor and TA

- Course-related questions (e.g., course content, deadlines, assignments, etc.)
- Questions of a personal nature

Post your course-related questions to the [Ask the Instructor](#) discussion topic*. This allows other students to benefit from your question as well.

Questions of a personal nature can be directed to your instructor.

Instructor: Amanda Witmer
a3witmer@uwaterloo.ca

Your instructor checks email and the [Ask the Instructor](#) discussion topic* frequently and will make every effort to reply to your questions within 24–48 hours, Monday to Friday.

learnhelp@uwaterloo.ca

Technical Support, Centre for Extended Learning

- Technical problems with Waterloo LEARN

Include your full name, WatIAM user ID, student number, and course name and number.

Technical support is available during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM (Eastern Time).

[IST Knowledge Base: For Students](#)

[Student Resources](#) 

extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca 

Learner Support Services, Centre for Extended Learning

- General inquiries
- Examination information

Include your full name, WatIAM user ID, student number, and course name and number.

*Discussions can be accessed by clicking **Connect** and then **Discussions** on the course navigation bar above.

Course Description and Learning Outcomes

Course Description

There are several major components of the course. First, the course will deal with some background material on the formation of biblical documents. This will help you, whether or not you have had an introductory course in New Testament in the past, to get on board with the assumptions behind many of the questions raised and conclusions drawn in the course of study. Second, we will then deal with the nature of the sources for Paul's life and thought, and, third, glean from those sources what information we can about Paul and his life. The fourth component is really a number of in-depth studies of the letters that bear his name. That will make up the bulk of the course. In the process you will learn to see them as real correspondence from the very first decades of what became Christianity, reflecting the dynamics of life in the ancient Greco-Roman Mediterranean world. Paul's ideas will be discussed within the context of his letters, rather than as a systematic body of thought or theology. It will become quite apparent why that is important. At the conclusion of the course, I will briefly address two of the most popularly contentious issues in relation to Paul, namely, his views on homosexuality and the status of women. In particular, the issue of the status and role of women will give you an excellent opportunity to test your learnings, to try out your skills as biblical scholars and interpreters.

Learning Outcomes

The learning outcomes of this course are as follows:

- The first and most important objective of this course is, obviously, to learn about the important figure of antiquity who continues to have an enormous impact on our present time—Paul the Apostle.
- The second objective is to learn to read and analyze the relevant New Testament documents as historical sources of information both on Paul's life and his thought.
- The third objective is to pay particular attention to what it meant for Paul as a Jew to have a mission to non-Jews, and what effect that had on his thought, his hopes, and also his troubled relationship with fellow Jews.
- The fourth objective is to keep in mind throughout what it meant for Paul to work, preach, teach, and form communities within the context of Roman imperial reality.
- The fifth objective is a bit fuzzy, since it is one you yourself will shape in a wide variety of ways, given that you as students have very different kinds of religious investment (or perhaps none at all) in this subject matter. I very much hope that this study will nudge you to "go deep" in wrestling with the implications of Paul's thought—whatever that might mean for you personally.

This online course was developed by Thomas R. Yoder Neufeld and revised by Amanda Witmer, with instructional design and multimedia development support provided by the Centre for Extended

About the Course Instructor and Author

Course Instructor — Amanda Witmer

My name is Amanda Witmer and I will be your course instructor, marker, and contact person for this course. I am a historian of religion, with a focus on the first century and the historical Jesus. My background in this area includes a Master of Theological Studies degree from Conrad Grebel University College, an MA in Religion and Culture from Wilfrid Laurier University and a PhD from McMaster University in Early Christianity and Judaism. My specific area of interest is the historical Jesus and my dissertation was on the topic of situating Jesus' exorcisms and his role as exorcist within the larger first-century socio-political context. I am also very interested in the social history of the first century. My book, *Jesus, the Galilean Exorcist: His Exorcisms in Social and Political Context*, was published in 2012 by T & T Clark. I look forward to meeting you all online and to our interactions.



I wish you all well in the course and feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions you might have. As I don't have an office on campus, I have no telephone access, so we will be communicating primarily via email.

Course Author — Thomas R. Yoder Neufeld

Please note that the course author has retired and is not involved in the ongoing delivery and administration of this course. Communication regarding course content should be addressed to the instructor.

Tom Yoder Neufeld taught at Conrad Grebel College at the University of Waterloo since 1983. He was a member of the Religious Studies Department of the University of Waterloo, and also served as chair of the department. Conrad Grebel College is one of four church-related colleges on the campus of the university. CGC is a Mennonite college, and presently furnishes the Religious Studies Department with two professors. Mennonites originated in Europe during the Reformation period of the Sixteenth Century. The Bible, and particularly the teachings of Jesus, have always held a position of high respect in the Mennonite community.



His education began in Europe. He graduated with an Honours BA in History at the University of Manitoba in 1970, and then with a Master of Divinity degree from Harvard University Divinity School in 1973, from which he also received a Doctor of Theology degree in New Testament and Christian Origins in 1989. His dissertation, *Put on the Armour of God! The Divine Warrior from Isaiah to Ephesians*, was published in 1997 by Sheffield Academic Press. In 2002 he published a commentary

on the Letter to the Ephesians (*Ephesians*; Believers Church Bible Commentary; Scottdale, PA/Waterloo, ON: Herald Press).

Materials and Resources

Textbooks

1. *The New Testament*


There are many Bible translations. Many students will already be in possession of a Bible. They all translate the same original Hebrew and Greek (Greek for the New Testament). You may use any of the following (listed alphabetically, not in order of priority or quality of translation):

- *Good News Bible* (GNB, also known as *Today's English Version* [TEV])
- *Net Bible* (available free online or in printed format)
- *New American Bible* (NAB)
- *New American Standard Bible* (NASB) or the older *American Standard Version* (ASV)
- *New International Version* (NIV), or the recent *Today's New International Version* (TNIV)
- *New Jerusalem Bible* (NJB) or the older *Jerusalem Bible* (JB)
- *New King James Version* (NKJV) or the venerable *Authorized or King James Version* (AV or KJV)
- *New Revised Standard Version* (NRSV) or the older *Revised Standard Version* (RSV); see also the recent revision of the RSV called the *English Standard Version* (ESV)
- *Revised English Bible* (REB) or the older *New English Bible* (NEB)



Note #1: Paraphrases such as *The Living Bible* (and *New Living Bible*) or *The Message* are not suitable for this course.

Note #2: Students who are very familiar with the Bible and are used to reading it always in a particular translation may wish to choose a different one in order to catch a fresh glimpse of a particular passage (see next note for info on access to alternative translations on the web).

For textbook ordering information, please contact the [W Store | Course Materials + Supplies](#) 

For your convenience, you can compile a list of required and optional course materials through [BookLook](#)  using your Quest userID and password. If you are having difficulties ordering online and wish to call the Waterloo Bookstore, their phone number is +1 519-888-4673 or toll-free at +1 866-330-7933. Please be aware that textbook orders **CANNOT** be taken over the phone.

Additional Online Resources

The Internet allows easy access to various translations of the New Testament. One portal is the [New Testament Gateway](#).  Check there under Bible Translations and many other valuable resources. For numerous versions of the Bible available online see [Online Translations of the Bible](#).  Check also at

The following Study Bibles of the NRSV are all recommended and available from online bookstores (check with UWaterloo bookstore on which ones it carries):

- *The HarperCollins Study Bible: Fully Revised & Updated* (New Revised Standard Version), HarperCollins, 2006.
- *The New Interpreter's Study Bible: New Revised Standard Version With the Apocrypha*, Abingdon, 2003.
- *The New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha (New Revised Standard Version)*, Augmented Third Edition, Oxford University Press, 2007.

Resources

- Library services for [Co-op students on work term and Extended Learning students](#) 


Grade Breakdown

The following table represents the grade breakdown of this course.

Activities and Assignments	Weight (%)
Introduce Yourself	Ungraded
Discussion Postings (6 x 5% each)	30%
Quizzes (Best 4 of 5 at 5% each)	20%
Book Study Assignment	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part 1: Thesis Statement/Outline (5%)• Part 2: Final Essay (15%)• Bonus Option (maximum of 4% bonus mark)	20%
Final Assignment: Letter of "Paul"	30%
Virtual Check-in Attendance Bonus	4%

There is no final examination for this course.

Official Grades and Course Access

Official Grades and Academic Standings are available through [Quest](#) 

Course Policies

Turnitin®

Refer to the [University Policies](#) page for information regarding Turnitin®.

Late Written Assignments

There are sometimes exceptional circumstances in which students are unable to get their written assignments in by the due date (illness, emergencies, etc.). If you anticipate a problem, please contact the instructor as soon as possible. If no arrangements have been made, a late penalty of 5% per day will normally be applied up to a maximum of 15%. The late penalty for papers submitted more than 10 days late, and for which no extension or arrangements have been made, will be determined by the instructor, but will be no less than 20%. No assignments will be accepted after two weeks late except with prior permission from the instructor.

Late Discussion Postings

Both the initial post and the follow up post must be posted by one week from the due date to receive partial credit. Partial credit will be given for late postings up to one week past the due date. Late postings will receive a 50% deduction (3.5% becomes 1.75%, and 1.5% becomes 0.75%). This does not include any deductions for quality.

Plagiarism


The very nature of the assignments makes plagiarism less of a temptation than it otherwise might be. As you know, there is hardly a more serious academic sin. University of Waterloo's policy is clear. Plagiarism is

The act of presenting the ideas or words of another as one's own. The use of other people's ideas or words must be properly acknowledged and referenced. This applies to all written materials such as essays, laboratory reports, work term reports, design projects, statistical data, computer programs and research results. The properly acknowledged use of sources is an accepted and important part of scholarship. Use of such material without acknowledgement, however, is contrary to accepted norms of academic behaviour.

If plagiarism is discovered it will lead to a failing grade in the course and possible further disciplinary action by the university. I am obligated to make this clear to you, and to report infractions to the Associate Dean of Arts, Undergraduate Affairs.

University Policies


Submission Times

Please be aware that the University of Waterloo is located in the **Eastern Time Zone** (GMT or UTC-5 during standard time and UTC-4 during daylight saving time) and, as such, the time that your activities and/or assignments are due is based on this zone. If you are outside the Eastern Time Zone and require assistance with converting your time, please try the [Ontario, Canada Time Converter](#) .


Accommodation Due to Illness

If your instructor has provided specific procedures for you to follow if you miss assignment due dates, term tests, or a final examination, adhere to those instructions. Otherwise:

Missed Assignments/Tests/Quizzes

Contact the instructor as soon as you realize there will be a problem, and preferably within 48 hours, but no more than 72 hours, have a medical practitioner complete a [Verification of Illness Form](#) .

Email a scanned copy of the Verification of Illness Form to your instructor. In your email to the instructor, provide your name, student ID number, and exactly what course activity you missed.



Further information regarding Management of Requests for Accommodation Due to Illness can be found on the [Accommodation due to illness](#)  page.

Missed Final Examinations

Your faculty determines academic accommodation; therefore we advise you to speak with your professor if you anticipate being unable to fulfill academic requirements due to illness or other extenuating circumstances.

Further information about Examination [Accommodations](#)  is available in the Undergraduate Calendar.

Academic Integrity

In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. **If you have not already completed the online tutorial regarding academic integrity you should do so as soon as possible.** Undergraduate students should see the [Academic Integrity Tutorial](#)  and graduate students should see the [Graduate Students and Academic Integrity](#)  website.

Proper citations are part of academic integrity. Citations in CEL course materials usually follow CEL style, which is based on APA style. Your course may follow a different style. If you are uncertain which

For further information on academic integrity, please visit the [Office of Academic Integrity](#).

Turnitin

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin® in this course.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit the alternate assignment.

[Turnitin® at Waterloo](#)

Discipline

A student is expected to know what constitutes [academic integrity](#) to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration, should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#). For typical penalties, check [Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties](#).

Appeals

A decision made or penalty imposed under [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#) (other than a petition) or [Policy 71 - Student Discipline](#), may be appealed if there is a ground. A student who believes he/she has a ground for an appeal should refer to [Policy 72 - Student Appeals](#).

Grievance

A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read [Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances](#), Section 4. When in doubt please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Final Grades

In accordance with [Policy 46 - Information Management](#), Appendix A - Access to and Release of

Student information, the Centre for Extended Learning does not release final examination grades or final course grades to students. Students must go to [Quest](#) to see all final grades. Any grades posted in Waterloo LEARN are unofficial.

AccessAbility Services

[AccessAbility Services](#), located in Needles Hall, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodation to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term and for each course.

Accessibility Statement

The Centre for Extended Learning strives to meet the needs of all our online learners. Our ongoing efforts to become aligned with the [Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act \(AODA\)](#) are guided by University of Waterloo accessibility [Legislation](#) and policy and the [World Wide Web Consortium's \(W3C\) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 2.0](#). The majority of our online courses are currently delivered via the Desire2Learn Learning Environment. Learn more about [Desire2Learn's Accessibility Standards Compliance](#).

Use of Computing and Network Resources

Please see the [Guidelines on Use of Waterloo Computing and Network Resources](#).

Copyright Information

UWaterloo's Web Pages

All rights, including copyright, images, slides, audio, and video components, of the content of this course are owned by the course author and the University of Waterloo, unless otherwise stated. By accessing this course, you agree that you may only download the content for your own personal, non-commercial use. You are not permitted to copy, broadcast, download, store (in any medium), transmit, show or play in public, adapt, or change in any way the content of these web pages for any other purpose whatsoever without the prior written permission of the course author and the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning.

Other Sources

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web. These resources must be used in accordance with any registration requirements or conditions which may be specified. You must be aware that in providing such hypertext links, the University of Waterloo has not authorized any acts (including reproduction or distribution) which, if undertaken without permission of copyright owners or their assignees, may be infringement of copyright. Permission for such acts can only be granted by copyright owners or their assignees.

If there are any questions about this notice, please contact the University of Waterloo, Centre for Extended Learning, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1 or extendedlearning@uwaterloo.ca.