

**BS733 Romans: Paul's Gospel Then & Now**

<b>Instructor</b>	Dr. Michael J. Gorman
<b>Schedule</b>	Monday 6:00-8:30
<b>Description</b>	A careful historical/social, literary/rhetorical, and especially theological analysis of Paul's letter to the Romans, with attention to (1) the significance of Paul's theology in Romans for contemporary Christian life and theology and (2) how the letter is interpreted in various contexts.
<b>Requirements</b>	Reading: M.A. and Certificate students will be required to read no more than 900 pages. This will include reading and study of two commentaries (one common to all students, plus one extra), one collection of essays and sermons, and any class handouts or articles posted on Canvas. CAS and STL students will have additional reading in the commentary by Beverly Gaventa.
	<p>Writing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One exegetical overview as a discussion starter. This will focus on the assigned text for the day, or a portion of it indicated by the instructor. This overview should be one page single-spaced, briefly addressing (a) the context of the passage, (b) the structure of the passage, (c) two or three of the interpretive challenges of the passage, and (d) two or three of the most significant theological claims in the passage. The paper will be presented to the class. This assignment will be due 24 hours before it is presented so it can be distributed to all the class members.</li> <li>One major paper (4,000 words). This paper may take one of two basic forms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A paper on an exegetical, social/historical, thematic, or theological/hermeneutical topic in Romans. Topics must be approved by the instructor in advance. Note: exegetical papers may be on an entire passage (e.g., 5:1-11) or on a small but significant text (e.g., 8:3-4).</li> <li>A paper reviewing one or two (depending on length) books or commentaries on Romans not used in this course but approved by the instructor. Books with a special focus are especially encouraged (e.g., Paul and ecology, Paul and the resurrection, Paul and justice).</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
	<p>Other Assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Careful study of the text of Romans, including "manuscript analysis" of a specific translation (or the Greek text, for students who know Greek). This involves marking up of, and notes on, each passage to create an exegetical notebook. Marked-up texts should be brought to class well marked-up as the basis for discussion.</li> <li>A brief class presentation on the major paper.</li> </ol>

**Required Texts:**

Author and Title (Press, Year, Edition)	Cost (per Amazon as of June 12)	Pages to be read
<b>Common texts for all:</b>		
1. Gorman, Michael J. <i>Romans: A Theological and Pastoral Commentary</i> (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2022) 978-0802877628)	\$22.86 \$21.72 Kindle	300
2. Bowens, Lisa M., Scot McKnight, and Joseph B Modica, eds. <i>Preaching Romans from Here: Diverse Voices Engage Paul's Most Famous Letter</i> (Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2023; 978-1725258181)	\$25.00 \$9.99 Kindle	175
<b>One of the following additional commentaries:</b>		
1. Matera, Frank J. <i>Romans</i> . Paideia Commentaries on the New Testament. (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2010. 978-0-8010-3189-2.) Attentive to social/historical and literary/rhetorical dimensions of the text, but with primary interest in its theology, from a prominent Catholic biblical scholar.	\$21.76 \$20.67 Kindle	400
2. Keener, Craig S. <i>Romans</i> . New Covenant Commentary Series. (Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2009. 978-1-60608-156-3.) Theologically interested and interesting, but with primary emphasis on the social/historical and literary/rhetorical dimensions of the text, from a prominent evangelical Protestant/Pentecostal biblical scholar.	\$26.13 \$9.99 Kindle	300
3. Hahn, Scott. <i>Romans</i> . Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture. (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2017. 978-0-8010-36781.) Theological and pastoral focus from a Catholic biblical scholar's perspective (a convert), with references to Catholic tradition and documents.	\$15.39 \$14.62 Kindle	338
4. Jewett, Robert. <i>Romans: A Short Commentary</i> . (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 2013. 978-0800699383.) The condensation of a massive commentary by this late Protestant/United Methodist scholar that pays close attention to the social and political dynamics of the letter.	\$35.10	248
5. Lancaster, Sarah Heaner. <i>Romans</i> . Belief: A Theological Commentary on the Bible. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2015. 978-0664232610.) Theological in focus, by a theologian, with attention to the history of interpretation, from a Protestant/Methodist perspective.	\$27.99 \$17.60 Kindle	272
6. Gaventa, Beverly. <i>Romans</i> . New Testament Library. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2024. 978-0664221003.) Theological focus from within the apocalyptic school of Pauline interpretation. (590 pages). <b>NOTE: CAS and STL students must choose this volume as their second commentary.</b>	\$70 (may be half price with pre-order from Westminster John Knox) \$100 Kindle	590