



CANADIAN BAPTIST SEMINARY  
MB SEMINARY  
NORTHWEST BAPTIST SEMINARY  
TRINITY WESTERN SEMINARY



## ASSOCIATED CANADIAN THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS OF TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY

**Graduate Course Syllabus**

**Course Number: BNT 601**

**Course Name: NT Exegesis I**

**Semester and Year: Summer 2020**

**Instructor:** David J. Sigrist

**Contact Information:** david.sigrist@twu.ca

**Office Hours:** Fridays 10am-2pm PST virtually via BlueJeans and upon request

**Co-requisites or Pre-requisites:** BNT 502 (BNT 605 highly recommended)

**Semester Hours:** online

### **Course Description**

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The student will develop exegetical method and skill in use of the Greek language. The course includes the study of syntax, an introduction to textual criticism, exposure to exegetical tools, and vocabulary building.

This innovative course employs *digital media* and *Communicative Language Teaching* methods that have been shown to be highly effective with those experiencing difficulty learning languages through traditional methods of rote memorization and grammar-translation. Thus, students will use a provided web-based environment found at ([www.projectimmersio.com](http://www.projectimmersio.com)) to acquire proficiency by means of meaningful language *use*, that is listening, speaking, reading, and writing Greek through exercises of reception, production, and interaction in order to acquire an *active* fluency.

This will serve to foster a lasting *reading fluency* of biblical discourse and genres that corresponds to a B2 Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) level of language competence, and develop *exegetical skills* for further academic, professional, or personal study of the biblical text.

## Course Learning Outcomes

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- **Follow extended speech** and some complex lines of thought about reasonably familiar topics, even when spoken at a native speaker's rate of speed; and understand **most spoken messages and conversations in standard speech**, and even in **non-standard speech** usually understand the **main points** in conversations or messages about reasonably familiar topics
- **Somewhat understand** and be impacted by **spoken poetic speech**, especially regarding familiar topics
- **Understand most prose and documentary texts** about reasonably familiar topics and genres, and the **particular authorial attitudes and viewpoints**
- **Identify key information** and **basic authorial viewpoints in poetic texts** about familiar topics, and identify the **main points** of unfamiliar related texts
- Almost always **identify the potential ambiguities** due to variant punctuation, spacing, or readings with a knowledge of the fundamental principles behind literary and textual criticism
- Use **some nuanced language** to talk about a wide range of subjects about familiar, and regarding these topics **expound different viewpoints or attitudes**, provide **basic support** for their own opinion or various options, and
- In general, **express** opinions, emotions, hopes, and preferences, and **describe** common experiences and events
- **Speak with relative fluency and spontaneity** about familiar or prepared topics, and **actively contribute** to most related conversations or discussions, while accounting for and sustaining one's own positions or experiences. And regarding unprepared and unfamiliar conversations or discussions, **with active support** make a meaningful contribution
- **Compose a coherent** narrative, argument, encouragement, or similar regarding familiar subjects, and **use nuanced language** to describe events and experiences or express reasons and attitudes behind various points of view about most matters
- **Can write personal correspondence** about the significance or implications of their own experiences, and in general, communicate key thoughts to fluent speakers
- Internalize a mastery of the **strong morphology** of Greek and an acute awareness for **weak** forms and their **causes**
- Gain **practical experience** of what is entailed in employing a sound methodology for carrying out exegetical research for the purpose of contributing to an academic field or cultivating informed expertise for ministry or other professional purposes
- Appreciate and value the use of **critical and academic scholarship** for Biblical translation and exegesis

## Required Texts and Materials

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### Registering at Project Immersio

It is necessary that students register at [www.projectimmersio.com](http://www.projectimmersio.com) and ensure that any technical issues are resolved. To register, use the links (below) and click the enrolment button , then at the next page click on  and use the instructor provided coupon to gain *lifetime free* access.

For BNT 601, this means registering for

New Testament Greek 6: (<https://projectimmersio.com/p/new-testament-greek-for-intermediates-b1-to-b2>)

Note: The possession of Bible software with original language tools is assumed for students in this course. Logos ([www.logos.com](http://www.logos.com)) packages with the original languages are more than adequate for the purposes of this course. Students should have some familiarity with the software *prior* to the first day of instruction and are welcome to consult with the Instructor for more details at any time.

### Recommended

Note: The use of **any one** of the following three critical editions (in print or digital form) is recommended.

*The Greek New Testament*, Produced at Tyndale House, Cambridge (Wheaton, Crossway, 2017).

*Novum Testamentum Graece*. E. Nestle, K. Aland, *et al.*, editors. 28th ed (Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2012).

*The Greek New Testament*. K. Aland, B. Metzger, *et al.*, editors. 4th ed (New York: United Bible Societies, 1994).

### Reference

Bauer, Walter, Frederick W. Danker, William F. Arndt, and F. Wilbur Gingrich. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. 3rd ed (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000).

Liddell, H. G., Barber, E. A., Scott, R. Jones, H. S. & McKenzie R. *A Greek-English Lexicon* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1940).

Blass, F. and A. Debrunner. *A Greek Grammar of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. Trans. Robert Funk (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1961).

Wright, N. T. and Michael Bird. *The New Testament in its World: An Introduction to the History, Literature, and Theology of the First Christians* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2019).

## Course Activities/Requirements

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### Class Participation

10%

Though prompts and communication will be given during the course, *on their own* students are expected to work through the website material with its stories, language exercises and activities, practice readings, discussion of grammatical and other points, and consult with the Instructor *for any and all questions*, clarifications, or expectations, big and small. Full participation will be assumed for students who regularly submit their chapter assessments.

### Chapter Assessments

50%

Students will submit *via email completed scans* (or quality photos) of the pdf chapter assessment printouts, which evaluate all aspects of comprehension of the language addressed in a given chapter. These are *open notes* and marked *upon completion* such that provided every question and exercise is filled out or marked, a perfect mark is given no matter if the answers are correct or not. This serves as the *primary* means for the Instructor to provide personalized feedback and give encouragement through comments and track student progress.

### Exegetical Work

40%

Students will submit a *journal quality* article of at least 1,500 words based on their BNT 605 high-level research proposal or equivalent. Accordingly, while actual submission to a journal is not necessary, the student will choose an Instructor approved journal or publication source and formulate their abstract, structure their article, and employ the style guide based on this choice. Students are highly encouraged and welcome to consult with the Instructor, other faculty, or fellow students *during each stage of writing*.

*Note: with the Instructor's approval students may alternatively submit a polished sermon manuscript or Bible study alongside a detailed text study to demonstrate exegetical insight and scholarly engagement.*

## Course Evaluation

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|                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Class Participation | 10%         |
| Chapter Assessments | 50%         |
| Exegetical Work     | 40%         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>        | <b>100%</b> |

## Grading System

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| Letter Grade | Percentage | Grade Point |
|--------------|------------|-------------|
| A+           | 97-100     | 4.30        |
| A            | 93-96      | 4.00        |
| A-           | 90-92      | 3.70        |
| B+           | 87-89      | 3.30        |
| B            | 83-86      | 3.00        |
| B-           | 80-82      | 2.70        |
| C+           | 77-79      | 2.30        |
| C            | 73-76      | 2.00        |
| C-           | 70-72      | 1.70        |
| F            | Below 70   | 0.00        |

## Course Outline

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With the online format students have much flexibility to determine the study schedule that works best for them. However, there are two recommended “paces” offered.

By week 1 students are to provide the instructor with their own “**study schedule**,” which indicates which weeks (or possibly days) they intend to complete the course requirements, and a brief description of their anticipated, regular study times.

### Semi-Intensive Pace

If a student intends to complete *both* BNT 605 and BNT 601 within *one* term, they must follow the “semi-intensive” pace of **one lesson per week**. For this it is *highly recommended* that students dedicate approximately **15 hours a week** to their Immersio learning and completing the course assignments. This is especially important given that language learning is best done in smaller, regular increments such that, e.g., 3 hours of study over 5 days is far much effective than 5 hours of study over 3 days. The following is a recommended schedule.

- Week 1 - Introductory communications and submission of Chapter 1 assessment
- Week 2 - Submission of Chapter 2 assessment and bibliography for exegetical work
- Week 3 - Submission of Chapter 3 assessment and extended outline for exegetical work
- Week 4 - Submission of Chapter 4 assessment and rough draft for exegetical work
- Week 5 - Submission of Chapter 5 assessment and submit draft for review of exegetical work
- Week 6 - Submission of Chapter 6 assessment and revise exegetical work
- Week 7 - Submission of Chapter 7 assessment and edit exegetical work
- Week 8 - Submission of exegetical work

### Standard Pace

If a student intends to complete only BNT 601 within the term, they *may* follow a “standard pace” of roughly **one chapter every other week**. This is recommended if the student has a heavy course load and/or fulltime employment.

## Miscellaneous Recommendations

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### Recommended Online Resources

1. <https://www.stepbible.org/> (free and accurate tagged biblical texts)
2. <http://alpheios.net/> (a Chrome and Firefox tool for Greek, Latin, and other languages)
3. <https://logeion.uchicago.edu/lexidium> (a searchable online dictionary for LSJ)
4. <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/resolveform> (a morphologically sensitive online dictionary for LSJ)
5. <https://www.lexigram.gr/lex/arch/#Hist0> (a tool to parse and *produce* any morphological form of a given lexeme. Warning, it is in Modern Greek!)
6. <https://netbible.org/bible/> (a free, Bible study resource with quality textual notes and commentary, Greek and Hebrew tagged text, and links to other resources)

### Recommended Scholarly Resources

For the studies it is required to consult scholarly resources, such as scholarly lexica, peer-reviewed academic journals, or textual commentaries. It is suggested that students consult the Instructor for further direction. Nevertheless, the following are recommended databases and textual commentary series. Note that all are accessible through the TWU library.

- The American Theological Library Association (ATLA)
- Journal Storage (JSTOR)
- Anchor Bible Series
- Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament (BECNT)
- Hermeneia Commentary Series
- Word Biblical Commentary (WBC)

## Course Policies

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### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND AVOIDING PLAGIARISM AT TWU**

One of the core values of Trinity Western University is the integration of academic excellence with high standards of personal, moral, and spiritual integrity. The University considers it a serious offence when an individual attempts to gain unearned academic credit. It is the student's responsibility to be informed about what constitutes academic misconduct. For details on this, and on identifying and avoiding plagiarism go to the [University Homepage > Academics > Academic Calendar](#) (p. 47).

<https://prezi.com/od62fxnkbmxh/plagiarism-how-to-get-it-out-of-your-life/> (Prezi presentation)

<http://bit.ly/1p00KX3> (Google Slide presentation offering more comprehensive information)

### **STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY**

Students with a disability who need assistance are encouraged to contact the Equity of Access Office upon admission to TWU to discuss their specific needs. All disabilities must be recently documented by an appropriately certified professional and include the educational impact of the disability along with recommended accommodations. Within the first two weeks of the semester, students must meet with their professors to agree on accommodations appropriate to each class. Students should follow the steps detailed by the Equity of Access Office on their website at:

<http://www.twu.ca/student-life/student-success/disabilities-and-equity-access>.

### **HOSPITALITY IN THE CLASSROOM**

TWU is committed to an ethic of inclusion centred on the principles of Christian hospitality, reciprocity and reconciliation. We seek to cultivate generous learning spaces that are based on respect for differences and are open to diverse views, opinions, and identities that are thoughtfully expressed in a collegial manner. We welcome and value all voices, including those from under-represented groups or those who have been marginalized.

### **CAMPUS CLOSURE AND CLASS CANCELLATION POLICY**

In the event of extreme weather conditions or other emergency situations go to the <https://www.twu.ca/campus-notification>.

### **LATE ASSIGNMENTS POLICY**

With the flexible dates there are no late assignments, though the instructor will encourage students to follow their submitted "study schedule," or make emendations as needed.

### **PROGRAM GRADE SUBMISSION POLICY**

Grades will be submitted once all course requirements are fulfilled.