

# Pontifical College Josephinum

## [B1713DM] Acts of the Apostles and the Letters of Saint Paul *“Put on the Mind of Christ”*

Instructors:

Chris Seeman, Ph.D. and Bill Ditewig, Ph.D.

### **Course Objectives: What would we want you to remember 10 years from now?**

- The lasting influence of these early witnesses to Christ on the Church today
- The central tenet that these witnesses stress knowing Christ, not merely knowing about him.
- The growth of Christianity into a world-wide community of disciples.

In the twelve weeks of this course, the student will cover:

MODULE 1: The Birth of the Church (Acts 1:1-9:31)

MODULE 2: Israel and the Gentiles (Acts 9:32-15:41)

MODULE 3: From Jerusalem to Rome (Acts 16:1-28:31)

MODULE 4: Galatians

MODULE 5: 1 & 2 Thessalonians

MODULE 6: Philippians

MODULE 7: 1 Corinthians

MODULE 8: 2 Corinthians

MODULE 9: Romans 1-11

MODULE 10: Romans 12-16

MODULE 11: Colossians & Ephesians

MODULE 12: The Pastoral Epistles

### **Course Elements:**

- Major Presentation/Final – Introduces & develops content
- Conference Calls – After modules 2, 4, 11
- Forums – Participation required for all modules.

#### **Assignments & Weighted Values:**

- Quiz – *Dei Verbum*: 20%
- Participation in Module Forums: 40%
- Final Project/Paper: 40%

#### **Required Texts:**

- R. E. Brown, *An Introduction to the New Testament*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997.
- A.-J. Levine and M. Z. Brettler, eds. *The Jewish Annotated New Testament*, 2nd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.

#### **Bibliography:**

##### **General Bible Commentaries:**

- Brown, R. E., et. al., *The New Jerome Biblical Commentary* (Englewood Cliffs, NY: Prentice Hall, 1990).
- Farmer, William R., *The International Bible Commentary* (Collegeville MN: Liturgical Press, 1998).

##### **Concordances:**

- For the New American Bible, see <http://www.catholiccrossreference.com/bible/nab-search.cgi>
- For the RSV, use Ellison, John W. [John William], *Nelson's Complete Concordance of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible* (New York: Nelson, c1957) FUS Ref: BS425 .E4.

**NB:** Concordances used for finding out where words occur in the Bible should match the translation you are using

## Dictionaries and Reference Works:

Some of these are older works but still valuable.

- Léon-Dufour, Xavier. *Dictionary of Biblical Theology*. 2nd ed. New York: Seabury, 1973.
- Freedman, David Noel, ed. *Anchor Bible Dictionary*. New York: Doubleday, 1992.
- Vanhoozer, Kevin, et al. *Dictionary for Theological Interpretation of the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.
- J. J. Collins and D.C. Harlow (eds.), *The Eerdmans Dictionary of Early Judaism* Grand Rapids and Cambridge, UK: Eerdmans, 2010.
- Sakenfeld, K. D. et. al., (eds.), *The New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*. [multi-volumes] Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press.
- McKenzie, John L., S.J., *Dictionary of the Bible*. New York: McMillian, 1973.
- Spicq, Ceslas, *Theological Lexicon of the New Testament*. Trans. & ed. James D. Ernest. 3 vols. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1994.
- Halfmann, Janet, et. al. (Eds.) *New Catholic Encyclopedia*. Detroit: Thomson/Gale (ongoing supplements as well; 1907 edition still useful).
- [Jewish Encyclopedia 12 Vols, Jewish History Ancient Scholarship](#) (Jewish background).
- <http://www.catholic.org/encyclopedia/encyclopedia.php?lst=P>