Unit Code

B7364

Unit Name

Pauline Literature

Unit Weighting

9 cr pts

Type of Unit

Specialised unit

Prerequisites, corequisites or exclusions

18 Biblical Studies cpts

Academic Staff

Margaret Beirne BA(UNE, 1973), MA (Boston College, 1978), BD (MCD, 1984), MEd (UNSW, 1986), DTheol (MCD, 2000), MACE. The faculty register lists all faculty accredited to teach this course unit.

Curriculum Objectives

This course unit builds on the knowledge and skills developed in the prerequisite Biblical Studies units. It examines the historical context, literary forms and theological content of the New Testament literature associated with Paul.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit students will be able to:

- 1. describe the various social, cultural and pastoral contexts of each of Paul's letters
- 2. identify the key Pauline theological themes
- 3. demonstrate well-developed hermeneutical and exegetical skills in critical essays on selected passages from the Pauline letters
- 4. integrate significant secondary literature into the critical study of Pauline literature
- incorporate insights from Pauline literature to a range of life and ministry situations

Content

- 1. Paul's background and conversion
- 2. Introduction to the Pauline literature: historical, geographical, social and religious factors
- 3. Literary structure, style and purpose of the Pauline letters
- 4. Key Pauline theological themes
- 5. Exegesis of selected passages from the Pauline literature
- 6. The 'new perspective' debate in current scholarship

Teaching Methods

Lectures, tutorials, field work, student presentations, seminars - in class and/or online

Assessment Profile

- 1. Critical book review that might be linked to class or online discussion [Outcomes 1, 2, 5]
- 2. Formal exegetical essay on a selected passage from the Pauline letters using accepted methodology [Outcomes 3, 4]
- 3. Thematic essay and/or seminar presentation on either a key theological theme or critical issue related to the Pauline literature [Outcomes 1, 2, 4, 5]

Representative References

- Bruce, Frederick F. Paul, Apostle of the Free Spirit. Rev. ed. Carlisle: Paternoster, 2000.
- Byrne, Brendan. Galatians and Romans. Collegeville, MN: Michael Glazier, 2010.
- Dunn, James D.G. *The Cambridge Companion to St Paul.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- Elliott, Neil. *The Arrogance of Nations. Reading Romans in the Shadow of Empire.* Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2008.
- Fitzmyer, Joseph A. *The Acts of the Apostles: a new translation*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2007.
- Garlington, Don B. "The New Perspective on Paul: Two Decades on", in *Studies in the New Perspectives on Paul: Essays and Reviews*, 2008, 1-20. www.thepaulpage.com.
- Hawthorne, Gerald F. et al (eds.). *Dictionary of Paul and his Letters.* Downers Grove III: InterVarsity Press, 1993.
- Martyn, J. Louis. Theological Issues in the Letters of Paul. London: Continuum, 2005.
- Murphy-O'Connor, Jerome. *Keys to Second Corinthians: Revisiting the Major Issues.* Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010.
- Roetzel, Calvin J. *The Letters of Paul: Conversations in Context.* 5th ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2009.
- Strom, Mark. *Reframing Paul. Conversations in Grace and Community*. Downers Grove, IVP, 2000
- Thiselton, Anthony C. 1 Corinthians. A shorter exegetical and pastoral commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2006.
- Wright, N. Tom. Paul: In Fresh Perspective. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2005.