Note: This syllabus is the “mini-syllabus” and is not to be confused w/ the large syllabus that contains all the class-lecture notes, biblio, various articles, etc. This large syllabus will be posted on “Self Service” and is needed for all the class lectures. For the first day of class, the student should be prepared w/ either a hard-copy of the large syllabus or have it downloaded to his laptop.

Prerequisites: Must have passed (D- is good enough) both Greek 1 & 2, or have transcript for six hours of graduate Greek credit, or passed RTS exemption exam(s).

Required Texts:

* Trinity Psalter.
* UBS or NA Greek NT text. No interlinears.

Recommended Texts:

* Brown, Colin, ed. The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology. 4 vols. Grand Rapids: Regency Reference Library, Zondervan, 1975-86. Two other good options are Balz & Schneider, and Spicq. All three are on reference shelf in library. Brown's edited comments are evangelical. If you have one of these three works, “Big Kittel” is not necessary.

* “Bible Works.” Every student should buy this (or its equivalent).


Professor

Dr. Bob Cara (technically, Dr. Robert J. Cara or Robert J. Cara, Ph.D.).
**Purpose of Course**

* To prepare students to begin serious exegesis of Greek text. This will be done by:

  * Re-enforcing and adding to current Greek vocabulary. Remember, Mounce was “vocab lite.” *(Lexical Aids)*

  * Re-enforcing and adding to current Greek syntax. *(Syntax)*

  * Translating weekly portions of writings of John, Mark, and Paul.

  * Learning various exegetical principles from translated portions.

  * Introducing students to various standard exegetical tools (e.g., Bible Works, lexicons, grammars, exegetical dictionaries, commentaries).

  * Giving students six categories of hermeneutical methodologies to determine modern meaning for sermons; i.e., hermeneutical preaching-theory.

* Course objectives as coordinated with MDiv Student Learning Outcomes are shown at the end of this document.

**Class Structure**

* Each week students will be assigned a text (∼ 8 verses) that they have to translate / parse (bring personal notes to class) and prepare a “logical progression.” Also, each week the student is to review the assigned vocab and noun/verb endings. In addition, the student is to read the assigned portions of Syntax. (See “Course Outline” for schedule.)

* The first several weeks will primarily consist of formal lectures related to hermeneutical methodologies for preaching. Also included will be brief analysis of assigned texts.

* Subsequently, most classes will consist of detailed analysis of assigned text along with hermeneutical implications for preaching. Also included will be an introduction of a various exegetical tool and its use related to the assigned text.

* Quizzes must be taken outside of class in the library. See the receptionist for the quizzes. There will be no official (human) proctoring. The quizzes will be available to be taken the day after the text is assigned. Each quiz must be taken before the start of the class in which the assigned text is exegeted.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Graded Requirements

* Quizzes – 40% of grade

  * There will be a quiz most weeks on appropriate vocab, Syntax reading, noun/verb paradigm, and translation and grammar of assigned Greek text. (For translation and grammar portions, Greek dictionary, Syntax, and Key will be allowed.) Time limit is 45 minutes.
  * All quizzes are cumulative except for translation portion.
  * “90% rule.”
  * Drop one quiz (No make-up quizzes.)

* Final – 15% of grade

  * All vocab, grammar, and noun/verb paradigms are fair game. Translation will be from an unassigned Greek text; however, dictionary, Syntax, and Key may be used. Questions related to the lectures will also be included.
  * “90% rule.”

* Commentary Reading—5% of grade

  * Read Cara’s Thessalonians commentary. Reading is to be completed by time of the final.

* Exegetical Paper – 35% of grade

  * This should be a serious research paper that is designed to pass presbytery. See “Real Paper Comments” for format and “Greek Exegesis Paper Requirements” for minimum research requirements. Note helpful annotated biblio in Cara syllabus, including description of various English language commentaries.
  * 12-15 typed pages.
  * Paper must be on a Pauline pericope excepting sections of 1 Thess covered in class.
  * Paper should exegete the Greek text aiming for the meaning to the original audience. It should include any text-critical difficulties, appropriate introductory matters if it relates to exegesis, discussion of the surrounding context, must include in Greek the logical progression of the pericope, etc. Use secondary sources to inform but not to dictate your exegesis. Clearly state the main point of the pericope and sub-points.
  * Papers should have the following general outline: Do an analysis of the overall logical-progression with some clause-level discussion to determine the main point and sub-points
(1/2 paper); and a very detailed analysis of one small section of the pericope and include theological implications, relationship to other portions of Scripture, etc. (1/2 paper).
* Due in class on the last day of class (32.2 f/s/s).

* Class Attendance / Participation — 5%

  * To get credit for each class, must have your personal translation notes (including parsing), logical progression, and participate (intelligently) in class discussion as appropriate.
  * One miss or non-preparation for class allowed.

Non-Graded Requirements (unless one does not do them!)

* Bring to class: Greek text, Key, Syntax, and Cara Syllabus.

* Bring and sing Psalter!
# Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes

## With Mini-Justification

**Course**: Greek Exegesis  
**Professor**: Robert J. Cara  
**Campus**: Charlotte  
**Date**: Nov 2010

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<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
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| **Articulation** (oral & written) | Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. | Strong | 1. Student submits serious academic Greek Exegesis paper.  
2. Must include both conservation and critical viewpoints. |
| **Scripture** | Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.) | Strong | 1. Each week student exegetes 8 verses of Greek NT. |
| **Reformed Theology** | Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards. | Minimal | 1. Reformed sermon hermeneutics are included. |
| **Sanctification** | Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification. | Minimal | 1. Psalm singing in class |
| **Desire for Worldview** | Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. | None | |
| **Winsomely Reformed** | Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.) | Minimal | 1. Exegesis paper should reflect appropriate respect for other viewpoints. |
| **Preach** | Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm. | Moderate | 1. Reformed sermon hermeneutics are included.  
2. Exegesis of NT texts. |
| **Worship** | Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service. | None | |
| **Shepherd** | Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in | None | |
| **Church/World** | America and worldwide. | Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | None |