

MSI Shining as Lights in a Dark Age: 21st Century Lessons from Philippians Course Syllabus

Instructor: Henri Louis Goulet

Course Description:

Another "just in time" course for the anxious 21st century! Philippians was written to a community of Messiah followers in a Roman colony during the reign of one of the worst emperors in Roman history, Nero. Paul exhorted them to shine like lights in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation. Let's discern the most important 21st century lessons from Philippians together.

There are implications here for our being, thinking, speaking, doing, and living!

Course Objectives or Learning Outcomes:

1. To become familiar with the centrality of the theme of 'walking' or 'living' in a manner worthy of the Good News of Messiah in Philippians, and the very specific and strategic language with which this theme is communicated in the letter.
2. To understand in detail the wording and function of the "Messiah Hymn" of chapter 2 and its implications for our being, thinking, speaking, doing, and living.
3. To understand what Paul is doing when sharing his Jewish heritage and then seemingly denigrating it in chapter 3.
4. To appropriate the robust practice of prayer and its promise of shalom in chapter 4.

Required Text(s):

None

Policies:

1. Special Accommodation: Students who feel they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should, by the end of the first week of class, contact the instructor privately to discuss their specific needs.
2. Grading:

A = Audit:

The student audited the course for no credit and was not responsible for meeting course requirements. Note that a student must declare their intention to audit a course by the end of the second class session.

P = Pass:

The student met all course requirements.

NP = No Pass:

The student did not meet all course requirements.

I = Incomplete:

The student was unable to meet all course requirements due to an unforeseen circumstance. The student must meet all course requirements by the end of the following term. Failure to do so will result in the conversion of the grade to "No Pass"

W = Withdraw:

The student dropped the course after the first class session.

Session	Course Content	Course Requirements; Due Next Session, etc.
1	Philippians: Part 1 Wed 6/24 See slidedeck pdf on 6/24	No pre-course assignment Turn in the "Philippians Overview: Home Study Assignment" by next Wednesday 7/1.
2	Philippians: Part 2 Wed 4/22 See slidedeck pdf on 7/1	Turn in the "Philippians Overview: Home Study Assignment" tonight. Complete the post-course lifelong learning review