

Introductory Greek Grammar

NTGK5300

Fall 2015

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Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandment through the local church and its ministries.

Course Purpose, Core Value Focus, and Curriculum Competencies

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically in that the course is designed to prepare the student to grow in the understanding and interpreting of the Word of God. Characteristic Excellence is also addressed in that the student should be as prepared as possible to be ministers for Christ. Mission Focus is emphasized in that interpreting the Bible is a key element in presenting the Good News of the Gospel to the world. Proper interpretation is vital in fulfilling the Great Commission. This course addresses the competency of Biblical Exposition by preparing the student to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately. Mission Focus is the core value focus for the academic year 2015-16.

Course Description

This course is designed to teach the elements of Greek grammar to establish a foundational understanding of the language for exegesis of the Greek New Testament.

Student Learning Outcomes

Knowledge

Students who complete this course successfully should:

- Know the significance of Greek grammar for translation of the New Testament
- Know the basic methods of studying Greek grammar that will contribute to a regular application of Greek grammar in teaching and preaching
- Know basic principles of Greek grammar that lead interpreters to discover the meaning intended by the biblical author
- Know the major areas of Greek morphology, especially regarding both verb and noun systems, including so-called “irregular” verbs
- Know a basic vocabulary of words occurring 50 or more times in the New Testament to facilitate reading and use of the Greek New Testament
- Know the major theories and the basic principles dealing with issues of translation in both the original language and the receptor language

Attitudes

Students who complete this course successfully should:

- Appreciate the richness of the Greek language
- Recognize the importance of original language for sound exegesis
- Be more confident in interpreting biblical texts

Skills

Students who complete this course successfully should be able to:

- Translate selected portions of the Greek New Testament using appropriate translation aids
- Grasp grammatical issues in translation that affect an understanding of the biblical text
- Incorporate Greek studies in support of the exegetical and hermeneutical tasks of ministry
- Be comfortable using critical commentaries based upon the Greek text, in so far as discussion pertains to issues of the Greek language and translation

Course Teaching Methodology

- The material for each lesson will be introduced in lecture format
- Class sessions will provide a review of homework exercises
- The student will read the textbook and complete the exercises before each class session
- The student will participate in class discussion, specifically in pronouncing, parsing, and translating Greek text

Texts

Gerald L. Stevens, *New Testament Greek Primer, Third Edition* (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2010)

Bruce M. Metzger, et al., eds., *The Greek New Testament* (New York: United Bible Societies, 2014, fifth edition)

Requirements

English Quizzes	5%
Vocabulary	25%
Participation	10%
Sectional Exams	45%
Final Exam	15%

English Quizzes

Quizzes will be given on the concepts covered in the appendix of the Greek Primer.

Vocabulary

Homework: Greek vocabulary words from the day's lesson must be written out 5 times each and turned in at the beginning of class each day.

Exams: Vocabulary exams will be given on the days indicated below in the schedule at the beginning of class. The exams will consist of 20 Greek words from the units covered wherein the student must supply the proper English gloss.

Participation

Students are expected to participate in class discussion, including pronunciation, parsing, and translating of Greek texts. The professor will keep track of participation, so the student must be prepared for each course.

Sectional Exams

Exams will be given on the dates listed below in the schedule on grammatical concepts covered to that point in the course. The exams will focus on the units covered since the last exam, but language learning builds on previous concepts learned that may be on the test.

Final Exam

A comprehensive final exam will be given to assess translation abilities learned throughout the course.

Course Policies

Attendance: Class attendance for all sessions is expected. In a three-hour semester class, you are allowed to miss a total of nine classroom hours, which is less than six 80-minute class periods. Class periods missed because of late enrollment are counted as absences. Three tardies equal one absence. Be forewarned that cutting a grammar class is academically unwise at any time. Absence due to illness or emergency must be accompanied by documentation acceptable to the professor to be an excused absence with no penalty.

Etiquette: Please silence all cell phones before class begins. Otherwise, you may disrupt the entire class. If you expect an extremely important call, wait for that call outside class. Also, please do not disrupt class by leaving to take a cell phone call. Respect for your classmates is key to maintaining a positive learning experience.

The professor reserves the right to alter the course in any manner he deems necessary at any time.

Schedule & Assignments

Week	Tuesday	Thursday
Week 1 Aug 25, 27	Class Introduction	English Units 1-2 ➤ Primer: 445-63 & Exercises Chapter 1: Alpha, Beta, Gamma ➤ Primer: 3-16 & Exercises ➤ Language Lesson 1: 17-19
Week 2 Sep 1, 3	English Unit 3 ➤ Primer: 465-76 & Exercises Chapter 2: Greek Verbs ➤ Primer: 21-28 & Exercises	English Units 4-5 ➤ Primer: 477-512 & Exercises Chapter 3: Middle & Passive Voice ➤ Primer: 29-38 & Exercises ➤ Language Lesson 2: 39-41

Week 3 Sep 8, 10	Chapter 4: Greek Nouns ➤ Primer: 43-52 & Exercises	Chapter 5: First Declension ➤ Primer: 53-62 & Exercises Chapter 6: The Article ➤ Primer: 63-72 & Exercises
Week 4 Sep 15, 17	Chapter 7: Third Declension ➤ Vocabulary Exam #1 ➤ Primer: 75-87 & Exercises	Sectional Exam #1
Week 5 Sep 22, 24	Chapter 8: Adjectives ➤ Primer: 89-108 & Exercises	Chapter 9: Pronouns ➤ Primer: 109-30 & Exercises
Week 6 Sep 29, Oct 1	Chapter 10: Prepositions ➤ Primer: 131-52 & Exercises	Chapter 11: Adverbs and More ➤ Vocabulary Exam #2 ➤ Primer: 153-72 & Exercises
Week 7 Oct 6, 8	Chapter 12: Contract Verbs ➤ Primer: 175-86 & Exercises ➤ Language Lesson 3: 187-89	Chapter 13: Imperfect Tense ➤ Primer: 191-205 & Exercises
Week 8 Oct 13, 15	Chapter 14: Conditional Sentences ➤ Primer: 207-22 & Exercises ➤ Language Lesson 4: 223-26	Sectional Exam #2
Week 9 Oct 20, 22	Fall Break	
Week 10 Oct 27, 29	Chapter 15: Future Tense ➤ Primer: 227-42 & Exercises	Chapter 16: First Aorist ➤ Primer: 243-53 & Exercises
Week 11 Nov 3, 5	Chapter 17: Second Aorist, Liquid Verbs ➤ Primer: 255-66 & Exercises	Chapter 18: Passive System ➤ Vocabulary Exam #3 ➤ Primer: 267-81 & Exercises
Week 12 Nov 10, 12	Chapter 19: Perfect System ➤ Primer: 285-309 & Exercises ➤ Language Lesson 5: 311-14	Chapter 20: Subjunctive ➤ Primer: 315-32
Week 13 Nov 17, 19	Chapter 21: Imperative ➤ Primer: 333-41 & Exercises	Sectional Exam #3
Week 14 Nov 24, 26	Thanksgiving	
Week 15 Dec 1, 3	Chapter 22: Infinitives ➤ Primer: 343-63 & Exercises Chapter 23: Adverbial Infinitives ➤ Primer: 365-74	Chapter 24: Participles ➤ Vocabulary Exam #4 ➤ Primer: 377-89 & Exercises
Week 16 Dec 8, 10	Chapter 25: Adjectival Participles ➤ Primer: 391-403 & Exercises	Chapter 26: Adverbial Participles ➤ Primer: 405-22 & Exercises
Final Exam December 15th 9-11 a.m.		

Bibliography

Textual Criticism

Aland, K. and B. *The Text of the New Testament*. G.R.: Eerdmans, 1989.

Black, D. A. *New Testament Textual Criticism: A Concise Guide*. G.R.: Baker, 1994.

Greenlee, J. H. *Introduction to New Testament Textual Criticism*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1995.

Jones, T. P. *Misquoting the Truth: A Guide to Fallacies of Bart Ehrman's Misquoting Jesus*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2007.

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Omanson, R. L. *A Textual Guide to the Greek New Testament*. Stuttgart: German Bible Society, 2006.

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Wegner, P. D. *A Student's Guide to Textual Criticism of the Bible: Its History, Methods and Results*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2006.

Grammar

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

Mounce, W. D. *The Morphology of Biblical Greek*. G.R.: Zondervan, 1994.

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