

Welcome
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Language Learning Experience

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Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary - Charlotte
GL501 Biblical Greek 1 (Weekday module, Tuesdays)
Fall 2008 Syllabus

Classroom teacher: Erin James, Biblical Languages Facilitator
Teaching Assistant: Paul DuPont
Faculty supervisor: Dr. Rollin Grams

Class Meeting Times

Tuesday evenings, 6:30-9:00 p.m., 9/9/08 – 12/16/08.

See Course Outline (section VIII) for exact dates of class meetings and weeks without class meetings.

Introduction

So... what is *ί-3*?

It's how we intend to make your classroom experience and biblical language-learning process enjoyable and effective.

You'll be immersed in auditory, visual, and kinesthetic ways of learning. You'll hear, read, and respond to the language throughout class time. And we'll look at and discuss the concepts that we're learning as we go along.

Our goal is to integrate natural, experiential language-learning with the "rules" (ha!) and theory of the language.

By involving all your senses in the language-learning process, you'll retain it best and be equipped to build on a strong foundation.

Come to class ready to be involved, and ready for an adventure...

Notes:

1. Learn the **Greek alphabet** *before the first class session*. You will need to be able to:
 - say and write the alphabet in order (lower-case and upper-case)
 - ☼☼☼ **NOTE:** *Ignore the pronunciation schema in the textbook. We will learn pronunciation in the first class. See last page of syllabus for a pronunciation guide to get you started.*
 - be familiar with the vocabulary from Chapter 4 of BBG.
2. Read BBG's introductory chapters 1-4 before the first class.
3. Regularly check your *GCTS email* for communication.

I. Course Description

The two-course sequence, GL501-502, provides an introduction to the essential elements and flow of biblical Greek.

Class time will be largely “immersion” in biblical Greek – hearing the language and responding. We’ll have visual/verbal games and exercises, and lots of singing, reading, and translating. On the more analytical side, we’ll talk about what we’re learning and refer to visuals as we go.

Outside of class you will read through the textbook, work through the workbook and memory work, and take weekly proctored tests (schedule in section VIII).

II. Course Objectives

- Know the basic structure and vocabulary of biblical (Koine) Greek.
- Apply this knowledge to translating and understanding select passages in Koine Greek, with the primary emphasis on the Greek New Testament.
- Learn to work through passages in the Greek New Testament using the appropriate resources.
- Be equipped to move forward into learning exegesis from the original Greek text and working with original-language based resources.

III. Course Textbooks and Resources

Note: bring all textbooks and Greek Bible to every class. ☺

- Greek New Testament: (NA²⁷) Nestle-Aland’s *Novum Testamentum Graece*, 27th edition, with *Dictionary*. (ISBN-10: 159856174X, ISBN-13: 978-1598561746)
- Primary textbook: (BBG) *Basics of Biblical Greek*, 2nd edition, William D. Mounce (Zondervan, 2003).
- Supplementary textbook: (NTS) *The Basics of New Testament Syntax*, Daniel B. Wallace (Zondervan, 2000).
- Workbook: *Basics of Biblical Greek Workbook*, 2nd edition, William D. Mounce (Zondervan, 2003).
- Recommended: *BibleWorks* is an extremely useful computer program with a variety of tools for studying the Bible in Greek and Hebrew. It is available in our library. Students are encouraged to consider purchasing it early in their seminary studies.

IV. Course Requirements

Attendance

Attendance is required for all class meetings in GL501-502.

Reading

Assigned reading in BBG is to be completed before each class session. We will consult NTS in class. *Bring both textbooks and your Greek Bible to every class.*

Vocabulary

Required vocabulary will be assigned as we go along. You will learn words based primarily on frequency of occurrence, and phrases that will inductively teach you both words and syntax.

Workbook Exercises

You will work through the Parsing section and first ten Translations of each chapter unless otherwise noted. A key will be provided for checking and/or correcting your work.

V. Grading

Class Involvement (10%)

Your involvement in the classroom is one of the most important factors in your success in the language. Your CI grade is based *entirely* on your presence, positive attitude, and willingness to learn and to be involved. Intention: show up, have fun, learn, get an easy high score for 10% of your grade. ☺

Workbook (10%)

You will turn in a Workbook Report at the end of the semester, much like reading reports in other courses. Your grade is based on completing and self-correcting the assigned exercises.

Quizzes, Exams, and Final Exam

All tests are by nature cumulative, and may consist of translation, vocabulary, paradigms, and questions in a variety of combinations.

Quizzes (10 @ 4% each; 40% total)

There are 10 weekly quizzes (provided in sealed envelopes at class time) which are due via fax (or in person) on designated Fridays.

Exams (2 @ 10% each; 20% total)

There are two exams (provided in sealed envelopes at class time) which are due via fax (or in person) on designated Fridays.

Final Exam (20%)

- The final exam is cumulative, covering all of chapters 1-20 and related material. Its primary emphasis will be on translation.
- The final exam is to be mailed or delivered in person by the due date.
- Have your proctor make a copy for you before mailing your final! ☺

NOTE: Tests must be taken without any resources (books, notes, vocab cards, computer, etc.) and in the presence of a proctor who will sign them and fax them to the Seminary.

Exception: Two of the quizzes are open-book. (A proctor will still be required.)

- **TESTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE SIGNED PROCTOR FORM.**

Due Dates and Late Penalties

The due dates for quizzes and exams are listed in the Course Outline in section VIII.

- There will be a letter-grade penalty on all late work. **Work more than two days late will not be accepted.**

Please commit to meeting these deadlines for the benefit of your own learning process.

Grades

Letter grades for all work have the following numerical guidelines:

A+	98-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	D+	67-69
A	93-97	B	83-86	C	73-76	D	63-66
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	D-	60-62
						F	Below 60

All Withdrawals (W) must meet the deadlines and guidelines of the Registrar's office.

VI. Course Administration

Assistance

Paul or I will be available prior to class meetings, and at other times by appointment, phone, or email. Please feel free to contact us at any time. Contact info:

Erin James ejames300@gmail.com, 704-575-4186

Paul DuPont pdupont@gcts.edu, 401-632-9425

Dr. Rollin Grams rgrams@gcts.edu, 704-527-9909

VII. Statements of Intention

It is our intention to prepare you for a lifetime of studying, understanding, applying, and appreciating God's Word more deeply through the original Greek of the New Testament.

We hope to equip you with learning strategies and resources that will motivate you for what is largely a self-directed process.

We hope to help you build a foundational "gut-level" as well as analytical understanding of the language that will encourage you to read your Greek New Testament and give you confidence to continue learning.

We are committed to praying for you throughout our year together, and always appreciate knowing how we may pray for you specifically.

We encourage you as a student participant in this course to commit yourself to daily exposure to Greek to maximize the benefit of this time we have for learning together.

VIII. Course Outline for GL501, Fall 2008

Note: Dates are firm. Material covered is subject to revision.

- Class 1 Tues 9/9** **Introduction to course, Biblical Greek, and Bible Translation**
Introduction to “immersion”; ~~greek/~~
BBG 1-4; workbook 3-4
Fri 9/12 Quiz 1, 1-4 due
- Class 2 Tues 9/16** **First and Second Declension Nouns (and the article), Part I**
BBG 5; and first read-through of 6-7*; workbook 6-7 (selections)
Fri 9/19 Quiz 2, 1-7 (I) due
- Class 3 Tues 9/23** **First and Second Declension Nouns (and the article), Part II**
BBG 6-7* (read for comprehension this time); page 342; workbook 6-7
Fri 9/26 Quiz 3, 1-7 (II) due
- Class 4 Tues 9/30** **Third Declension Nouns, Part I**
BBG 10; page 344; workbook 10 (selections)
Fri 10/3 Quiz 4, 1-7 and 10
- Class 5 Tues 10/7** **Third Declension Nouns, Part II**
BBG pages 93-95, and 345-349; workbook 10 (selections)
Fri 10/10 Exam 1, nouns
- Break **Tues 10/14**
- Class 6 Tues 10/21** **Prepositions; Adjectives**
BBG 8-9; pages 350-351; workbook 8-9
Fri 10/24 Quiz 5, 1-10 (new material 8-9)
- Class 7 Tues 10/28** **Pronouns**
BBG 11-12; page 352; workbook 11-12
Fri 10/31 Quiz 6, 1-12
- Class 8 Tues 11/4** **Demonstrative Pronoun/Adjective; Relative Pronoun**
BBG 13-14; workbook 13-14
Fri 11/7 Quiz 7, 1-14 (open-book)
- Break **Tues 11/11**
Fri 11/14 Exam 2, noun system

Class 9 Tues 11/18 *Introduction to Greek Verbal System;
Present Indicative, Part I (active, middle, and passive)*
BBG 15-16, 18 (skip section 18.18); page 359 first column;
workbook 16, 18 (selections)
Fri 11/21 Quiz 8, 1-16, 18

Class 10 Tues 11/25 *Present Indicative, Part II: Contract Verbs*
BBG 17; section 18.18; page 363
workbook 17, 18 (selections)
No quiz this week. Happy Thanksgiving!

Break **Tues 12/2**
Fri 12/5 Quiz 9, 1-18 (new material 17)

Class 11 Tues 12/9 *Future Indicative (active, middle, and passive)*
BBG 19; pages 217 and 219; page 359 third column;
workbook 20, 24 (selections)
Fri 12/12 Quiz 10, 1-19+ (open-book)

Class 12 Tues 12/16 *Verbal Roots; Liquids (in future indicative)*
BBG 20; page 366; workbook 20

Fri 12/19	Final Exam due (1-20 and related material)
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Pronunciation Guide to Greek Letters and Letter-Combinations

Note: a close approximate sound is given in English. We'll fine-tune in class.

c	= c~	a as in f ather
d		v as in V ictory
i		somewhere between g/ g ive, & y/ y ellow (start to make a “g” sound, then don’t)
f		soft th as in th e
g	= ck	e as in pe t
		z as in z ebra
j	= j~	close to long e as in th ey
s		hard th as in th ink
k	= gk	long i as in intri g ue
m		k as in sleek k
n		l as in l ettuce
o		m as in m ulberry
p		n as in n ext
z		ks as in brick s (x/ relax x)
q= y		o as in oh !
r		p as in st ep
t		r as in r eality
u/ l		s as in S anctuary
v		t as in l ight
w	= qk	somewhere between y/ very , & u/ fo od (similar to German ü)
h		ph/f as in ph one/ f avorite
e		something like a raspy k or heavy h, no English comparison (cf German ch)
{		ps as in butter cup s
y= q =y~		o as in oh !

ck	(= g)
gk	(= k)
qk	(= w)
cw	av , sometimes af (long “ah”like father)
gw	ev , sometimes ef
jw	ev , sometimes ef
qw	oo as in sou p
wk	very quick w+ k, close to “we”

pv	nd as in en d
i	before i+m+ or e takes an “n” sound; eg, ii =ng as in go ing

Note for the interested: in Modern Greek, k gk j j~w qk are all pronounced the same, like the k as of 7.6.08