Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary—Charlotte
GL501CA: Basic Greek 1 (Weekend)
Syllabus | Fall 2013

Course Instructor: Dr. Joel Harlow (jharlow@gcts.edu | office #213 | 704.940.5838)

Class Meeting Times: Friday 7-9:30; Saturday 9-4 on the following weekends:
Sept. 27-28; Oct. 25-26; Nov. 22-23 (¡¡NOTE: Greek 2 starts Jan 10-11!!)

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Special Notes:
2. One of your biggest challenges this year will be learning Greek vocabulary. I suggest you get started now. The iTunes app store has a great little app to help you. See https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/basics‐of‐biblical‐greek/id570828097?mt=8
3. GL 501 requires mastery or the Greek alphabet prior to the first meeting.

Your **FIRST TEST** for this course (10% of your course grade) will be on the alphabet, during the **FIRST SATURDAY AM, on Sept. 28th!!!**

Therefore, you must study the first 3 chapters of Mounce’s textbook, along with either:
- “Introduction, #3 – Alphabet & Pronunciation” from Mounce’s “Teknia” website http://www.teknia.com/newtestamentgreek1
- http://faculty.gordon.edu/hu/bi/ted_hildebrandt/New_Testament_Greek/Video/00-GTLearnVideos.html, from Dr. Ted Hildebrandt at Gordon College

Both of these sites provide many free resources that will help you throughout the course.

*We WILL hit the floor running!*

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I. Course Description
An introductory study concentrating on frequent vocabulary and a basic analysis of the grammar and syntax of New Testament Greek (Mounce, chaps. 1-20).

II. Relationship to the Curriculum (or *Why Study Greek, anyway?!?!?!?*)
As stated in the Gordon-Conwell mission statement, we at the seminary….

- … believe that God’s redemptive work is “understood through the biblical Word and mediated by the Holy Spirit.” We hold, then, that the writers were inspired by the Holy Spirit to write the Scriptures in **Hebrew and Greek** (not English!!). Consequently, the best understanding of God’s self-disclosure—through His inspired Word—is gained by the study of Scripture in the languages through which HE chose to reveal Himself. And we argue that studying the original languages of Scripture best equips us to be one who “correctly handles the word of truth” (2Tim 2:15, NIV).

- … strive to develop students in the highest tradition of Christian scholarship, who are competent in the interpretation, proclamation and application of God’s Holy Word in the contemporary world. And we are convinced that this is impossible without studying the original languages of Scripture.
Greek is a prerequisite for NT exegesis and preaching courses. Consequently, Greek is required of all degree students at Gordon Conwell, except the Master of Christian Counseling, Master of Christian Leadership, and the Master of Arts in Religion.

III. Course Outcome and Objectives
The outcome or goal of Greek 1 is that a student who successfully completes this course will be able to translate—with considerable assistance—a narrative passage from the New Testament.

Briefly, the skills requisite for this outcome are:
1. To recognize 225 Greek vocabulary words
2. To parse, translate, and analyze the Greek noun system—including pronouns, prepositions and adjectives
3. To parse, translate, and analyze the present and future forms of the Greek verb
4. To articulate in a reaction paper [see below], from concrete examples, that even a basic understanding of Greek is an invaluable tool for the competent interpretation, proclamation, and application of God’s Word in the contemporary world

III. Course Textbooks and Resources

Required:
  - ISBN 9780310287681
  - ISBN: 9780310287674
  - ISBN: 9780801021817 (Available online at the GCTS bookstore)

Recommended:
  - ISBN 9780310262947

IV. Course Requirements and Grading

Prior to the first class:
Prior to the first class students are expected to work through the first 3 chapters of the textbook, possibly supplementing with either Mounce’s web site or Dr. Hildebrandt’s material, as noted above. The first course exam (10% of your grade), covering the alphabet, will be given in the last half of the first class.

Enrolled students will be given access, via Sakai, to a self-grading exercise for this first exam at least one week prior to the first class meeting.

Attendance
Attendance is required for all class meetings in GL501.
**Workbook Exercises**

Students are expected to complete **ALL** the exercises in the Workbook. Mastery of the course material without doing all workbook exercises is well beyond the ability of the vast majority of students. Moreover, after 15 years or so of teaching Greek to seminary students I’d estimate that over 95% of all students who struggle in Greek *have not done all* the workbook exercises.

The workbook exercises are not to be turned in as homework. Students must take the initiative of working through the workbook, checking their answers, and contacting the teaching assistant or professor for help with any problem areas.

A course website will contain a hyperlinked answer key for all the workbook exercises. Dr. Mounce also has the answers to the workbook on his website, under the “Answers” section: [http://www.teknia.com/basicsofbiblicalgreek/resources](http://www.teknia.com/basicsofbiblicalgreek/resources)

***Students are expected to have completed all workbook exercises *prior to each class meeting*, and to be prepared to discuss the workbook exercises when called upon in class.***

**Time Commitment**

After many years of teaching Greek it is obvious that the single biggest mistake students make in Greek study is to underestimate the time needed to master the material.

Most weeks students who wish to master the material should expect to spend **about eleven hours per week studying Greek** (2.5 hours per class period and 8.5 hours studying and taking the weekly quiz)—excluding studying for and taking exams. During exam weeks students can expect to spend another **three to five hours** studying and taking exams.

Below is a layout of the course by “modules,” following Mounce’s text—including major topics covered, assignments, and estimated hours needed to read, learn, practice, study, and be tested on the material.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module</th>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Estimated Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td>Alphabet and Pronunciation (chaps 1-4)</td>
<td>• Exam 1 (first night!)</td>
<td>13</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **2**  | Intro to the Noun System (chaps 5-9) | • Quizzes 1-3  
• Exam 2 | 51 |
| **3**  | Rest of the Noun System (chaps 10-14) | • Quizzes 4-5  
• Exam 3 | 51 |
| **4**  | Intro to the Verb System (chaps 15-20) | • Quizzes 6-10  
• Reaction Paper | 65 |
|        | *Prep for cumulative Final Exam* | • Final Exam | 10 |
| **TOTAL ESTIMATED HOURS** | | | 190 |

In total, a student who wishes to master the material for Greek 1 should expect to spend around **190 hours** over the fall semester.
Grading

Quizzes (10%)
There are 10 quizzes (in Sakai) covering material discussed in class for selected weeks. The quizzes will consist of vocabulary, translation, and short answer / fill in the blank, or matching.

Exams (85%)
There are four exams for this course. ALL exams will be cumulative in nature. See the course outline below for scheduling. The point values for the exams are as follows:
- Exam 1 (10%)
- Exams 2 and 3 (20% each)
- Final Exam (35%)

Reaction Paper (5%)
Students will write a reaction paper which expresses—in concrete examples from class, exams, or assignments—how having even a basic understanding of Greek is an invaluable tool for the competent interpretation, proclamation, and application of God’s Word in the contemporary world.

The paper is not to exceed 3 pages, double-spaced. A rubric will be provided in Sakai to guide students concerning this assignment.

Grades
Letter grades for all work have the following numerical guidelines:*  
- A 95-100  
- A- 92-94  
- B+ 89-91  
- B 86-88  
- B- 83-85  
- C+ 80-82  
- C 77-79  
- C- 74-76  
- D 70-73  
- F Below 70

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

*These grading standards are higher than some for a very simple but important reason: You will never be able to use Greek well unless you build a strong foundation.

Everything you are expected to master this semester is assumed in the courses that follow.

VI. Course Administration

Sakai
This course has a Sakai site at https://sakai.gcts.edu/xsl-portal/. Click on the GL 501 CB FA-13 tab. Students are expected to read the week’s course material and my corresponding supplementary material before coming to class every week. The class will not be primarily lecture. We will talk
about the more difficult parts of the material for about the first third of the class, but the bulk of our
time will be discussing together the workbook exercises and biblical passages in Greek.

**Due Dates and Late Penalties**
The due dates for quizzes and exams are listed in section VII. There will be a penalty of **5% per day** on all late work.

**Assistance**
You may reach me by email most any time (jharlow@gcts.edu). I will usually answer you the same
day—unless I’m extremely busy, ill, or do not have access to email. Responding to student questions is a **top priority** for me as your instructor.

My normal office hours (#213) are Friday afternoons, from 5:00 until class starts. I am often in the office on Wednesday afternoons as well. **Email is by far the best way to reach me.**

Know that I am available other times by appointment. I will do **everything I can** to help you learn Greek. So don’t hesitate to call or email (jharlow@gcts.edu) me for help with the material!

**VII Course Outline** for GL501

**NOTE:** ALL quizzes and exams are due by **11:59 PM** on due date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class:</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri/Sat 9/27-28</td>
<td><strong>Discuss / Review Mounce 1-3; Exam 1 Sat AM; Introduce 6-9</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 10/2</td>
<td>Quiz 1 Due (Mounce chap 6)</td>
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<td>Wed 10/9</td>
<td>Quiz 2 Due (Mounce chap 7)</td>
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<td>Wed 10/16</td>
<td>Quiz 3 Due (Mounce chap 8)</td>
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<td>Wed 10/23</td>
<td>Quiz 4 Due (Mounce chap 9)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri/Sat 10/25-26</td>
<td><strong>Discuss / Review Mounce 6-9; Exam 2 Sat AM; Introduce 10 thru14</strong></td>
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<td>Wed 10/30</td>
<td>Quiz 5 Due (Mounce chap 10)</td>
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<td>Wed 11/6</td>
<td>Quiz 6 Due (Mounce chaps 11-12)</td>
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<td>Wed 11/13</td>
<td>Quiz 7 Due (Mounce chaps 13-14)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 11/20</td>
<td><strong>EXAM 3</strong> Due (Mounce chap 10-14)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 11/27</td>
<td>T’GIVING - NOTHING DUE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri/Sat 11/22-23</td>
<td><strong>Discuss / Review Mounce 10-14; Introduce 16-20</strong></td>
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<td>Wed 12/4</td>
<td>Quiz 8 Due (Mounce chap 16)</td>
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<td>Wed 12/11</td>
<td>Quiz 9 Due (Mounce chaps 17-18)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 12/18</td>
<td>Quiz 10 Due (Mounce chaps 19-20)</td>
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<tr>
<td>¡¡Sat Jan 4!!</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM (thru chap 20) and Reaction Paper Due!</strong></td>
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**Greek 2 begins Jan 10-11**
Syllabus Addendum

Academic Standards
Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious breaches of personal and academic integrity. Cheating involves, but is not necessarily limited to, the use of unauthorized sources of information during an examination or the submission of the same (or substantially same) work for credit in two or more courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors. Plagiarism involves the use of another person’s distinctive ideas or words, whether published or unpublished, and representing them as one’s own instead of giving proper credit to the source. Plagiarism can also involve over dependence on other source material for the scope and substance of one’s writing. Such breaches in academic standards often result in a failing grade as well as other corrective measures. For more information, please consult the Student Handbook.

ADA Policy
The seminary complies with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. A student with a qualifying and authenticated disability who is in need of accommodations, should petition the seminary in accordance with the stated guidelines in the Student Handbook.

Cancellation of Class
In the event the seminary has to cancel a class meeting (impending storm, professor illness, etc.), the Registration Office will send out an email (via the GCTS email account) notification to all students registered in the respective course. If the cancelation occurs the day of the scheduled meeting, the Registration Office will also attempt to contact students via their primary phone contact on record. The professor will contact the students (via GCTS account) regarding make-up. If a weekend class is cancelled, the class will be made up during the scheduled Make-Up weekend (see the academic calendar for the designated dates). For more info, consult your Student Handbook.

Extension Policy
Arrangements for submission of late work at a date on or before the “last day to submit written work,” as noted on the seminary’s Academic Calendar, are made between the student and professor. Formal petition to the Registration Office is not required at this time. This includes arrangements for the rescheduling of final exams.

However, course work (reading and written) to be submitted after the publicized calendar due date, must be approved by the Registration Office. An extension form, available online, must be submitted to the Registration Office prior to the “last day to submit written work.” Requests received after this date will either be denied or incur additional penalty. For a full discussion of this policy, please consult the Student Handbook.

Grades
Faculty have six weeks from the course work due date to submit a final grade. Grades are posted online within twenty-four hours of receipt from the professor. Students are expected to check their CAMS student portal in order to access posted grades (unless instructed otherwise). Those individuals who need an official grade report issued to a third party should put their request in writing to the Registration Office.
Returned Work
Submitted hard-copy course work will be returned to the students if they provide a self addressed and postage- paid envelope with their final work. Work submitted without the appropriate envelope will be destroyed after the grade has been assessed and issued.