Description of the Course

The foundation from Basic Greek (GL501/502 or its equivalent) consists of the essential grammar, accidence, morphology, and vocabulary of New Testament Greek. This course will build upon that foundation by increasing the student’s knowledge and recognition of functional relationships among words, phrases, and clauses (syntax), by strengthening the student’s grasp of previous vocabulary, and by adding new vocabulary. Assignments will include reading, memorization, grammatical diagrams, translation and grammatical analysis of various NT texts, and preparation for student presentations and class discussions.

(See articles 1–4, Gordon-Conwell Mission Statement)

Purpose of the Course

The purpose of this course is that students learn how to analyze a NT text grammatically; that they adopt an academically rigorous, spiritually disciplined, and devotionally dependent approach to the study of the Scripture; and that they cultivate greater love for the Lord, more consistent obedience to God’s Word, and more dedicated service in the Kingdom. The skill of grammatical analysis is not an end in itself, but an essential step in the exegesis, interpretation, and proper application of the first century Scriptures to twenty-first century living.

Structure of the Course

The class will meet three days per week (MWF) from Monday, May 19th, through Friday, June 13th. Each three-hour class will begin with a devotional and prayer, and include some or all of the following: a lecture on some aspect of grammar or syntax, a review and discussion of the assigned NT passage(s) as presented by students, and a quiz or exam as assigned.

Requirements of the Course

1. Attendance. Class attendance is mandatory.

   The workshop/seminar style of the class makes participation a key element in learning and evaluation. One cannot participate without being present, and the learning experience cannot be replicated or recovered outside the classroom. That is just the nature of this type of class.

2. Reading assignments. This course has about 800 pages of assigned reading (or 1000 if elevated). Students will submit a reading report to verify assigned and discretionary reading.

   Most of the reading is intended to give you a general overview of the grammatical functions, so you know what categories to look for and where to find them for your grammatical analysis. Those portions that require particularly close reading will be identified for you. By its very nature grammatical analysis often involves reading, re-reading and comparing the descriptions of certain functions in several grammar books as you try to identify precisely what you are observing in the NT texts. Students will do this kind of reading at their own discretion and as demanded by the NT texts assigned.
3. **Written homework assignments.** Students will complete eight assignments in sentence diagramming and grammatical analysis. The first assignment will consist of a series of short texts taken from passages already translated in basic Greek, while the remaining assignments will cover more lengthy texts (from three to ten verses each) in the gospels and the epistles. All daily work must be legibly written out and handed in on the day for which it is assigned. Because we go over the homework in class, any student submitting the homework later would have an unfair advantage over the other students. If assigned work cannot be turned in on time because of an excusable emergency, alternative arrangements can be made. Responsibility lies with the student to make these arrangements with the professor as soon as possible. If a student knows ahead of time that a particular deadline is not possible (baby due dates, scheduled surgery, etc.), speak to the professor right away. We have more flexibility in dealing with such problems before the deadline than after.

**NOTE:** The operative phrase here is “excusable emergency.” For example, weekend retreats with the Church Youth Group, leaving early or returning late for holiday travel, and traffic jams do not fall under the category of excusable emergencies. Serious injury or illness to you or your family, ordination exams, births, and deaths are examples of what is “excusable.”

4. **Vocabulary quizzes.** Students will take eight quizzes (each about 10 minutes) covering the vocabulary used from 25 to 49 times in the NT. Each quiz will include one of the “anytime paradigms” chosen randomly from a list of paradigms that will be available at the first class.

5. **Mid-term exam.** The mid-term exam (approximately an hour) will cover vocabulary, grammar, syntax, parsing, and translation. All material on the exam will be taken from lectures and assigned passages that have previously been analyzed, translated, and discussed in class.

6. **Final exam.** The final exam will consist of two parts: a longer open-notes portion and briefer closed-notes portion.

   The student will prepare for the exam by completing a typical grammatical analysis, diagram, and translation of an assigned passage prior to the final exam. This will be just like the written homework exercises completed throughout the course. Those notes will then be available for the student to use during the open-notes portion of the exam to answer questions related specifically to the designated passage.

   Once that section is done, the student will turn in the assignment packet with the first part of the exam and then complete the final by taking the brief closed-notes portion of the exam. The closed-notes part of the exam will include vocabulary drawn from the complete list of words covered in the course and several short-answer and multiple-choice questions. The items on the closed-notes portion of the exam will be drawn from a list of integrative questions that will be available to the students at the first class. Essentially, then, the students will have the whole terms to be gathering information to answer the questions on the closed-notes exam.

7. **Elevation to GL901.** ThM students (and others by petition) may elevate this to a 900-level course by augmenting the reading, by completing another graded homework assignment, and meeting twice for an hour of seminar discussion on the extra reading and homework.

   We will determine mutually feasible meeting times for the seminars at the first class meeting.

**Grading**

The student’s grade will be determined by six elements: assigned reading (10%), written homework assignments including one graded homework (20%), vocabulary quizzes (10%), mid-term exam (20%), final exam (35%), and an assessment of the student’s understanding as ascertained from attendance, preparedness, participation, attitude, perseverance with the material, and quality of work in general (5%). Homework will be graded not only for accuracy, but also for solid effort and neatness. Participation refers to a student’s translations, oral presentation in class of diagrams, response to the instructor’s questions, and discussion of grammatical issues. I do not
grade on a curve for reasons that I will explain in class. The grading scale is a six-point, rather than the more common ten-point, scale: 75 (D–); 76-78 (D); 79 (D+); 80-81 (C–); 82-84 (C); 85-86 (C+); 87-88 (B–); 89-91 (B); 92-93 (B+); 94-95 (A–); 96-100 (A).

Perspectives to Keep in Mind

For most students this will be a demanding course, not because the material is particularly difficult but because grammatical analysis is intricate, time-consuming work, especially early in the learning stages. Yet, the benefits to your own life and ministry will more than reward you for your labor. So, do not be intimidated or distressed, but rather be faithful to work on the material in small bites day by day. Do not procrastinate learning the vocabulary. Make full use of all computer assisted learning resources for vocabulary. However, Bible software is not to be used in parsing, grammatical analysis, creating diagrams, or translating. Except for vocabulary learning, this is a computer-free classroom and course. I will say more in class about appropriate/inappropriate uses of computers for this course, along with some other issues related to academic integrity. (See pages 82–83, Student Handbook)

Required Textbooks

1. UBS Greek New Testament, 4th ed. or Nestle-Aland Novum Testamentum Graece, 28th ed. Required. [Typically abbreviated as GNT⁴ and NA²⁸ respectively]


NOTE: Not sufficient to use electronic versions. For the purposes of this course, students must have access to hardcopy versions. If students choose not to purchase these volumes, copies are available on reserve in Goddard library.

Recommended Textbooks


NOTE: Both are preferred resources for grammatical analysis. However, they are no longer stocked in North America. A few new or used copies may still be available online. If you buy new, expect to pay exorbitant prices, but used copies in reasonably good condition are still available at more modest prices. 5th ed. (dark red/maroon soft cover or light blue hard cover) is preferred. However, 4th ed. is still valuable too. Both volumes are available on reserve in Goddard library.

   **NOTE:** This is an acceptable alternative if first two are not available. Also, reasonably priced online.

**Further Bibliographic Resources**

**Intermediate Level Grammars**


**Lexicons**


Related Texts of General Interest


Proposed Daily Schedule

Mon. May 19  Lecture: Introduction to the Course: Syllabus, Texts, and Handouts
Structure of the Greek Sentence
Principles of Sentence Diagramming
Assign: Read Wallace 656-678, ix-71; “The Sentence Diagram” (handout).
Learn Metzger 46 to 49 times (pp. 17-18) = 25 words.

Wed. May 21  Quiz #1  Vocabulary: Metzger 46-49 times.
Lecture: Review and Summary of Sentence Structure and Diagramming
Topics related to case functions (Nom/Voc).
Passage: Go over diagrams for HW#1:1-8.
Assign: Read Wallace 72-136; Metzger 41-49.
Analyze/Diagram HW#1:9-16 (consult MM, Max, and Wallace).
Learn Metzger 42 to 45 times (p. 18) = 25 words.

Fri. May 23  Quiz #2  Vocabulary: Metzger 42-45 times.
Lecture: Topics related to case functions (Gen) and Word Formation.
Passage: Go over diagrams for HW#1:9-16.
Assign: Read Wallace 137-205, 206-210, selections in 211-290.
[GL901: Read Campbell, Verbal Aspect]
Learn Metzger 38 to 41 times (pp. 18-19) = 29 words.

Mon. May 26  Memorial Day Observed: No Class Scheduled (This is your reading week 😊)

Wed. May 28  Quiz #3  Vocabulary: Metzger 38-41 times.
Lecture: Topics related to case functions (Dat/Acc).
Passage: Go over diagram for John 17:1-5.
Assign: Read Wallace 291-354.
Learn Metzger 34 to 37 times (pp. 19-20) = 29 words.

Fri. May 30  Quiz #4  Vocabulary: Metzger 34-37 times.
Lecture: Topics related to Adjectives and Pronouns
Passage: Go over diagram for John 17:6-8.
Assign: Read Wallace 355-389.
Learn Metzger 32 to 33 times (pp. 20-21) = 22 words.
Study for Mid-Term Exam (HW#1:1-16, John 17:1-8, Metz 32-49)
Study special topics/questions from lectures and textbooks.

Lecture: Topics related to Prepositions and the Article
Introduction to Verbs (focus on Person/Number/Voice/Mood).
Assign: Read Wallace 390-493, 494-586.
Analyze/Diagram Hebr 4:14-16 (consult MM, Max, and Wallace).
***Make a clean photocopy of this assignment to turn in,***
Learn Metzger 30 to 31 times (pp. 21-22) = 23 words.
[GL901: Seminar on Mon/Tue to discuss Campbell]
Wed. June 4  **Quiz #5**  **Vocabulary: Metzger 30-31 times.**  
Lecture: Topics related to the Verb (focus on Tense and Aspect).  
Passage: Go over diagram for Hebr 4:14-16 (graded homework).  
Assign: Read Wallace 587-611.  
   
Analyse/Diagram Phil 1:3-6 (consult MM, Max, and Wallace).  
[GL901: Analyze/Diagram Rev 5:1-7 (Abbreviated)]  
Learn Metzger 28 to 29 times (p. 22) = 25 words.

Fri. June 6  **Quiz #6**  **Vocabulary: Metzger 28-29 times.**  
Lecture: Topics related to the Infinitive.  
Passage: Go over diagram for Phil 1:3-6.  
Assign: Read Wallace 612-655.  
   
Analyse/Diagram Phil 1:7-8 (consult MM, Max, and Wallace).  
Learn Metzger 26 to 27 times (pp. 22-23) = 26 words.

Mon. June 9  **Quiz #7**  **Vocabulary: Metzger 26-27 times.**  
Lecture: Topics related to the Participle.  
Passage: Go over diagram for Phil 1:7-8.  
Assign: Read Wallace 679-725.  
   
Learn Metzger 25 times (pp. 23-24) = 17 words.  
[GL901: Seminar on Mon/Tue to discuss Rev 5:1-7]

Wed. June 11  **Quiz #8**  **Vocabulary: Metzger 25 times.**  
Lecture: Topics related to Conditional and Volitional Clauses.  
Passage: Go over diagram for John 15:18-25.  
Assign: Complete the “take-home” portion of the final exam.  
   
Study special topics/questions from lectures and textbooks.  
Review Metzger vocabulary for 25-49 times.

Fri. June 13  **FINAL EXAM including Metzger 25-49 times.**

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**Learning in Community**

This Greek class is to exemplify learning in Christian community. With this in mind I have set a few basic ground rules that will help us express appropriate courtesy and respect for one another:

1. Please make every effort to be on time for class.  
2. Please refrain from eating or drinking in the classrooms.  
3. Please remove caps/hats during devotionals and prayers.  
4. Please be patient and encouraging toward the students who work more slowly.  

You are encouraged to form study groups if that will help your learning process. However, each student’s work must be his/her own. Your integrity before the Lord and one another is of far greater importance than any grade you may achieve through compromising that integrity.  

*(Article 4, Gordon-Conwell Mission Statement and Community Life Statement)*