“The more a theologian detaches himself from the basic Hebrew and Greek text of Holy Scripture, the more he detaches himself from the source of real theology! And real theology is the foundation of a fruitful and blessed ministry”

- John Piper quoting Heinrich Bitzer in *Brothers, We are not Professionals*

David E. Briones, Ph.D.

**Professor Contact Information:**
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**Course Description:**
Students with little or no prior knowledge of Greek study the basic grammar and vocabulary of New Testament Greek. Course comprises plenary lectures, smaller sectional meetings, translation of selected New Testament passages, tutorials, and computer assisted instruction.

**Textbook(s) and Other Learning Materials:**

1. **Required:**

2. **Recommended:**
Course Objectives:

As a result of participating in this course, students will be able to:

1. **Acquire the Fundamental Elements of Biblical Greek**
   - Know the Greek alphabet, pronounce Greek words, and read aloud from the Greek Bible (demonstrated during class sessions)
   - Demonstrate a working knowledge of the meaning of the most common words in the Greek Bible (demonstrated through the vocabulary quizzes and exams)
   - Recall a basic knowledge of the morphology of Greek words (demonstrated through the grammatical quizzes and exams)

2. **Translate and Interpret Basic Greek Sentences**
   - Analyze basic Greek syntax in order to identify and understand the significance of common Greek grammatical constructions (accomplished through the Workbook and Interpretation Exercises and Exams)
   - Translate simple Greek words and phrases (accomplished through the Workbook Exercises and Exams)
   - Explain the interpretive significance and implications of various grammatical elements in your own words (accomplished through the Interpretation Exercises)
   - Utilize Greek reference tools (accomplished through the Workbook and Interpretation Exercises)

3. **See the Value of Biblical Greek**
   - Grasp the value of knowing the original language of the New Testament, acknowledging it as an avenue for in-depth research and exegesis of biblical texts
   - Build a foundation for a lifetime of fruitful engagement with the New Testament

Course Policies:

1. **Late Work Policy:** All assignments are due as scheduled. **Unexcused late work will not be accepted.** To grasp the language well, students must complete their assignments prior to the class session. If not, you will find yourself (and your language skills) falling behind. In emergency cases, contact the professor as soon as possible.

2. **Technology:** Laptops (and iPads, etc.) are allowed in this course, but your phone should not be seen or heard. Also, students who choose to text in class will be asked to translate a Greek sentence.
3. **Privacy Policy:** Please do not Tweet, or otherwise post, comments made by the professor or other students without asking permission first. Rule number one for proper interpretation is “context.” What is the one thing Twitter does not provide?

4. **Attendance:** Class participation is essential for the format of this course. Attendance and active participation are required for all class sessions. According to seminary policy, a letter grade penalty will be assessed for an absence of more than 3 hours.

**Course Requirements:**

1. **Weekly Quizzes:** There will be a quiz each week, due Wednesday by 9pm (when GCTS library closes). If you need it proctored, this must be arranged by Monday morning of that week. Details about proctoring will be discussed in class on September 11. Quizzes will be based off the workbook.

2. **Cumulative Quizzes:** The Friday night of each class we will have a cumulative quiz on all the work studied in the weeks before class. These will be cumulative on the workbook exercises up to that point. So for example, you may have had weekly quizzes respectively on chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4, but the cumulative quiz on Friday will cover 1-4 as a whole.

3. **Memorizing Vocab:** Vocabulary is at the core of learning Greek, and the students who are most successful at Greek I are those who spend a minimum of **15 minutes a day (Monday-Friday)** reviewing old and memorizing new vocabulary cards. You should get a key ring and punch hole your vocab cards on it, in order to carry it with you for momentary review. Or you may wish to use an app that can be used during the day. Long story short: DO VOCAB WORK OFTEN! :)

4. **Final Exam:** The Final exams will contain four sections: vocabulary, grammar, translation, and morphology. It will consist of material covered throughout the entire class (i.e. cumulative). The date for the final exam will be given in class.

**Course Outline:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 11-12</td>
<td>Know the Greek alphabet (upper and lowercases) before Friday night. Read over Mounce, Chs. 1-9, which we will go over together in class. <strong>Do all exercises and work for chapters 1-4,</strong> which are all intro, alphabet, etc. to get us on the same footing.</td>
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<td>Oct. 2-3</td>
<td>Reading: Mounce, Chs. 15-18 Workbook: Exercises 16-18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 6-7</td>
<td>Reading: Mounce, Chs. 21, 10-12 Workbook: Exercises 21, 10-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 11-12</td>
<td>Reading: Mounce, Chs. 13-14, 19-20 Workbook: Exercises 13-14, 19-20, <em>and</em> Reviews #3-4</td>
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