

NT 3P1072
Greek II (Morphology):
Picking up the Pace
Winter 2025

Online: Jan 6–April 11
Office Hours:
Monday 11:00–12:50 pm (In-Person)
Tuesday 11:00–12:50 pm (Online)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is the second half of a year-long introduction to the Greek of the New Testament (NT). It is intended for students who have taken Greek I (Introduction to Biblical Languages) under the MDC language curriculum (NT 3P1071). Continuing the journey of learning Greek from a functional perspective, we will follow a usage-based pedagogical approach to teaching elementary Greek, in which grammar and vocabulary are introduced according to frequency of usage, with the most frequent items introduced first. As a result, students are reinforced in learning the grammatical inflections that appear most frequently in the NT. This course assumes that the student has an awareness of the material taught in NT 3P1071 and has already learned most of the Greek grammatical categories (e.g. you know what an aorist verb is even if you cannot recognize all its various forms yet). Students will focus on mastering Greek at the word level in this course. Emphasis will be on acquiring a broad Greek vocabulary and morphology (words and their forms) for **sight reading**. We will explore the Greek nominal and verbal systems starting with a review of the most consistent and common forms and paradigms, and then gradually moving on to the more fluid forms. At the end of this course, students should be able to recognize a significant proportion of NT Greek words (and their forms) and hence read a portion of the New Testament in its original language with the help of a lexicon.

A Note of Encouragement: The study of any language is both challenging and rewarding. I once heard a scholar comparing learning Greek to daily gym workouts, or to learning a musical instrument. These require discipline, practice and perseverance. They involve a hefty investment of time and energy (and even money), but the goal (whether it is getting in shape or the ability to create music) is extremely rewarding. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance to keep in view our goal—that is, to become responsible and competent exegetes of the Bible. And just as there are many fitness gadgets to help people get into shape, we will utilize various digital widgets (apps, games, and other web resources) to train our brain to recall Greek words. Our goal as your instructors is to make your learning of Greek a positive, empowering, and fruitful experience. Remember, we are in this together.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Knowing:

- To become familiar with the basic morphology and vocabulary of the Greek New Testament (GNT);
- To know how to translate simple Greek sentences into contemporary English;
- To know the basic concepts needed for study of the GNT and exegetical methods that aid in the interpretation of individual passages.

Being:

- To appreciate the value of being able to exegete the text in its original language for use in ministry;
- To find pleasure in working with Greek in biblical studies;
- To allow the GNT to motivate, form, and transform faith and a Christian way of life.

Doing:

- To demonstrate proficiency in incrementally building one's knowledge of biblical Greek so that it becomes an effective and lasting tool for Christian ministry;
- To be able to read the Greek New Testament with the aid of a lexicon, recognizing all major syntax and vocabulary.

TEXTBOOK AND MATERIALS

Students are required to possess the following:

1. Porter, Stanley E., Jeffrey T. Reed, and Matthew Brook O'Donnell. *Fundamentals of New Testament Greek*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010. (NB: We will cover most of this material, but we will not be working through the book or the accompanying workbook. You will be using it as a reference tool.)
2. A standard edition of the Greek New Testament, such as the Nestle-Aland (26th–29th ed.), UBS (3rd–5th ed.) or Westcott-Hort.
3. Other material (videos, practice exercises, tutorials, presentations, handouts, etc.) will be posted on Avenue to Learn (A2L) weekly.

Textbook Purchase: All required textbooks for this class are available from the Hurlburt Family Bookstore located beside the entrance to the Nathaniel H. Parker Memorial Chapel of McMaster Divinity College. To purchase in advance, you may contact the bookstore manager, Bernice Quek, by phone at 416.620.2934 or 416.668.3434 (mobile); or by email at books@readon.ca. The Hurlburt Family Bookstore also carries other books and merchandise and is open throughout the academic year during posted hours.

INTERACTION WITH THE INSTRUCTORS

The instructors will be available via email, Zoom/MS Teams and the discussion forum on Avenue to Learn. Students are encouraged to schedule a video chat (group or individual) with the instructors on a regular basis during the semester. To facilitate that, students are welcomed to make an appointment with the instructors to meet during office hours (virtual or in-person). It is also recommended that students participate regularly in the online discussion forum so as to facilitate the development of a collaborative learning community.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Learning Modules (Quizzes, Exercises, Online Activities) (4% per module = 40% total)

As language learning is cumulative, repetition and practice are essential. Students are expected to be actively participating in the online class activities. Class activities are grouped by learning modules. The ten learning modules are not designed as weekly modules, but students should spend **approximately 7-10 days** to go through each of them. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in these learning activities every day. Each module includes video lecture(s), video tutorial(s), handouts, practice exercises, and a vocabulary and grammar quiz.

Practice exercises are to be submitted electronically to corresponding A2L submission folders. No hard copy or scan is allowed. These exercises are given to help you master the material covered in the lesson and to prepare you for the quizzes and tests. Practice exercises will be graded with comments and returned to students. They are **due before the long tests and the final exam**. If necessary, the instructor may set up an appointment with students or post additional video tutorials to go over the pertinent material and common mistakes. The video lectures and tutorials are to be watched prior to completing the practice exercises and the quiz.

The quiz will be on material learned previously (mostly on material to be memorized, such as endings, grammatical terms, paradigms, vocabulary, etc. and short translation questions).

Assignment Due Dates:

Module 1–3 Feb 5 (Wednesday, first test deadline)
 Module 4–6 March 7 (Friday, second test deadline)
 Module 7–10 April 7 (Monday of the exam week)

Grading Summary for **Each** Weekly Module:

Completion of Lectures/Tutorials	20%
Practice Exercise	40%
<u>Quiz</u>	<u>40%</u>
Weekly Total	100% (4% of the final grade)

2. Vocabulary (10%)

One of the goals of this course is to help students to familiarize themselves with the basic (and most common) vocabulary of the Greek New Testament. There will be twenty new words in each module. Counting the 200 words already learned in Greek I, students will have been assigned roughly 400+ words by the end of the term. A three-level vocabulary quiz on A2L will help students to learn these words. All students **must start** at the first level, which contains the 200 words that are covered in NT 3P1071. A second level quiz contains 300 words, then a third level contains 400 words. For every quiz attempt, A2L will randomly select 20% of the total number of words from the word pool (i.e. 40 words for the first level, 60 for the second, 80 for the third). There is no limit to the number of quiz attempts allowed, but there will be a time limit (20 mins). You can take the quiz at a particular level as many times as it takes for you to master the words. Only your highest attempt will be used to calculate your overall grade. To complete a level (and if applicable, to advance to the next level), your highest attempt must obtain a grade of 90% or more. Your final grade will depend on which levels you complete, you will get 5% towards your final grade for completing level one, 7.5% for completing levels one and two, and 10% for completing all three levels.

3. Long Tests (20%)

There will be two long tests (10% each, 1.5 hours each). These tests may include sentence translations, grammar explanations, paradigms, parsing, vocabulary, etc. The student should **notify the instructors** when they are ready to take a test. Arrangement with the instructor should be made at least a week in advance. A study guide will be provided to the student. The student could also arrange an online meeting with the instructors to go through the material together. The tests are cumulative. The deadline to take the first long test (covering modules 1–3) is **February 5** (Wednesday, 30 days from first day of class) and the deadline for the second test (modules 1–6) is **March 7** (Friday 30 days from first long test, including the reading week). Failing to take the exams before the deadline will result in a zero grade.

4. Final Examination (30%)

The final exam is three hours long. The last day to take the exam is **April 11** (Friday, 5 weeks after the second long test). Failing to take the exam before this date will result in a zero grade.

Course Grading Summary:

Vocabulary	10%
Learning Modules	40%
Long Tests	20%
<u>Final Examination</u>	<u>30%</u>
Total	100%

*Proctor for Tests and Final Exam:

Each exam will be administered to the student to complete within an allotted time. Exams will be proctored. The student must choose someone to proctor the exam, and this person must be approved by the instructors and Registrar of McMaster Divinity College. Examples of approved proctors are faculty or staff of any accredited seminary, university, or college, or a pastor or staff

member of a local church. Alternatively, we can find one or two common timeslots for all students and the instructors will be proctoring the test/exam. A sign-up sheet will be posted 10 days before the test/exam on A2L for students to indicate their availability. If a student needs special accommodation due to unforeseeable circumstances, please email the instructors for further details on arranging the exams.

SCHEDULE

Module	Topics	Grammatical Categories	Reference Chapters
0	Review of NT 3P1071	Auxiliary: Particles, Conjunctions, Prepositions Nominal: 1 and 2 Declension Nouns, 2-1-2 Adjectives, the Article Verbal: Indicative Verbs (Primary and Secondary Endings)	
1	The Nominal System (I)	Contraction Rules 3 rd Declension Nouns, 1/3 Adjectives, 3 Adjectives Pronouns: Indefinite/Interrogative Pronouns	FNTG Chs. 1, 7
2	The Nominal System (II)	Participle (Aorist, Present, Future) – Active, M/P, M Proper Nouns	FNTG Chs. 10, 17
3	The Auxiliary	Negative Particles, Conjunctions, Adverbs, Comparative and Superlative Adjectives Pronouns: Relative Pronouns	FNTG Chs. 4, 5, 9, 16, 19
	Long Test I	Long Test Review	
4	The Verbal System (I)	Contraction Rules Indicative Verbs Variations (Contract, Liquid, Stops)	FNTG Chs. 8, 16, 23
5	The Verbal System (II)	Infinitives, Aorist/Future Passive Pronouns: Personal and Intensive Pronouns	FNTG Chs. 4, 8, 11, 13, 15, 20, 22
6	The Verbal System (III)	The Subjective Mood Pronouns: Reflexive and Reciprocal Pronouns	FNTG Ch. 14, 23
	Long Test II	Long Test Review	
7	The Verbal System (IV)	The Imperative and Optative Mood Pronouns: Demonstrative Pronouns	FNTG Chs. 9, 12, 24, 30
8	The Verbal System (V)	Perfect and Pluperfect	FNTG Chs. 25–27
9	The Verbal System (VI)	Athematic Verbs (μ verbs)	FNTG Chs 18, 21
10	Above Word Level	Periphrastic/Catenative Construction, Clause Types, Conditional Statements, Genitive Absolute	FNTG Chs. 10, 14, 28–30
	Final Exam	Exam Review	

PREPARATIONS

To better prepare for this course, students are expected to review everything (practical language) covered in NT 3P1701. An extra module (module zero) is added to the A2L course shell to provide a review of the material covered in that class. Students are expected to have already memorized roughly 200 most common Greek words. Students should also be able to recognize the following endings and paradigms (with the corresponding chapters of *FNTG* in square bracket):

- Nominal System:
 - First and second declension endings [2; 5]
 - The article paradigm [3]
 - 2-1-2 adjective endings [2]
 - Verbless clauses and lexical structures [3]
- Verbal System:
 - Primary and secondary endings (Active and M/P)
 - Formations of the indicative mood: Aorist (first and second) [4, 6, 11], Future [8, 11], Present [8, 13], and Imperfect [6, 13]
 - The paradigm of εἰμί [7.5, 8.4.2]
- Auxiliary:
 - Preposition with one case [12]
 - Preposition with two or three cases [15]
 - Conjunctions and particles
- Phonology:
 - Vowel lengthening and compensation [1.3.7.3]
 - Vowel contraction [1.3.7.4]

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR, ATTENDANCE, AND PARTICIPATION

- All thoughtful student participation is welcome. There are no “dumb questions” or “stupid answers.” Students will respect the contributions of other students, although they may disagree, and respond to them without ridicule or scorn.
- While we are not going to introduce new content during our weekly online sessions, students are strongly recommended to come to these meetings every week to ask questions, clarify concepts, discussing interpretation, and most importantly, form a supportive learning community.

ONLINE CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE

Students who opt to come to virtual office hours (zoom meeting) are expected to follow these guidelines:

1. Please choose a location that allows you to attend the meeting with the least amount of (expected) distractions and interruptions. A busy café, for example, may not be the best environment for you to participate in various class activities.

2. You are responsible for a device that meets the recommended requirements of running zoom smoothly and have a fast and reliable internet connection for the meeting.
3. Anything that is considered as inappropriate to do in class in person should also be considered as not appropriate during live-streaming meeting.
4. Please keep your video on as much as it is possible to foster a lively collaborative learning environment.
5. Please mute your microphone during the meeting unless you have a question or when participating in a class/group discussion.

LATE SUBMISSION POLICY

All assignments must be submitted on or before the due date unless other arrangements are made in advance. A late penalty of 2% per day will be applied to all assignments submitted after the deadline unless an extension has been obtained from the instructor prior to the deadline.

Assignments cannot be submitted after **April 11, 2025** without written permission from the Office of the Registrar (mdcreg@mcmaster.ca).

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic dishonesty is not qualitatively different from other types of dishonesty. It consists of misrepresenting the ownership of written work by deception or by other fraudulent means. In an academic setting this may include any number of forms such as: copying or using unauthorized aids in tests, examinations; plagiarism, i.e., submitting work that is not one's own (regardless of the means of its production) but passing it off as if it is; submitting work for credit in a course for which credit is being or has already been given, unless the previously submitted work was presented as such to the instructor of the second course and has been deemed acceptable for credit by the instructor of that course; aiding and abetting another student's dishonesty; giving false information for the purposes of gaining admission or credit; giving false information for the purposes of obtaining deferred examinations or extension of deadlines; forging or falsifying McMaster University or McMaster Divinity College documents.

AODA

In accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA), the content of this course is intended to be accessible to all students who are enrolled in the course, including those with disabilities. If a student requires accommodation to participate fully in this course, that student is to contact SAS at McMaster University, who will then work directly with the McMaster Divinity College Registrar to negotiate reasonably appropriate accommodation for the student. The MDC Registrar will communicate with faculty regarding necessary accommodations. Please note that an accommodation is not retroactive and must be requested in advance to allow sufficient time for implementation.

GENDER INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

McMaster Divinity College uses inclusive language for human beings in worship services, student written materials, and all its publications. It is expected that inclusive language will be used in chapel services and all MDC assignments. In reference to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected, but you will need to use gender-

inclusive language for humans, and you will need to quote from a gender-inclusive version such as, for example, the following: NRSV (2021), NCV (1991), TEV/GNB/GNT (1992), CEV (1995), NLT (1996), NIV (2011), and the CEB (2011).

STYLE

All stylistic considerations (including but not limited to questions of formatting, footnotes, and bibliographic references) must conform to the McMaster Divinity College Style Guidelines for Essays and Theses <https://mcmasterdivinity.ca/resources-forms/mdc-style-guide/> Failure to observe appropriate form will result in grade reductions.

DISCLAIMER

This syllabus is the property of the instructor and is prepared with currently available information. The instructor reserves the right to make changes and revisions up to and including the first day of class.