

# **Greek Exegesis 1**

## **NT 2I03**

### **(Matthew)**

McMaster Divinity College  
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Fall 2015 (Term 1)  
Wednesday, 10:30am–12:20pm

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Being able to read the Greek New Testament opens up the possibility of a deeper and richer encounter with the scriptures. Also, being able to explicitly analyze the possible meaning(s) of a Greek wording makes it possible for us to discuss with clarity the basic foundation on which all interpretive and theological discussions must rest. In this class, students will grow in their ability to read and analyze the Greek New Testament through assigned readings and exercises, as well as through classroom lectures and discussions. By the end of the course, students should be able to read through a passage of the Greek New Testament, understand what it says, and appreciate how the wording of the text factors into interpretive debates regarding its meaning.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

In this course, students will be encouraged to:

##### ***Knowing***

- Learn more Greek vocabulary
- Learn how to analyze Greek word groups and clauses
- Become familiar with Greek narrative so as to be able to read and interpret it

##### ***Being***

- Appreciate the importance of participating in respectful discussions about biblical texts
- Become humble interpreters who are moving towards competency in Greek
- Listen carefully to the original wording of the New Testament

##### ***Doing***

- Take time to look closely at the New Testament in its original language
- Practice analyzing Greek wordings so that it becomes easy to see how individual words fit together into larger structures
- Develop responsible exegetical skills, particularly those that are oriented towards the wording of the biblical text (e.g. textual criticism, grammatical analysis, discourse analysis).

## COURSE PREREQUISITES

Prerequisite courses are: NT 1B03 and NT 1C03, or NT 1G03 and NT 1H03 (or equivalent)

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Please Note: Students are required to complete all of the following assignments. *Each written assignment should be uploaded in PDF format to the designated Avenue to Learn (A2L) dropbox. A penalty of 2% per day will be applied to all late assignments. Assignments cannot be submitted after December 18<sup>th</sup> without written permission from the Office of the Registrar (thomn@mcmaster.ca).*

1. Class Participation (10%). Students are expected to complete weekly readings and assignments on schedule, to attend class, and to participate in class discussions. For those weeks where a passage from the Greek New Testament is being discussed, each student will receive credit for showing up to class prepared to read several verses aloud and then contribute some comments and/or questions concerning those verses. In the event that a student is unable to attend class *due to extenuating circumstances*, the relevant classes (to a limit of two) will be factored out of the participation grade—provided the student discusses his or her absence with the professor in a punctual manner (preferably in advance of the missed class).
2. Weekly Assignments (50%). Each week, students will apply their knowledge of Greek—developed both through class lectures and assigned readings—to the study of one or more passages from the Greek New Testament. For each assignment, a template with specific instructions will be posted on A2L assignments. Students must follow the instructions given in the template and then upload their completed assignment **before 11:00am** in accordance with the schedule below.
3. Vocabulary Quizzes (10%). On each of the starred dates in the calendar below, each student must complete a brief vocabulary quiz using A2L. Students can take the quiz up to five times, with the highest achieved score counting towards the final grade. The vocabulary for all of the quizzes includes all of the words assigned in Porter, Reed, and O'Donnell, *Fundamentals of New Testament Greek* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010), but each quiz will also add some additional vocabulary that is specific to the Gospel of Matthew. The relevant vocabulary lists are available on A2L, and some free study aids are available at [www.quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com). Students can also use the practice quiz on A2L, which contains all of the words assigned in the course.
4. Final Examination (30%). Students must complete a final examination on **December 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm**. The exam, which will last two hours, will test each student's familiarity with the Greek of the New Testament. First, students will be asked some vocabulary questions.

Second, students will answer a variety of grammatical questions. Third, they will translate two passages from the New Testament.

### GRADING SUMMARY

|                     |      |
|---------------------|------|
| Class Participation | 10%  |
| Weekly Assignments  | 50%  |
| Vocabulary Quizzes  | 10%  |
| Final Exam          | 30%  |
| Total               | 100% |

### TEXTBOOKS

Students are required to possess the following:

A standard edition of the Greek New Testament, such as the Nestle-Aland *Novum Testamentum Graece* (26<sup>th</sup>–28<sup>th</sup> ed.) or the UBS *Greek New Testament* (4<sup>th</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> ed.).

A suitable Greek–English lexicon (see bibliography below).

Porter, Stanley E., Jeffrey T. Reed, and Matthew Brook O’Donnell. *Fundamentals of New Testament Greek*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010.

Students are recommended to possess (or have access to) the following:

A parsing tool, such as biblewebapp.com, Bibleworks, Logos, or Accordance.

Omanson, Roger L. *A Textual Guide to the Greek New Testament: An Adaptation of Bruce M. Metzger’s Textual Commentary for the Needs of Translators*. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2006.

Porter, Stanley E. *Idioms of the Greek New Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1994.

All required textbooks for this class are available from the College’s book service, READ On Bookstore, Room 145, McMaster Divinity College. Texts may be purchased on the first day of class. For advance purchase, you may contact READ On Bookstore, 304 The East Mall, Suite 100, Etobicoke, ON M9C 5K1: phone 416.620.2934; fax 416.622.2308; email [books@readon.ca](mailto:books@readon.ca). Other book services may also carry the texts.

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

| Dates      | Assignment<br>(Due 11:00am)    | Text             | Lecture Topics                               | Follow-Up<br>Grammar<br>Reading       |
|------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Sep<br>16  |                                | Matt 1:1         | Introduction<br>(Typing & Speaking Greek)    | Preface<br>Introduction<br>Appendix A |
| Sep<br>23  | #1                             | Matt 1:18–21     | Morphology<br>(& Textual Criticism)          | Ch. 1<br>Appendix B                   |
| *Sep<br>30 | #2                             | Matt 3:13–17     | Units and Structures<br>(& Lexicography)     | Ch. 2                                 |
| Oct<br>7   | #3                             | Matt 4:18–22     | Clause Core:<br>Ideational                   | Ch. 3                                 |
| Oct<br>14  | Reading Week (No Class)        |                  |  |                                       |
| *Oct<br>21 | #4                             | Matt 4:23–5:12   | Clause Core:<br>Textual                      | Ch. 4                                 |
| Oct<br>28  | #5                             | Matt 5:13–32     | Clause Core:<br>Interpersonal                | Ch. 5                                 |
| Nov<br>4   | #6                             | Matt 6:5–24      | Clause Periphery:<br>Ideational              | Ch. 6                                 |
| *Nov<br>11 | #7                             | Matt 7:28–8:17   | Clause Periphery:<br>Textual & Interpersonal | Chs. 7–8                              |
| Nov<br>18  | #8                             | Matt 10:1–23     | Word Groups:<br>Core                         | Ch. 9                                 |
| Nov<br>25  | #9                             | Matt 16:13–17:13 | Word Groups:<br>Periphery                    | Ch. 10                                |
| *Dec<br>2  | #10                            | Matt 27:32–61    | From Grammar<br>to Discourse                 |                                       |
| Dec<br>9   | Matt 27:62–28:20 (Exam Review) |                  |  |                                       |
| Dec<br>16  | <b>Final Examination</b>       |                  |  |                                       |

**SUITABLE GREEK-ENGLISH LEXICONS**

\*Bauer, Walter, Frederick W. Danker, W. F. Arndt, and F. W. Gingrich. *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. 3rd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000.

Danker, Frederick W. *The Concise Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2009.

Liddell, Henry George, Robert Scott, and Henry Stuart Jones. *A Greek-English Lexicon*. 9th ed. Oxford: Clarendon, 1996. [Available @ <http://www.tlg.uci.edu/lsg/>] [8th edition available @ <https://archive.org/details/cu31924012909697>]

Liddell, Henry George, and Robert Scott. *An Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1889. [Available @ <https://archive.org/details/intermediategree00lidd>]

\*Louw, J.P., and E.A. Nida, *Greek–English Lexicon of the New Testament Based on Semantic Domains*. 2 vols. New York: United Bible Societies, 1989.

Thayer, J.H., *A Greek–English Lexicon of the New Testament*. New York: American Book Company, 1897. [Available @ <https://archive.org/details/04508981.1536.emory.edu>]

### **SUITABLE COMMENTARIES ON THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW**

Allen, W.C. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Gospel according to S. Matthew*. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1907.

Carson, D.A. “Matthew.” In *The Expositor’s Bible Commentary*, ed. F.E. Gaebelin, 1-599. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984.

Davies, W.D., and D.C. Allison, Jr., *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Gospel according to Saint Matthew*. ICC. 3 vols. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1988-97.

France, R.T. *The Gospel of Matthew*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2007.

Gundry, R.H. *Matthew: A Commentary on his Literary and Theological Art*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982.

Hagner, D.A. *Matthew*. WBC. 2 vols. Dallas: Word, 1993, 1995.

Lagrange, M.-J. *Evangile selon Saint Matthieu*. EB. Paris: Gabalda, 1923.

Lohmeyer, E., with W. Schmauch. *Das Evangelium des Matthäus*. KEK. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1967.

Luz, Ulrich. *Matthew: A Commentary*. Hermeneia. 3 vols. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2001–2007.

McNeile, A.H. *The Gospel according to St. Matthew*. London: Macmillan, 1915.

Meyer, H.A.W. *Critical and Exegetical Hand-Book to the Gospel of Matthew*. London: Funk & Wagnalls, 1884.

Wiefel, W. *Das Evangelium nach Matthäus*. THNT. Leipzig: Evangelische Verlagsanstalt, 1998.

**STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence that may take any number of forms, including plagiarism, the submission of work that is not one's own or for which previous credit has been obtained, and/or unauthorized collaboration with other students. Academic dishonesty can result in severe consequences, e.g., failure of the assignment, failure of the course, a notation on one's academic transcript, and/or suspension or expulsion from the College. Students are responsible for understanding what constitutes academic dishonesty. Please refer to the Divinity College Statement on Academic Honesty (<http://www.mcmasterdivinity.ca/programs/rules-regulations>).

In this course we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) for plagiarism detection. Students who do not wish to submit their work to Turnitin.com can submit an electronic copy of their work via email in PDF format and no penalty will be assigned, but all submitted work is subject to normal verification standards in order to ensure that academic integrity has been upheld (e.g. online search).

**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://www.mcmasterdivinity.ca/sites/default/files/documents/mdc\\_styleguide.pdf](https://www.mcmasterdivinity.ca/sites/default/files/documents/mdc_styleguide.pdf)

Failure to observe appropriate form will result in grade reductions.

**GENDER INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE**

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

**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.**