

Introduction to New Testament Greek 1 (Fall)  
NT 1B03

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Office hours: Mondays & Wednesdays (12:30–2:00PM) or anytime (by appointment)

Class hours: Mondays & Wednesdays (3:30–5:00PM)

### Course Description

This course is Part 1 of the study of the Greek language of the New Testament, including the vocabularies and the general principles of its grammar and syntax.

**Instructor's note:** Learning Greek may require extra study time and effort, but it is never impossible to learn it or even excel at it. Above all, learning Greek can be fun and inspiring, especially when you want to understand and interpret the New Testament in a deeper way. I encourage those who are interested in taking the course to contact me in advance (via email or appointment), so that I can discuss with you the content, structure, and dynamics of the course.

### Course Objectives

#### *Knowing*

1. To become aware of the basic principles of language use (e.g. traditional grammar vs. modern linguistics)
2. To acquire a basic knowledge and understanding of how we got the New Testament and how it came to be written in Greek
3. To learn the basic morphology, syntax, and vocabulary of the Greek language of the New Testament
4. To know the basics of translating the New Testament Greek into contemporary English

#### *Being*

1. To appreciate the value of knowing and being able to use Greek in the study of the New Testament and especially in ministry
2. To find pleasure in working with Greek in biblical studies
3. To develop increased appreciation for the Greek of the New Testament as a guide for life and confidence in interpreting it

#### *Doing*

1. To use one's knowledge of Greek as an effective tool for studying the New Testament and for ministering the word of God
2. To do and practice the following in the course of the semester:
  - memorize and write the Greek alphabet
  - recognize punctuation and accents
  - pronounce Greek words
  - parse and translate learned nouns, adjectives, and pronouns

- parse and translate learned finite verbs, including learned infinitives, participles, and subjunctives
- memorize paradigms and vocabulary items of the New Testament
- use a standard New Testament Greek lexicon
- translate selected Greek passages into English

### Required Texts

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

**Note:** Other material will be distributed as handouts in class. All required textbooks for this class are available from the College's book service, READ On Bookstore, Room 145, McMaster Divinity College. Other book services may also carry the texts. Texts may be purchased on the first day of class. For advance purchase, you may contact READ On Bookstore,

5 International Blvd.  
Etobicoke, ON M9W 6H3  
Phone: 416.620.2934; 416.622.2308 (Fax)  
Email: books@readon.ca

### Course Requirements

#### *Class Participation (5%)*

1. Learning is a collaborative effort. Do not hesitate to ask questions at any time during and outside the class time.
2. Learning language is like learning mathematics—it is cumulative knowledge acquisition and requires practice.
3. Class attendance is a necessity in learning language, unless you have the necessary skill and discipline to do it on your own. You will do well if you always come to class on time. You do not want to be trailing behind a lesson or an assignment.
4. You will not be marked for class participation, but you will get the full 5% if you have a complete class attendance.

#### *Weekly Quizzes (25%)*

1. There will be one in-class quiz *usually* every Monday (except during long test days) at the start of class time on lessons and material learned previously (e.g. alphabet, endings, vocabulary, grammar terms, etc.).
2. There may be take-home quizzes for you to do at your convenient time outside of class time.

#### *Long Tests (30%—15% each)*

1. There will be two long tests (see Course Schedule), and each is an hour and a half long.

*Homework Exercises (10%)*

1. There will be homework exercises to hand in at the start of each class time. Homework exercises are given to help you increase your final grade. Failure to complete them will reduce your final grade or can even cause failure of the course.
2. Late submission will result in a loss of up to 5 marks off your final grade. Homework exercises are meant to help you master the lessons and prepare you for the quizzes and long tests. Therefore, make sure to complete and submit them dutifully.
3. Homework exercises that are more than a week late will not be accepted.
4. Please do not check the answer key for these homework exercises. It will be corrected for you.
5. For the other exercises in the *Fundamentals of New Testament Workbook* that are not assigned, complete as much as you can (the more the better), and check your answers with the answer key provided. This is vital to your progress.

*Final Examination (30%)*

1. There will be a final examination, which will be 3 hours long.

**Course Grading**

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|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Class participation: | 5%             |
| 2. Weekly Quizzes:      | 25%            |
| 3. Long Tests:          | 30% (15% each) |
| 4. Homework Exercises:  | 10%            |
| 5. Final Examination:   | 30%            |
| <b>Total:</b>           | <b>100%</b>    |

**Course Schedule**

12 Sept	Language—English vs. Greek; Traditional Grammar vs. Functional Linguistics Chapter 1—Alphabet and Punctuations
14 Sept	Nouns—English vs. Greek Chapter 2—Nouns (Second Declension)
19 Sept	Chapter 2—Nouns (Second Declension); Adjectives (First and Second Declension)
21 Sept	Chapter 3—The Article; Verbless Clauses
26 Sept	Verbs: English vs. Greek Chapter 4—Introduction to the Verb: First Aorist Active Indicative
28 Sept	Chapter 4—Infinitive and Negation
3 Oct	Chapter 5—Nouns (First Declension); Relative Pronouns Review—Chapters 1 to 5
5 Oct	1st Long Test (chapters 1 to 5)
10 Oct	Thanksgiving Day (no classes—spend time with your family!)
12 Oct	Reading Week (no classes)
17 Oct	Chapter 6—Second Aorist Active Indicative and Infinitive
19 Oct	Chapter 6—Imperfect Active Indicative

24 Oct	Chapter 7—Nouns (Third Declension) and Adjectives (Various Declension Patterns); Verb ἐπιμί
26 Oct	Chapter 8—Present and Future Active Indicative and Infinitive; Contract verbs in εω
31 Oct	Chapter 9—Pronouns: Intensive, Indefinite, and Interrogative; Questions
2 Nov	Chapter 10—First and Second Aorist, Present, and Future Active Participle
7 Nov	Chapter 10—Genitive Absolute
	Review—Chapters 6 to 10
9 Nov	2nd Long Test (chapters 6 to 10)
14 Nov	Chapter 11—The Middle Voice: First and Second Aorist
16 Nov	Chapter 11—Future Middle Indicative and Infinitive
21 Nov	Chapter 12—Prepositions with one case; Demonstratives
23 Nov	Chapter 13—The Passive Voice: Present Middle/Passive Indicative and Infinitive
28 Nov	Chapter 13—The Passive Voice: Imperfect Middle/Passive Indicative
30 Nov	Chapter 14—The Subjunctive Mood: Aorist Active and Middle Subjunctive
5 Dec	Chapter 14—The Subjunctive Mood: Present Active and Middle/Passive Subjunctive
7 Dec	Chapter 14—Clauses: Hortatory, Deliberative, and Purpose; Chapter 1—Accents
	Review—Final Examination: Chapters 1 to 14
12–14 Dec	Final Exam Week—exact date and time of final exam to be announced

### 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>

### 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.

### Use of Cell Phone

Refrain from using your cellphone while class is in session. In cases of emergencies, you may discretely excuse yourself from the class should you need to use your cellphone.

**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.