



McMaster Divinity College

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INTRODUCTION TO NEW TESTAMENT GREEK 1 – NT 1G03 FALL 2014

I. **Course Description**

An online study of the Greek language in the New Testament that leads to the mastery of the general principles of grammar and syntax.

II. **Course Objectives**

The objectives of the class are categorized and outlined below, and will be accomplished through the various assignments and exams provided.

A. **Knowing**

1. The student will learn the basic morphology, syntax, and vocabulary of the Greek of the New Testament.
2. The student will be able to translate New Testament Greek into contemporary English.
3. The student will learn how to use a standard New Testament lexicon.
4. The student will have a basic understanding of the theory of Aspect as it relates to Greek verbs.

B. **Being**

1. The student will be able to use the Greek Bible in personal study, preaching and academic exegetical work.
2. The student will be better equipped to engage with critical scholarship on the New Testament.

C. **Doing**

1. The student will appreciate and discover new meaning in the Bible's original language.

2. The student will gain a great level of satisfaction by reading the New Testament in its original language.
3. The student will benefit in their personal relationship with God by reading and studying the New Testament in more depth.

III. **Course Prerequisites**

There are no course prerequisites for this course.

IV. **Textbook and Materials**

All textbooks and materials for this course will include but are not limited to:

1. Stanley E. Porter, Jeffrey T. Reed and Matthew Brook O'Donnell, *Fundamentals of New Testament Greek* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010).
2. Stanley E. Porter, Jeffrey T. Reed, *Fundamentals of New Testament Greek Workbook* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010).
3. *The Greek New Testament* (4th and rev. ed.; ed. Barbara Aland, et al; D-Stuttgart: United Bible Societies, 2001).

*** Other course materials such as video lectures, video tutorials and lesson handouts will be posted on the course website. Access to the website will be given upon registration in the course.

*** 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. Other book services may also carry the texts.

V. **Interaction with the Instructor**

The instructor will be available via email, Skype, and the Avenue to Learn community blog. The student is encouraged to schedule a conversation with the instructor *each month* during the semester, either in person, by phone, or by Skype. This will ensure that the student keeps him/herself on-track for successful completion of the course. The student is to initiate this interaction.

The course will feature an online blog on which the student will be able to ask questions, interact with the instructor and interact with other students. Students will also be able to ask questions and report any issues they may be having with the video modules. It is recommended that the student constantly be accessing the blog for updates and other helpful tips for learning Greek.

VI. **Course Requirements**

A. **Weekly Assignments (14)**

The student will watch the video lesson and tutorial and complete the assignment for that lesson, ideally on a weekly basis. The list of assignments and schedule is listed below.

Assignments may be submitted either electronically or via hard copy. Electronic submissions are to be emailed to the instructor upon completion of the assignment (i.e., please do not send in 5 assignments at all once). They must be clear (not blurry) and submitted as a pdf file. Hard copies may be submitted to the Student Records office or by arrangement with the instructor. Hard copies may be picked up the following week at the same office. Assignments will be returned with helpful comments to aid the student and help them to better prepare for the mid-terms and final exam. If there seems to be any deficiency of progress in the student, the instructor may set up an appointment to go over the pertinent material.

Deadlines for the assignments are as follows:

- Lessons 1–5 due before October 3
- Lessons 6–10 due before November 7
- Lessons 11–14 due before December 5

The deadlines are to keep the student accountable and to help spread the workload over the semester. The penalty for not turning in the assignments by the due dates are forfeiture of the points for those assignments.

B. **Mid-Terms (2)**

There are two mid-terms for this course on the material pertinent to the assignments and lessons provided in the lectures and textbook/workbook. When the student is ready to take the mid-term, according to the course schedule below, the student will contact the instructor and decide together the date/time of the mid-term. A study guide will be provided some time before the mid-term—the guide will list what sort

of material needs to be on the exam. The mid-terms are *always* cumulative, since lessons build upon the previous ones.

The deadline to take Mid-Term 1 is **October 10**. The deadline for Mid-Term 2 is **November 14**. The reason for these deadlines is to keep students accountable and to prevent them from doing all the assignments and mid-terms all on the last week of the semester. Failing to take the mid-terms before the deadline will result in a zero for each mid-term not taken.

C. **Final Exam (1)**

The same guidelines are applicable for the final exam as the mid-terms. The last day that the final exam can be taken is **December 12**. Failing to take the final exam before this date will result in a zero.

Each exam (including the mid-terms) 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 Registrar of McMaster Divinity College. An option for students who live close enough to the College is to take the exam on campus, by arrangement with the instructor who will serve as the proctor. Please email the instructor for further details on arranging the exams.

VII. **Course Assessment**

Assignments – 30%

Lecture and Tutorial View – 5%

Mid-Term 1 – 20% (deadline October 10)

Mid-Term 2 – 20% (deadline November 14)

Final Exam – 25% (deadline December 12)

VIII. **Course Restrictions**

Since this is an online course, the pace at which the student progresses depends upon the student. However, a number of restrictions *must* be noted:

1. The student must begin his/her semester in September or January (or in the case of summer school, May or July). Students will not be able to begin a course during any other month.

2. Once the course has begun, the student has a limited amount of time to drop the course. After a certain date *no refunds are available*. The deadlines are available on the McMaster Divinity College Calendar.
3. The course will be separated into two components: semesters 1 and 2. A student must complete semester 1 before attempting to complete semester 2. Any exceptions to this rule must be approved by the Registrar of McMaster Divinity College.
4. A student *cannot* begin semester 2 mid-semester. For example, a student who begins semester 1 in September and finishes in November *cannot* begin semester 2 in November—he or she must wait until January to begin semester 2.
5. Successful completion of the course requires that the student competently complete each assignment and write *three exams*. The two mid-term exams will be available after the appropriate lessons have been completed. The final exam will become available once the student has completed all of the lessons.

IX. Course Schedule

This course is divided into 14 lessons. The lessons are designed in such a way that the student is able to study at a pace of 1 or 1.5 lesson(s) per week. *It is in the student's best interest not to proceed at a pace less than one lesson per week*. Each of the homework assignments are found in the course workbook.

Lesson 1: Introduction to the Course and the Greek Alphabet.

Homework: Ex. A–C (pp. 1–2)

Lesson 2: Greek Nouns in the Second Declension and Parsing.

Homework: Ex. A–C, F (pp. 3–6)

Lesson 3: Greek Adjectives in the Second Declension and the Definite Article.

Homework: Ex. D; parse one item from each sentence (pp. 10–11)

Lesson 4: Greek Verbs in the First Aorist Tense/Aspect

Homework: Ex. A, B, D, E (pp. 13–16)

Lesson 5: Greek Nouns in the First Declension and the Relative Pronoun

Homework: Ex. A, E (pp. 19–22)

***** Mid-Term 1 (Lessons 1–5) *****

Lesson 6: Greek Verbs in the Second Aorist Tense/Aspect and Imperfect Tense/Aspect
Homework: Ex. A, F (pp. 29–34)

Lesson 7: Greek Nouns in the Third Declension and the Verb “to be”
Homework: Ex. E–F (pp. 37–40)

Lesson 8: Greek Verbs in the Present Tense/Aspect and Future Tense/Aspect
Homework: Ex. D–E (pp. 42–45)

Lesson 9: Greek Intensive, Indefinite and Interrogative Pronouns
Homework: Ex. D–F (pp. 47–52)

Lesson 10: Greek Participles
Homework: D–E (pp. 54–57)

***** Mid-Term 2 (Cumulative through Lesson 10) *****

Lesson 11: Greek Verbs in the Middle/Passive Voice
Homework: Ex. D–E (pp. 64–67)

Lesson 12: Greek Prepositions
Homework: Ex. D–E (pp. 70–74)

Lesson 13: Greek Verbs in the Passive Voice
Homework: Ex. D–E (pp. 76–79)

Lesson 14: Greek Verbs in the Subjunctive Mood
Homework: Ex. D–E (pp. 82–85)

***** Final Exam (Cumulative through Lesson 14) *****

X. Academic Honesty Policy

Academic dishonesty is a serious offense 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>

XI. **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.

* **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.