



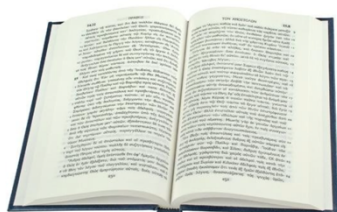
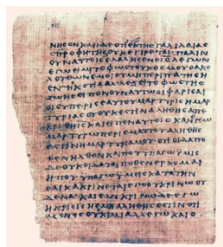
McMaster Divinity
College

GREEK SYNTAX

NT 2E03

McMaster Divinity College
Dr. Christopher D. Land
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Fall 2021 (Online)
Weekly Tutorials: Wed 1:00–2:50pm



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Today, it is possible for preachers and teachers to examine the Greek New Testament using software tools or online resources. But users of these tools still need an understanding of Greek grammar, including not just the morphology of individual words but also the syntax that makes Greek sentences meaningful. For this reason, learning syntax is essential for a wide range of students, including not only those who hope to sight-read Greek but also those who do not anticipate learning to sight-read. For this reason, Greek Syntax is available to any student who has already taken Greek 1 (NT 1B03) or who has some existing familiarity with biblical Greek.

The course is structured as a sequence of online modules to be completed within Avenue to Learn (A2L). Each module will begin with an intro video and some assigned reading that introduces some Greek grammar. On Wednesday, we will have a class tutorial via Zoom to discuss examples from the New Testament and to practice understanding actual wordings. Finally, you will work through some exercises to see how well you can apply your new knowledge of Greek.

Throughout the course, we will be working through John 9 and 1 John, so that by the end of the semester you will be able to read through these texts and appreciate how their sentences have been constructed and how they mean what they mean.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Through their active participation in this course, students will:

KNOWING

- Know some of the most frequent inflections in the New Testament;
- Know how individual words combine in order to make meaningful units;
- Know the main grammatical choices that enable the construction of Greek wordings;

BEING

- Become self-aware as a modern reader of the Bible, recognizing the antiquity of the texts;
- Dispense with over-confidence (or lack of confidence) concerning knowledge of the biblical languages, adopting instead an attitude of life-long learning;

DOING

- Be able to talk intelligently about the structure of a specific wording by invoking alternative wordings (i.e. explain both *what* the wording means and *why* it means what it means);
- Be able to move cautiously from an analysis of Greek grammar to a preliminary understanding of an actual passage of scripture.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Note: You are required to complete all of the following assignments. No unfinished assignments are permitted. *Written assignments must be uploaded to Avenue to Learn either as Word documents (.doc, .docx) or in Rich Text Format (.rtf). A penalty of 2% per day will be applied to all late assignments, including assignments submitted in incorrect file formats. Assignments cannot be submitted after Dec 10th without written permission from the Office of the Registrar (strickpd@mcmaster.ca).*

TUTORIAL PREPARATION & PARTICIPATION (10%)

Each week, a video will be posted on A2L along with a PDF excerpt from the forthcoming book, *How Sentences Mean*. Students will watch and read prior to the Wednesday tutorial, and will come to the tutorial prepared to ask questions and discuss examples. Weekly tutorials will be at 1:00pm each Wednesday via Zoom.

EXERCISES (10 x 5% = 50%)

Throughout the semester, there will be eleven online modules. Each module will include an exercise that will list some Greek wordings and then ask you to explain (in your own words but drawing from the module content) how the wordings use a particular part of Greek grammar in order make meaning. The exercise worksheet will identify the NT passage, so you can use various resources in your work (e.g. English translations, lexicons, parsing information, etc.). **The exercises must be uploaded to A2L prior to the weekly deadlines listed below. Your ten best grades will count, but your lowest grade will be dropped.**

VOCABULARY QUIZZES (3 x 5% = 15%)

During the semester, you will learn approximately 240 of the most common inflected word forms in the passages we will be studying from 1 John and the Gospel of John. (You will be memorizing actual inflected

forms rather than lexemes, because this will make it much easier for you to read the texts. As a result, you will memorize far fewer than 240 lexemes, and your vocab will include many words already learned in introductory Greek). Various study aids will be made available to assist you in this, including digital flash cards with English glosses. The vocabulary will be tested by means of three quizzes (each worth 5%). The first quiz covers the 80 most common forms, the second quiz the 160 most common forms, and the final quiz the full 200 forms. **The quizzes can be taken any time but must be completed on A2L prior to the due dates in the schedule below.**

“TAKE HOME” FINAL EXAM (25%)

For the final take-home examination, you will be given a passage of Greek and some questions like the ones in your previously submitted exercises. You will be allowed to use the course materials as well as online grammatical resources in order to answer the exam questions. The exam is designed to ensure that you can recognize important grammatical constructions as well as explain how they make wordings meaningful. **The take-home exam must be uploaded to A2L prior to the due date in the schedule below.**

GRADING SUMMARY

Tutorial Preparation & Participation	10%
Exercises	50%
Vocabulary Quizzes	15%
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>25%</u>
Total	100%

TEXTBOOKS

All students are required to possess (or have access to) the following:

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

Land, Christopher D. *How Sentences Mean*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, forthcoming. **[Draft chapters to be disseminated via A2L]**

All students are recommended to possess one of the following:

Mathewson, David, and Elodie Ballantine Emig. *Intermediate Greek Grammar: Syntax for Students of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2016.

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

All required textbooks for this class are available from the Hurlburt Family Bookstore located beside the MDC chapel entrance. For advance purchase, you may contact READ On Bookstore, 5 International Blvd,

Etobicoke, ON, M9A 3C3: phone 416.620.2934; mobile 416.668.3434; email books@readon.ca. Other book services may also carry the texts.

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Module Dates	Topics	Due Dates	
		Friday @ 11:59pm	Sunday @ 11:59pm
Sept 13–19	Predications		Exercise #1
Sept 20–26	Temporal Predicates & Attributes		Exercise #2
Sept 27–Oct 3	Non-Temporal Predicates & Attributes		Exercise #3
Oct 4–10	More Non-Temporal Predicates & Attributes	Vocab Quiz #1	Exercise #4
Oct 11–17	Entities		Exercise #5
Oct 18–24	Events		Exercise #6
Oct 25–31	Reading Week		
Nov 1–7	Speech Acts		Exercise #7
Nov 8–14	Expansion	Vocab Quiz #2	Exercise #8
Nov 15–21	Extension		Exercise #9
Nov 22–28	Expression		Exercise #10
Nov 29–Dec 5	Periphrasis		Exercise #11
Dec 6–12	Exam Review	Vocab Quiz #3 Final Exam	

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 at:

<http://www.mcmasterdivinity.ca/programs/rules-regulations>

In this course, we will be using a web-based service (Turnitin.com) for plagiarism detection and the student's continuation in the course represents his or her consent to the use of this service. If a student has objections to the use of this service, alternate arrangements for assignment submission must be made with the professor in advance of the assignment deadlines.

A useful guide to avoiding plagiarism is the Harvard Guide to Using Sources:

<http://usingsources.fas.harvard.edu/icb/icb.do>

STYLE

All stylistic considerations (including but not limited to questions of formatting, footnotes, and bibliographic references) must conform to the latest edition of the McMaster Divinity College Style *Guidelines for Essays and Theses*:

<https://www.mcmasterdivinity.ca/sites/default/files/documents/mdcstyleguide.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 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 the following: NRSV (1989), NCV (1991), TEV/GNB/GNT (1992), CEV (1995), NLT (1996), TNIV (2005), and the Common English Bible (CEB 2011).

This syllabus is for information only and remains the property of the respective professor. This syllabus is prepared with the best information available, but the professor reserves the right to change the content and format of the course.