

Spring 2015
Tuesday, Thursday
9:30-10:50 AM
Location: BH 116

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Catalog Course Description

An introduction to Greek grammar and syntax. Reading and analysis of selected New Testament texts explores the nature of translation and its relationship to interpretation. In doing so, students come to see themselves as active participants in the work of interpreting New Testament texts. Help is given in effective use of digital and print resources such as grammars, lexicons, and concordances. Mastery of basic vocabulary is stressed.

Course Objectives

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. Understand basic Greek grammar, syntax, and vocabulary.
2. Apply this knowledge to the translation and interpretation of New Testament texts.
3. Use basic print and digital resources for the exegesis of the New Testament in Greek.
4. Come to see themselves as an active interpreter of New Testament texts.
5. Value the utility of Greek in the interpretation and teaching of the New Testament.
6. Prepare for further study of the New Testament in the curriculum and the continued utilization of Greek in ministry contexts.

Enduring Understandings

1. Knowledge of New Testament Greek can be a vital component of the tasks of ministry, whether in preaching, teaching, or pastoral care.
2. Familiarity with New Testament Greek is a valuable tool in the interpretation of New Testament texts by allowing for fuller comprehension of exegetical commentaries and scholarly articles.
3. Translations are not absolute renderings of the Greek texts; they are approximations rooted in a certain time, place, and translational philosophy. Understanding the decisions translators and text critics make is a path towards more accurate and compelling readings of Scripture.
4. With basic tools and the help of new technologies, students can continue their Greek proficiency throughout a lifetime of ministry and study.

Key Knowledge and Skills

1. Familiarity with basic Greek grammar.
2. Memorization of the most commonly appearing vocabulary in the New Testament.
3. Ability to translate New Testament texts with appropriate grammatical and lexical helps.
4. Ability to use computerized Bible software such as Accordance in the exegetical process.

Required Textbooks

Croy, N. Clayton. *A Primer of Biblical Greek*. Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 2011.

Bible software is required in this course and will be required in subsequent exegesis courses.

Luther Seminary recommends [Accordance](http://www.accordancebible.com/) and is pleased to provide a 50% discount to the Original Languages Collection (or above) of Accordance Bible Software, now available for both Mac and Windows as well as your iPad or iPhone. Go to <http://www.accordancebible.com/>, set up an account using your Luther Seminary email address, and enter the coupon code APP-LutSem1415 to receive your 50% discount. This discount is for Luther Seminary Students only; all purchases will be verified by Accordance prior to download.

Recommended Textbooks

Bauer, Walter and Frederick W. Danker. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. 3d ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000. This lexicon is also available as an additional module for Bibleworks or Accordance.

Lamerson, Samuel. *English Grammar to Ace New Testament Greek*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004.

Metzger, Bruce M. *Lexical Aids for Students of New Testament Greek*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1998.

Nestle-Aland. *Novum Testamentum Graece*. 27th edition. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2004.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance (10%) – Students will complete the learning activities outlined in the syllabus and course website prior to each course meeting. These learning activities usually include watching a video lecture, reading the assigned chapter(s) in Croy, learning the vocabulary list, and completing the Practice and Review sentences. Class time will function as a lab then. We will review the key points of the lesson, answer questions, and then translate together from Croy and from the New Testament. And so, consistent attendance is indispensable for the achievement of the course goals. Excessive absences may result in a grade penalty. Of course, unexpected events may require you to miss class. Please advise me of any upcoming absences via email.

2. Weekly Grammar Quizzes (20%) - Covering the week's lessons, these grammar quizzes will be taken without notes or other helps with a 30-minute time limit via the course website. The weekly quizzes must be completed by midnight on Saturdays.

3. Weekly Vocabulary Quizzes (20%) - Similarly, weekly vocabulary quizzes must be completed by midnight on Saturdays without notes or other helps within a 15-minute time limit via the course website.

4. Cumulative Vocabulary Exam (20%) – On May 2, the weekly vocabulary quiz will consist of a cumulative vocabulary exam. This exam will cover the approximately 300 words appearing more than 50 times in the NT; the list is available on the [course website](#). A score above 80% is required on this particular exam.

5. Three Exams (30%) – Exams will be due on February 28, April 8, and May 11. Unlike quizzes, exams are open-book, open-note, and not timed. The exams will ask you to translate several Greek sentences and then answer grammatical questions about your translation.

1. Inclusive Language in Class Discussion and Assignments – In order to cultivate an environment of inclusion and non-discrimination and to ensure clarity in written communication, students should use non-gendered pronouns and nouns when referring to mixed-gender groups (e.g., “humanity” rather than “man” or “mankind”) or when the gender of a subject is unknown. Visit <http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/gender-sensitive-language/> for a helpful guide on employing gender-sensitive language in your writing.

All language is insufficient to describe God. Moreover, Scripture uses both masculine and feminine metaphors to explain God’s relationship with God’s creation. Students are encouraged to avoid using gender-specific pronouns for God or to use male and female pronouns interchangeably. If the use of gender-specific pronouns is necessary to make an argument about a particular biblical text, that usage should be acknowledged in a footnote.

2. ADA Compliance Statement – Reasonable accommodation will be provided to any student with a disability who is registered with the Office of Students with Disabilities and requests needed accommodation.

If you are a student with a disability (e.g., physical, learning, psychiatric, vision, hearing, etc.) and think that you might need special assistance or a special accommodation in this class or any other class, please contact the Dean of Students Office or contact your instructor directly.

3. Academic Honesty – Members of the Luther Seminary community are expected to conduct themselves responsibly and honestly in academic matters. Cheating and plagiarism are serious offenses against this expectation and are subject to disciplinary action.

If instances of cheating or plagiarism are detected, one of the disciplinary actions shall follow: either the instructor records a failure for the assignment or examination, or the instructor records a failure for the course. In either case, the instructor shall bring the matter to the Office of the Academic Dean and the Office of the Dean of Students, and the question whether further disciplinary action should be considered will be determined in consultation with the instructor, the Office of the Academic Dean, and the Office of the Dean of Students. See the current Student Handbook for more details on this matter.

WEEK 1

February 3	Lesson 1: Alphabet
February 5	Lesson 2: Verbs
February 7	Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes Due

WEEK 2

February 10	Lesson 3: First Declension Nouns
February 12	Lesson 4: Second Declension Nouns
February 14	Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes Due

WEEK 3

February 17	Lesson 5: Adjectives
February 19	Lesson 6: Prepositions
February 21	Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes Due

WEEK 4

February 24	Lessons 7-8: Pronouns
February 26	Lesson 9: Present Middle/Passive
February 28	<u>Exam 1 Due</u>

WEEK 5

March 3	Lessons 10-11: Imperfect
March 5	Lesson 12: Future
March 7	Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes Due

WEEK 6

March 10	Lessons 13-14: Aorist
March 12	Lesson 15: Perfect and Pluperfect
March 14	Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes Due

WEEK 7

March 17	Lesson 16: Aorist and Future Passive
March 19	Lesson 17: Third Declension
March 21	Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes Due

WEEK 8

March 24	Lesson 18: Participles I
March 26	Lesson 19: Participles II
March 28	Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes Due

WEEK 9

March 31	NO CLASS / PORTFOLIO REVIEW DAY
April 2	NO CLASS / EASTER
<i>April 8</i>	<u>Exam 2 Due / NB: Due Date for Exam is <i>Wednesday April 8th</i> by Midnight</u>

WEEK 10

April 7	Lesson 20: Participles III / Review / NB: Due Date for Exam is Wednesday April 8th by Midnight
April 9	Lesson 21: Contract Verbs / Lesson 22: Liquid Verbs
April 11	Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes

WEEK 11

April 14	Lesson 23: Subjunctive
April 16	Lesson 24: Infinitive
April 18	Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes

WEEK 12

April 21	Lesson 25: Third Declension
April 23	Lesson 26: Imperative
April 25	Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes

WEEK 13

April 28	Lesson 27: Relative Pronouns
April 30	Lesson 28-29: δίδωμι and τίθημι
May 2	Cumulative Vocabulary Exam

WEEK 14

May 5	Lesson 30-32: ἵστημι and Miscellany
May 7	Review
May 11	Exam 3 Due