Greek 202:  
Reading the Greek New Testament and Related Literature

MWF 10:30-11:20   OM 303  
Prof. C.D. Elledge  
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933-6295  
Office Hours:   Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 2:30-4:30;  
and by appointment. Old Main 305A

Description:  
A course dedicated to substantial readings in the Greek New Testament and Related Literature. The first portion of the course is dedicated to daily readings in the New Testament; the second is devoted to selected readings in numerous areas of direct concern for understanding New Testament History and Christian Origins, including Septuagint, Apocrypha, Pseudepigrapha, Philo, and Josephus. Brief introductions to papyri and epigraphy will also be given. Prerequisite: GRE 201 or equivalent.

Objectives:  
This course has been designed with the following instructional goals in view:  
– to acclimate students of Classical Greek to Hellenistic koiné styles of grammar and syntax;  
– to foster reading and vocabulary skills in New Testament koiné Greek that will result in an easy translation style and lifelong appreciation;  
– to read and translate some of the most important Greek literature for understanding New Testament history, including the Septuagint, Apocrypha, Pseudepigrapha, Josephus, inscriptions, and papyri;  
– to introduce students to basic methods and primary resources for philological research in New Testament and Related Literature.

Evaluation:  
Students will be evaluated based upon their performance in the following contexts:  
– Vocabulary Quizzes (10%): Weekly vocabulary quizzes will be given from Metzger, until the most common words in the New Testament have been memorized. These will be given during the last ten minutes of class, the last day of each week. Within ten weeks of the course, every Greek word appearing in the NT fifty times or more will have been memorized.  
– Daily Reading (20%): Students will read and be prepared to translate at sight the assigned reading portion for the day, making relevant lexical and syntactic notes in a research notebook.  
– Reports (10%): Brief reports on assigned topics will be presented during the course of the semester. Guidelines for the report are listed below.  
– Finished Translation (10%): Each student will select one passage of twenty lines from among our readings to be the subject of a more finished translation. It will be typed and submitted on May 18.  
– Memorization (10%): Please memorize and recite to the professor the Lord’s Prayer in Greek, as found in Matt 6:9-13. It will be due the week of April 20.  
– Midterm Examination (20%): A midterm review examination will be given on the date listed in the syllabus.  
– Final Examination (20%): A final examination will be given on the comprehensive content of the course.

Academic Honesty  
The following code will be written and signed on every examination and graded paper: “On my honor, I pledge that I have not given, received, or tolerated others’ use of unauthorized aid in completing this work.” All written work is to be
completed independently, unless otherwise noted by the instructor. Using the ideas and/or words of another writer and representing them as your own may constitute plagiarism. It is your responsibility to give credit to those whose ideas and language you utilize when you write.

Disability Services
“Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (1990) work together to ensure ‘reasonable accommodation’ and non-discrimination for students with disabilities in higher education. A student who has a physical, psychiatric / emotional, medical, learning, or attentional disability that may have an effect on the student’s ability to complete assigned course work should contact the Disability Services Coordinator in the Advising Center, who will review the concerns and decide with the student what accommodations are necessary.”

Texts:
The following texts are required:

Schedule
[ * = an edition will be provided by the instructor]

Feb 7
Introduction to the Syllabus
Introduction to Tools and Resources for New Testament Greek

Feb 7 – Mar 25
Translating the Greek New Testament: Topic to be Selected
Vocabulary Quizzes on Fridays (or the last day of the week)

Mar 26-Apr 3
Spring Break

Apr 4-6
Reading Some Ancient Copies of the New Testament
  *Sight-reading an ancient New Testament papyrus* (link; bring to class)
  *Sight-reading an ancient Codex
  **Mini Report:** What is an ancient “Codex”?

April 8
Septuagint: The Greek Scriptures of Jews and Christians
  **Mini Report:** What is the Septuagint?
  **Memorization Week:** Please schedule an appointment during this week for the recitation of the Lord’s Prayer memorization assignment.

*Apr 11
Josephus: *Testimonium Flavianum*
  **Mini Report:** Who was Josephus?

*Apr 13-15
Apocrypha: The Wisdom of Ben Sira: Jewish sofi/a at the time of Jesus
  **Mini Report:** Who was Ben Sira?

*Apr 18-20
Pseudepigrapha: *Psalms of Solomon*: The ui{o/j Dauid before Jesus
  **Mini Report:** What are the *Psalms of Solomon*?

Apr 22-25
Easter Recess

*Apr 27
Philo of Alexandria

**Mini Report:** Who was Philo of Alexandria?

*Apr 29
Josephus: Another “Jesus” and the Last Days of Jerusalem

*May 2-4
Apocalyptic Writings: 1 Enoch, Apocalypse of John

**Mini Report:** What is a literary “apocalypse”?

*May 6-9

**Epigraphy:** The Theodotus Inscription (link)

**Mini Report:** What was an ancient “synagogue”?

*May 11-13
The Didache and other Early Christian Writings

May 16-18
Open dates

**Finished Translation Due May 18**

Bibliography

Greek ReferenceGrammars and Guides to Syntax


Lexica and Vocabulary Aids


Resources for Reports

(located in the reference section of library)
Guidelines for the Mini Reports

Brief reports will be assigned to each student throughout the course and will be listed on the web version of the syllabus. These reports will be brief, approximately 5 minutes in length. They will include the following items: (a) a fact sheet, distributed to each member of the class, containing the most essential information on the topic of the report; (b) an oral presentation to the class on the topic; (c) responses to follow up questions from classmates and the instructor. Each student will complete one of these reports during the term.