

University of Central Oklahoma
College of Liberal Arts
Department of Modern Languages
Fall 2021

GRK 1113: Biblical Greek I

CRN: 12418

MWF 10:00AM-10:50AM,

Liberal Arts North, Rm. 231

Instructor: Dr. Jerry Green

Email: jgreen67@uco.edu

Phone: 405.974.5612

Office: Liberal Arts North, 204c

Office Hours: T 10:00AM-12:00Pm, W 9:00AM-10:00AM, Th 10:00AM-12:00PM

Course Description:

“This course is an introduction to the pronunciation, grammar, reading, and composition of Biblical Greek.”

The New Testament was originally written in a Greek dialect called *Koine* (i.e. ‘common’ Greek). The same Greek dialect was used to translate a certain form of the Old Testament in a collection called the Septuagint. It was also the dialect of Greek throughout the Mediterranean from around 350 BCE onward, when Alexander the Great spread Greek language and culture throughout his short-lived empire. It persisted as a common language for diverse ethnic groups to speak to each other through the Roman and Byzantine period, and used in important treatises in literature, philosophy, and early science. In this class, you will begin to learn the fundamentals of this Greek dialect.

This course is part of a one-year sequence in the basic grammatical categories of Koine Greek. Any language takes a long time to master, especially a classical language like Greek which is read but rarely spoken. You certainly won’t be ‘fluent’ by the end of one class. But I will help you learn the tools to continue reading Greek on your own with the use of dictionaries and online resources.

Over the course of the semester you will:

- Learn to recognize and replicate the letters and sounds of the Greek alphabet
- Learn the most important and most frequent Koine Greek vocabulary
- Learn the basics of Greek noun, adjective, and pronoun declension systems
- Learn the basics of Greek verb conjugation for present, future, and past active tense verbs
- Learn the basics of Greek syntax for simple sentences, including preposition and pronoun use

In addition, you will develop:

- A more sophisticated grasp of linguistic concepts, independent of a specific language
- A more thorough understanding of English grammar and etymology
- An awareness of the ambiguity and complexity of natural language and translations
- An appreciation of the original language of a few highly influential religious texts

Two things worth noting:

- 1) This class is about ancient Greek, not modern ‘Demotic’ Greek (that’s a different dialect),
- 2) This is not a theology class: our focus will be on the language of the NT, not as much on the content (though of course the former can’t help but teach you a little about the latter).

Prerequisites: None

Transformational Learning Outcomes:

The University of Central Oklahoma is a learning-centered organization committed to Transformative education through active engagement in the teaching-learning interchange, scholarly and creative pursuits, leadership, global competency, healthy lifestyles, and service to others. Transformative learning goals (the “Central Six”) have been identified as: *Discipline Knowledge; Leadership; Research, Scholarly and Creative Activities; Service Learning and Civic Engagement; Global and Cultural Competencies*; and *Health and Wellness*. This course addresses two of the University’s transformative learning goals:

Discipline Knowledge, by developing competency in the *Koine* Greek dialect
Global and Cultural Competencies, by engaging with the language and texts of another culture

Course Materials

We will use a variety of course materials in this class. The **required** textbook for the course is:

Green, J. (2021) *Koine: A Learner-Centered Approach to Hellenistic and Biblical Greek*.

This text is available at [APMOK](#) on 500 E. 2nd St (right across from campus, on the corner of 2nd and Rankin). It will cost about \$30. This will be our primary textbook for the class.

There are two other *recommended* books for this course:

Black, D. A. (1998) *It’s Still Greek to Me*. Baker Academic. ISBN: 0801021812

Trenchard, W. (2003) *A Concise Dictionary of New Testament Greek*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 0521521114

These two books supplement the textbook for the course: one focuses on grammar, the other vocabulary. They are both inexpensive, and used copies should be easy to find.

We will also make significant use of D2L for posted material and assignments. It is your responsibility to make sure you have regular, reliable access to D2L for this material (and to email for updates and other communication from me).

Workload

Language classes are very different from others kinds of classes. Language mastery is a skill, and skills require practice. But practice takes time and effort. The standard recommendation is that students study 2 hours outside of class for every hour in class (i.e. 6 hours a week outside of class + 3 hours in class). You can get by in most classes without anything near this level of work. And in fact, you’ve probably taken at least one class where the professor said you would have to study way more than you actually did. Sorry to say, Greek is not one of those classes: you really will have to put in significant time outside of class to keep up.

However, I have done everything I can to keep the pace and workload achievable, and to avoid any busywork. The homework for the class has been designed to be as efficient as possible, and to help guide you in what/how to study effectively without spending too much time on it. In addition to the assigned homework, though, you will have to spend a fair bit of time memorizing vocabulary on your own. There are no real shortcuts here: you can read a language if you don’t know what the words mean, and there are a lot of words to learn, so you’ll have to devote time every day to drilling vocabulary, both to keep up with new words as they are introduced and to remind yourself of older words so that you don’t start to forget them.

Assignments

Class & Attendance

We will use a Flipped Classroom model, where most content delivery is handled outside of class, through the textbook and supplementary materials like powerpoints, videos, and handouts. Our in-class time will be spent in active learning exercises that give you time to practice and internalize the material.

Reading & Outside Study

Languages, by their very nature, cannot be learned in the 150 minutes we spend in class every week. You will need to spend a significant amount of time outside of class reading the textbook, reviewing material, drilling vocabulary, etc. If you fall behind, it is incredibly difficult to catch back up, so consistent, sustained study and review is a must.

Panopticon

To make sure you are studying the way you need to be, I will occasionally, randomly check in to see what you are doing outside of class. This will involve things like asking you to submit pictures of your vocab lists to make sure they are filled in, asking to see your vocab flash cards to prove you've made them, and checking your supplemental cheat sheets are up to date. In other words, I'm giving you both credit and accountability for your out-of-class studying.

Vocabulary Quizzes

You will have 40 short Vocab Quizzes, roughly three per week starting on the second week of class. These quick, timed quizzes will have a variety of short answer questions to test your recognition and comprehension of Greek vocabulary. They will be randomized and cumulative (i.e. you can be asked about any word we covered up to that point in the semester).

GPS Exercises

GPS stands for 'Guided Practice Study'. Since language learning is very different from how you study in other classes, I have written material that basically handles study strategy for you: you will have sets of different kinds of questions for each Lesson to approach the material from a variety of ways. These are your primary homework assignments for each Lesson. Each GPS Exercise should take about 60 minutes to complete, but they are easy to break up into smaller chunks to do over a longer period of time.

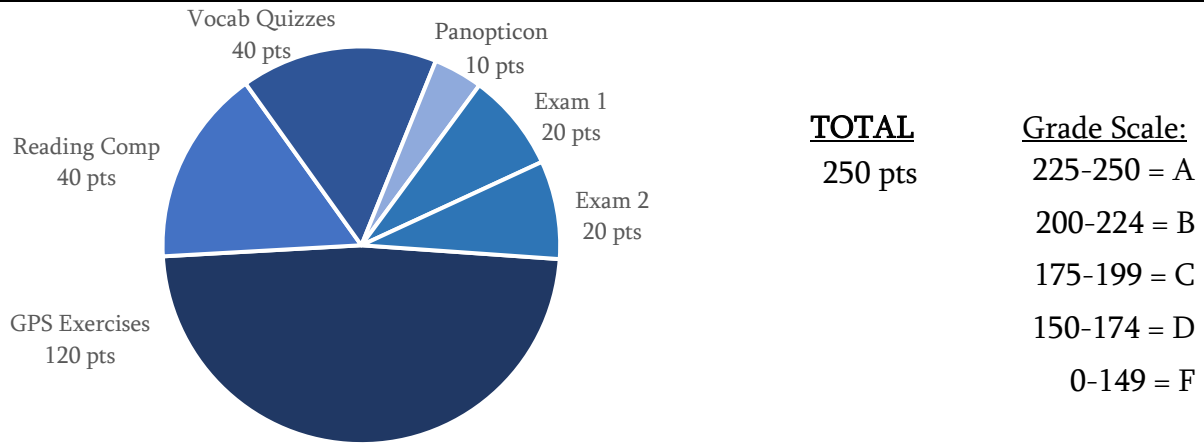
Reading Comprehension Exercises

You will also have 10 Reading exercises throughout the semester. These will be c. 350 word passages written to use the material you have recently learned (and to give you a better grasp of the history, culture, and literary genres of first century Greek speakers in the ancient Mediterranean and Middle East). These exercises will have questions in English to test your reading comprehension skills separately from your ability to translate, and so will focus on themes and details of the material that are not always directly expressed in the text. The reading should take 20-30 minutes to complete; the quiz itself should only take 8-10 minutes.

Exams

We will have two exams, after Lessons 24 and 44. These exams will cover all the skills and content you have studied to that point: grammar & syntax, morphology, vocabulary, translation and reading comprehension. In other words, all of the homework you have will be practice for what to do on the exams.

Grades



Vocabulary Quizzes There will be at least 40 Vocab Quizzes during the semester, each one worth 1 point, for a total of 40 points in this category. There may be extra quizzes over the course of the semester. If so, you can use these to add the number of points in the Vocab Quiz category until you hit 40 points total. You cannot go over that number, but you can continue to work until you get there. This system functions like a curve but better, because it rewards people who make an effort on every assignment even if they don't get everything right every time. You will take each quiz on D2L.

GPS There will be at least 30 GPS exercises during the semester, worth 4 points each, for a total of 120 points in this category. They will otherwise work just like the Vocab Quizzes: we may have more than 30 that give you extra attempts to earn all the points in this grade category. These quizzes will be Word documents that you will need to print and fill out by hand (though there might be some things you could type in English first), then scan or take a pic to upload to D2L.

Reading There will be 10 Reading Comp exercises during the semester, worth 4 points each, for a total of 40 points in this category. Because these are bigger assignments, there will likely not be any extra to attempt. These exercises will also be Word documents posted to D2L, but these you should be able to fill out entirely in the doc without printing. You will then upload your answers to D2L.

Exams There will be two exams, a Midterm and a Final. Each is worth 20 points, for a total of 40 points in this category. Both exams will be take-home exams which you will print, fill out, and upload to D2L.

Rounding Letter grade cut-offs are at 90.0%, 80.0%, etc. But I may round up in exceptional cases, if (i) I feel you've done better or worked harder than your score suggests, and (ii) you do not have excessive absences or missing assignments. This is a courtesy, not an entitlement.

Appeals I am more than happy to talk to you about lower-than-expected grades, and to regrade your assignment if merited (but note the risk that the regraded results could be lower). However, I consider asking for a grade increase for non-performance reasons (e.g. to keep a scholarship or prevent your parents from being mad) to be academic misconduct, because you are asking for me to give you a grade you did not earn. So don't do that.

Excused Absences

The exception to the Late/Make-Up policy listed above is excused absences. The University considers absences for the following reasons excused:

- travel considered part of the instructional program of the university
- invited participation in activities directly and officially sponsored by the university
- jury duty or military obligations
- serious illness, medical condition, pregnant and parenting students' rights (as outlined in Title IX), accident, or injury
- death or serious illness in immediate family
- religious observances. *Note: a list of religious observances must be submitted to the instructor the **first two weeks** of the semester of which the observance will be held.*

Late Work & Make-Ups

Vocabulary Quizzes take place on D2L; they will have hard deadlines, and are set to be auto-graded upon completion. Since these quizzes will be posted in advance, and can be completed out of class at your convenience, there are no extensions or make-ups. If you miss a quiz, you forfeit that point.

Panopticon assignments will be given at random, with a short submission window (usually 24 hours). There are extensions or make-ups for these assignments either: if you miss a deadline, you forfeit the point.

GPS and Reading Comp exercises are hard copy worksheets, usually 2 pages per Lesson for GPS and 1 page for Reading Comp. This material will be distributed in advance. You will have to write them out by hand: it is possible to type in Greek, but it is much slower and more difficult to learn than writing by hand, and does not help you learn as well as writing does. You will then have to either scan the document or take a picture, and submit that to D2L where I will grade it. There will also be hard deadlines for these exercises: GPS exercises will be due before the next class period, Reading Comp exercises on Sunday nights.

Exams will be done outside of class, and you will have several days to work on them. They will have a hard deadline for submission as well: with a one letter grade penalty for each day late.

Reasonable Accommodations Policy

Any student who needs extra time or resources to do their best work due to a physical, cognitive or emotional condition may qualify for academic accommodations. You should consult Disability Support Services for further information: <http://sites.uco.edu/student-affairs/dss/>

The University of Central Oklahoma complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities who need special accommodations must make their requests by contacting Disability Support Services, at (405) 974-2516 (V/TTY). The DSS Office is located in the Nigh University Center, Room 305. Students should also notify the instructor of special accommodation needs as soon as possible.

A bit of advice: do not let shyness or embarrassment or pride stop you from getting the services you deserve. I've seen too many students allow their grades to suffer because they didn't speak up to claim the accommodations they were entitled to. I will do everything I can to make sure that your accommodations stay between you, me, and DSS.

Recording Policy

Recording Policy: Due to limitations on the disclosure of personally identifiable information under certain federal privacy laws, students are not permitted to record class sessions nor to allow non-students to view online class sessions. Students registered with the UCO office of Disability Support Services may request accommodation

Academic Honesty

You are expected to consult and understand the [University's Academic Dishonesty Policy](#); participation in this class constitutes an agreement to follow this policy. My own policy is this: it is always better to ask for help than to cheat. Cheating takes more work, with worse results, than simply attempting the assignment. If you are confused at any point about whether something constitutes academic dishonesty, please ask: I am here to help. However, if you are caught engaging in academic misconduct, I will pursue whatever maximum penalties the University may apply.

Disabilities & Title IX

The University of Central Oklahoma complies with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Students with disabilities who need special accommodations must make their requests by contacting Disability Support Services, at (405) 974-2516. The DSS Office is located in the Nigh University Center, Room 305. Students should also notify the instructor of special accommodation needs as soon as possible. Per Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, pregnant and parenting students may request adjustments by contacting the Title IX Coordinator, at (405) 974-3377 or TitleIX@uco.edu. The Title IX Office is located in the Lillard Administration Building, Room 114D. For more information about your options, including reporting and confidential resources, please visit: <http://www.uco.edu/central/title-ix/index.asp>.

Physical and Mental Health

College can be a very stressful time, emotionally, socially, and academically. You don't have to face these stresses alone. There are numerous resources on campus to help, including:

<http://sites.uco.edu/student-affairs/scc/>

<http://sites.uco.edu/student-life/diversity/>

<http://sites.uco.edu/wellness/shc/>

<https://www.uco.edu/offices/student-success/>

Student Information Sheet

More important info here: <http://sites.uco.edu/academic-affairs/files/aa-forms/StudentInfoSheet.pdf>

COVID Mask Policy (from Office of Academic Affairs)

Consistent with Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance for areas of substantial or high COVID-19 transmission as of August 1, 2021, the University of Central Oklahoma recommends that all individuals wear a mask covering the mouth and nose when in public indoor spaces such as classrooms, laboratories, studio spaces, the library, the Nigh University Center, enclosed athletic facilities, and other shared indoor spaces on campus. While mask wearing is not required, the university encourages all members of the university community to follow the guidelines issued by the CDC based on conditions in Oklahoma County. This guidance may be revised at any point during the semester.

As detailed in the Student Code of Conduct, students are expected to be familiar with the UCO Coronavirus webpage, www.uco.edu/coronavirus and are expected to follow the recommendations and

guidance published on that page. Because the recommendations and guidance are subject to change, students should check back often for updated information and requirements.

Students who follow these guidelines will not be penalized for class absences provided they follow their instructor's directions for making up missed assignments in a timely fashion, in conformity with the requirements and expectations outline in the class's syllabus. Instructors shall provide reasonable opportunities, consistent with the structure and objectives of the class, for students who are following these guidelines to participate in and to keep up with the work of the class.

As the conditions on campus and in the community evolve, events may occur that necessitate a change in the procedures, course schedule or modes of delivery. The information provided on www.uco.edu/coronavirus will be updated throughout the academic year. Procedure changes on this webpage and communicated via official correspondence from the university will supersede any prior guidance.

If you have tested positive for COVID-19 or have had direct exposure to someone with COVID-19, file a report with the COVID-19 Response Team at:

https://uco.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_39Omw83BStDpw1L.

Schedule

Date	Lesson	Topic
8.23	1	Alphabet
8.25	2	Pronunciation
8.27	3	Grammatical Gender & Proper Names
8.30	4	Place Names
9.01	5	Demonyms
9.03	6	Vocab Break: People
9.06	Labor Day - No class	
9.08	7	Genitive Case
9.10	8	Declensions & Lexical Form
9.13	9	Simple Sentences
9.15	10	Vocab Break: Family
9.17	11	Nominative & Genitive Plural
9.20	12	εἰμί & Personal Pronouns
9.22	13	Thematic Verbs (Intransitive)
9.24	14	Spatial Prepositions I: Gen
9.27	15	Dative Case
9.29	16	Vocab Break: Household
10.01	17	Spatial Prepositions II: Dat
10.04	18	Thematic Verbs (Transitive)
10.06	19	Accusative Case
10.08	20	Spatial Prepositions III: Acc
10.11	21	Adjectives I: Positive
10.13	22	Demonstrative Pronouns
10.15	Fall Break - No Class	
10.18	23	Indefinite & Correlative Pronouns
10.20	24	Noun & Adjective Review; Vocative
10.22		Midterm
10.25	25	Vocab Break: Food & Drink
10.27	26	Athematic Verbs
10.29	27	Adverbs I: Adjectival Adverbs
11.01	28	Middle Verbs
11.03	29	Verbal Voice
11.05	30	Compound Verbs
11.08	31	Vocab Break: Domestic Items
11.10	32	Participles I: Substantive
11.12	33	Participles II: Verbal
11.15	34	Vocab Break: Chores
11.17	35	Infinitives
11.19	36	Imperatives
11.22	37	Vocab Break: Dwellings
11.24-26	Thanksgiving - No Class	
11.29	38	Subjunctive & Optative
12.01	39	Prepositions IV: Causal/Explanatory
12.03	40	Vocab Break: Farming
12.06	41	Adverbs II: Spatial
12.08	42	Improper Prepositions I: Spatial
12.10	43	Vocab Break: Herding
12.17	44	Present Tense Review / Final