

First Semester Greek

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Class meetings: Tuesday, 5 – 8 (PST)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces the basic grammar and vocabulary of biblical Greek, preparing you to translate, interpret, and apply Scripture, and use Greek in your biblical studies. You will learn the essentials of grammar and an adequate vocabulary by doing exercises.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course you should be able to:

1. Understand the basic grammar of biblical Greek.
2. Know foundational Greek vocabulary words (about 320).
3. Translate from the New Testament with some helps.
4. Use biblical Greek as a tool for ministry to better understand and communicate God's Word.
5. Utilize commentaries and biblical resources that require knowledge of the Greek language.

COURSE TEXTS

Required Resources

1. Mounce, W. D. *Basics of Biblical Greek: Grammar*. 3rd edition (Zondervan)
2. Mounce, W. D. *Basics of Biblical Greek: Workbook*. 3rd edition (Zondervan)
3. Broadband internet access. Go to www.SpeedTest.net and confirm that your download speeds are at least 10 Mbps per second. This is necessary for video conferences.
4. Create a free account on BillMounce.com.
5. Purchase access to the class in the store (billmounce.com/firstsemestergreek).
6. Create a free Gmail account (if necessary) so you can access the Google+ page for discussions. With Google+ you will be able to have video hangouts with your classmates. Our Google+ page is by invitation only, so send your professor your Gmail address and wait for the invitation.

Recommended Resources

1. Mounce, W. D. *Basics of Biblical Greek: Flashcards* (Zondervan). Helps with vocabulary. Some choose to make their own cards to further reinforce the words by writing them. You can also use the free computer flashcard program, FlashWorks, available at BillMounce.com/flashworks. (which can also pronounce the words).
2. *Basics of Biblical Greek Vocabulary Cards* (iOS app)

3. Mounce, W. D., *Get an A+ Study Guides: Biblical Greek*. Summary sheet of basic grammar.
4. Most students are anxious to buy a Greek Bible. There are two standard editions; both have the same text.
 - a. Aland, Kurt, et al., eds., *The Greek New Testament*, 4th ed. New York: United Bible Society.
 - b. Nestle, E., et al., eds., *Novum Testamentum Graece*, 28th edition, Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft.
5. Lamerson, Samuel. *English Grammar to Ace New Testament Greek*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.

GRADING (PER EACH SEMESTER)

1. Quizzes. 10%. The lowest three will be dropped each semester. Quizzes are to be taken prior to or on the date for the chapter on the schedule. (They are available from the online course.) If you miss, it will count as one of your drops. I will use quizzes to see how you are doing and to make sure you are keeping pace with the class. You will grade your own quizzes with provided keys and record the grade in the class gradebook.
2. Class participation is worth 10%.
3. Tests are given after each review section of the workbook except the first review (see schedule). Their total is worth 40%. No makeup unless it is cleared with the teacher prior to the test. Testing is over everything assigned (i.e., they are cumulative), but will emphasize what you learned since the last exam. Tests are submitted electronically and graded by the teacher or TA.
4. Final exam. 40%. Comprehensive. No makeup unless it is cleared with the teacher before the final is given. Exams are submitted electronically and graded by the teacher or TA.

CREDIT

BillMounce.com is not an accredited educational institution. However, we have a standing relationship with Western Seminary (Portland, Oregon) and hopefully Asbury Seminary (Wilmore, Kentucky) to accept your class. If you want academic credit for the class, you will need to enroll in their program and send them the transcript BillMounce.com will provide. There will be an additional charge on their part.

TIME REQUIREMENTS

The expectation is that students will study approximately 4-5 hours per chapter (including exercises and review sessions) for a total of 180 hours for both classes.

EXTRA CREDIT

None.

GRADING SCALE

A+	99-100%	B+	91-92%	C+	81-82%	D+	71-72%	F	0-62%
A	95-98%	B	85-90%	C	75-80%	D	65-70%		
A-	93-94%	B-	83-84%	C-	73-74%	D-	63-64%		

CLASS PREPARATION AND TESTS

This class uses the best of distance education technologies and online video conferencing. You will be able to work your own hours at (somewhat) your own pace, but will also meet with the professor, graduate fellow, and classmates for encouragement and help.

We will video conference each week. The purpose is to encourage you and to work on the exercises. But even here the web is going to help, since at any time day or night you will be able to hear my discussion of almost every exercise in the workbook.

The biggest danger of this approach is if you get behind, so it is critical that you stay up on the pace. I would encourage you to get a head start and try to stay ahead of the class schedule.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU

In order to keep the cost of the class down, you will not have constant, direct access to the teacher, and you are expected to use the web-based tools provided through the website.

1. You must use the BillMounce.com website. Almost every question you are going to have is already answered there. Please do not ask for help without first making use of the online helps.
2. Agree to the code of conduct posted on the class orientation lesson.

WHAT KIND OF HELP CAN YOU EXPECT?

Please do all the following **before** attending class on the chapter.

1. The summary lecture helps you see the main points of the chapter. Do not skip this step; it will help keep you from drowning in the morass of details. These summary lectures are available online, or can be downloaded for your phone. Fill out your Study Guide as you listen, and then memorize it.
2. Read the chapter in the textbook.
3. Listen to the full video lecture (included in your tuition payment). This is critical. It should function as a review, and I try not to just repeat the textbook but say things in a little different way. Confirm your Study Guide as you listen.
4. Memorize your vocabulary using the online helps (including hearing the words pronounced). Practice your vocabulary with the online version of FlashWorks or the downloaded app.
5. Do your exercises. There are many helps on the website; I don't want you to get stuck at 2 a.m., get discouraged, and quit. I take quitting very personally as my failure to help you through the material. So there are many helps on line, from colored coded answers to recordings of my discussion of each exercise.

6. Take the quiz and then grade it using the key. Enter your score in your online grade book. By taking it after the exercises, it becomes a measure of what you do know (and not what you do not know).
7. Office hours will be posted weekly.
8. You will also be able to communicate with fellow students, the TA, and at times your teacher. Use the forums on Google Plus to ask questions and help one another.

OTHER ISSUES

Study Groups

Because this is a hybrid course without traditional classes, your major challenges will be not getting behind and becoming discouraged. I strongly recommend that you make use of the student community on Google Plus. Lifelong friendships are often formed in Greek class, and they are well worth the time.

Cheating

Legal stuff I have to say; sorry. If you are caught cheating you will receive an "F" for that test. If it happens a second time you will receive an "F" for the course. There will be no reimbursement of tuition. Do not make copies of the exams.

Exams

The exams are generally placed the week after the Section overview. This is to give the data a chance to sink in. But the best way for the data is to start studying the next chapters. You will discover that around chapter 6 you will enter "The Fog," and the fog will continue with you throughout the textbook; but wherever you are in the textbook, the fog lifts about two chapters back. So basically we are testing you after you have given the fog a chance to clear.