



MIDWEST SEMINARY OF BIBLE THEOLOGY: COURSE SYLLABUS

TITLE: ___ GBLG-521 / GBLG-522 ___ GREEK I & GREEK II ___

DATE: ___ FALL / WINTER / SPRING / SUMMER 2011 / 2012 ___

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E-MAIL:	MSBT@SOTL.ORG THE SUBJECT LINE MUST HAVE THE COURSE NUMBER	

TEXT:

Basics of Biblical Greek by William D. Mounce

Basics of Biblical Greek Workbook by William D. Mounce

A Reader's Hebrew & Greek Bible

Various Handouts and a CD with B.B.G. files

The NET Bible (optional the NET's *Novum Testamentum Graece*)

The Logos Bible Software

For additional resources, see the text and footnotes of BBG Grammar and Workbook, especially BBG, pp. xviii and 420ff.

RECOMMENDED:

***Bauer, Walter, Frederick William Danker, William F. Arndt, and F. Wilbur Gingrich.

Greek- English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature. 3d ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000.

[Note: Also called BDAG, this is the standard Greek lexicon, and you will want a copy for later Greek studies, though you will not need to own it for this class. You can also find it as an electronic version for Logos_4.]

***Gingrich, F. Wilbur and Frederick Danker, eds. Shorter Lexicon of the Greek New Testament, 2nd ed.

Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1983.

[Note: This is an abridged version of an earlier version of BDAG (see above), and is much more portable and cheaper.]

DESCRIPTION:

This course is the first of two sequences designed to introduce the student to the elements of *Koine* Greek vocabulary and syntax. Each week there will be an introduction of a new concept, drill and practice. Each class will generate homework translating Greek to English. The grammar has been planned to introduce the student as quickly as possible to a working knowledge of Biblical Greek. The goal of this course is for students to learn Koine Greek in order to be better equipped to minister God's Word to God's people. In light of this, students will:

- 1) Begin learning Greek grammar so as to understand both how to identify parts of speech and to learn how they function in clauses and sentences.
- 2) Begin to gain a working vocabulary of Greek.
- 3) Begin to learn Greek as a language rather than a code.
- 4) Begin to gain an appreciation for Koine Greek and its use in Biblical study.
- 5) Know 320 Greek vocabulary words—almost 80% of the total word count of the NT

While the text lends itself to the standard seminary Erasmian pronunciation we shall, from time to time, learn to use modern Greek pronunciation. This is the beginning of a life-long course of study.

ADDITIONAL GOALS:

At the successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

KNOWLEDGE:

1. Demonstrate his knowledge of the basic vocabulary contained in the required text.
2. Demonstrate an understanding and recognition of the Greek grammatical constructions covered in our texts.

SKILLS:

1. Translate without the use of written aids, Greek-to-English sentences found in the prepared exercises of our texts, and selected passages from the Greek New Testament.
2. Use with facility a Greek-to-English lexicon.

PRACTICAL PERFORMANCE:

1. Recognize, pronounce and read any Greek word.
2. Recognize and locate nouns, verbs, adjectives, pronouns, and to analyze other parts of speech as necessary.
3. Master the basic vocabulary presented in the textbook.

REQUIREMENTS:

Because of the nature of work with Biblical Languages the material (homework, worksheets, and quizzes) in this course will tend to be cumulative. You will not be able to lag behind the course schedule hopping to successfully complete the course. Material for each unit will be accepted without penalty until the unit is completed. Material from the previous unit may be submitted with up to a 50% reduction in credit. No material will be accepted once the unit following it has been completed.

Each class session will begin with a quiz reviewing previously learned vocabulary and grammar. This will be followed by a review of the last class's material and the previous homework assignment allowing time for questions. The remainder of the class will focus on lecture and discussion of new material.

Students are expected to serve the Lord faithfully by applying themselves to learning Koine Greek. This includes the expectation of all homework assignments, quizzes, and tests being completed on time and to the best of their ability, as well as participating in class and spending sufficient time outside of class working on the acquisition of the language. Languages are difficult to learn unless there is constant repetition.

ATTENDANCE IN CLASS IS MANDATORY. Even one class in a language course is very difficult to make up. Students are expected to involve themselves wholeheartedly in classroom discussion. Tardiness is unacceptable.

Students should:

1. Participate in all course activities, including memorizing vocabulary, endings, and grammatical forms.
2. Complete assignments from exercises in the textbook or as assigned by the instructor.
3. Take quizzes over vocabulary every week & other quizzes as may occur from time to time.
4. Take a mid-term and a final exam.

**Remember that if you miss even ONE
Greek class you have missed a whole lot.**

ASSIGNMENTS:

A) Homework Assignments (25%) (See schedule on final page of this syllabus)

After each class lecture, students will be expected to read the corresponding chapter in Mounce as well as complete the questions assigned in the workbook. Students should complete the assignment with no outside help from friends, English translations, software programs, or the answer key.

Course Syllabus (cont.)

Students should write their name, course number, date, and the time it took to complete the assignment on the top of the page. If there are multiple pages, they must be stapled together in the upper left corner.

After completing the assignment, students should use the answer key provided to correct the assignment in a red pen, and then write “corrected” at the top of the page. Assignments are to be turned in by the beginning of class. No late assignments will be accepted except in cases of emergency. In those cases, I should be contacted as soon as possible, and I reserve the right to decide whether it is an acceptable case. Assignments will receive either a “0” for incomplete, “100” for complete or partial marks based on the level of completion.

B) Frequent Quizzes (25%)

Each class may begin with a quiz covering both grammar and vocabulary previously learned. The goal of these quizzes is to help with repetition thus questions will not just be limited to the previous lesson but also to any previous material learned. More information regarding the content of each quiz may be given the class before. Quizzes will be given via e-mail from time to time and will require the response by the given deadline.

At the end of the semester, the two lowest scores will be dropped. This also covers any potential problems as there will be no make-up quizzes except in emergency situations. I must be notified of any absences before the quiz or after in case of emergencies.

C) Exams (50%)

There will be one Mid-Term Exam (20%) and one Final Exam (30%) which will be cumulative covering vocabulary, grammar, and translation. More information regarding the format of the exams will be given in class and is discussed in brief in the Evaluation Section below. If you have relied on the Answer Key in an attempt to make your Homework look good you will not be successful on these Exams.

D) Extra Credit

I will make available some opportunities for extra credit to help boost low quiz scores. These opportunities will be mentioned in class or in a hand out, but don't hold your breath waiting.

RESOURCES: These are not required reading for the class.

Good reading directly related to the topic in addition to the Study Guide's bibliography:

(all books can be found at www.sotl.org/public/icbt/icbt.htm See: Christianbooks.com)

Aland, Kurt, Barbara Aland, Johannes Karavidopoulos, Carlo M. Martini, and Bruce M. Metzger, ed.s. *The Greek New Testament*, 4th rev. ed. (with dictionary) United Bible Societies, 1993.

Black, David. *It's Still Greek to Me: An Easy-to-Understand Guide to Intermediate Greek*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.

Cox, Stephen L. *Essentials of New Testament Greek: A Students Guide*. Broadman and Holman Publishers. Nashville, TN. 1995.

Long, Gary A. *Grammatical Concepts 101 for Biblical Greek: Learning Biblical Greek*

Grammatical Concepts Through English Grammar. Hendrickson, 2006.

Mounce, William D. [Any publication bearing his imprint.]

EVALUATION: Homework, quizzes, tests, exams, term paper, reading log, and class participation.

Each Exam will normally, but not always, contain three sections that may or may not contain all items:

> Vocabulary – In the first section, you will provide English equivalents for a list of Greek vocabulary words as assigned in the lessons.

> Grammar and Forms – The second section covers the grammar you learned up to that point, emphasizing Greek rules and forms (i.e. noun/verbal charts and patterns). At times you will need to recall forms and/or rules exactly as BBG presents them; at other times you will need to apply them to Greek words and phrases. For example: Be sure you understand how endings work when they are applied to different types of words.

> Translation and Parsing - The third section contains several Greek sentences for you to render in readable English with several analytical questions and words to parse. The sentences are largely

Course Syllabus (cont.)

taken from Scripture and/or the Lesson Assignments (BBG: Workbook), but most of them are edited or combined with other passages so that you cannot simply produce the translations from memory (some sentences are entirely original). If you work diligently through each Lesson Assignment and review often, you will be prepared for this portion of the exams.

*****All written work must be a formal word-processed document. It is to be double-spaced, one inch margins on all sides, left justified, 12 point font, Arial or Times New Roman, 0.5 indented paragraphs, and free of grammatical and spelling errors, have a Cover Sheet, and a Works Cited page. This includes the required Term Paper.

*****If you do not have access to a typewriter or a computer, you will be hand-writing your paper; then each paper needs to be two pages. To complete this step of the Homework essays you will hand in either one or two pages for each spiritual essay depending on handwritten or typed. The essays will be free of grammatical and spelling errors, have a Cover Sheet, and a Works Cited page.

*****The Reading Log should show a minimum of 500 pages outside reading if assigned an essay. It is an absolute requirement of this course that the final revision you submit be, in the judgment of the instructor, a thorough and responsible piece of scholarship, representing graduate-level work both in form and in content. You should use the material you found in the reading assignments to formulate your ideas for your paper. Read ahead in the schedule for upcoming assignments!

STUDY ASSISTANCE:

- Citing Biblical References primer— http://catholic-resources.org/Bible/Biblical_References.htm
- Grammar & Writing for Seminarians— <http://www.crossmarks.com/resources/grammarwrite.htm>
- Guidelines and Tips for Written Exercises— <http://catholic-resources.org/Courses/WritingTips.htm>
- A Brief Guide to Turabian's Manual— <http://www.covenantseminary.edu/learn/library/guides/turabian/>

These are helpful sources in writing your required papers for the class.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND HONESTY: You are strongly encouraged to study together with other students, and you may always use any books and other resources to help you learn. However, all written work must be your own, unless you are directly citing from sources that you properly credit. Copying from any other person, any book, or anything on the internet (even if you change a few words), without properly referencing your sources, is considered plagiarism and will result in a failing grade for the entire course, or possible expulsion.

NOTE: No late homework will be accepted except due to illness, or when the student notifies the professor in advance of a planned absence. Students who are absent are still responsible for assignments made on the day of their absence and are expected to turn in that homework on the next day of class. Your schedule must allow you to keep up with the due dates for each quiz, exam, assignment, research paper, and/or projects. Again, late assignments will negatively impact the final grade. Assignments are sequential in nature and cumulative, so you will need to be disciplined and well organized in your time management. You will have difficulty catching-up if you fall behind. The basic content of each chapter will be studied in conjunction with the CD-ROM, textbook, practice sentences, and other aids as necessary. Feel free to develop your own study group to review material on an ongoing basis. It is important that you do something in Greek every day for a minimum of 15 minutes.

FINAL COMMENTS: Learning Koine Greek will be challenging, but it is also rewarding. It is a long process that requires time and energy. I understand that you have many responsibilities both to other classes, family, and church. I encourage you though to work hard at learning this language not just for a good grade, but because it will become an essential tool in rightly understanding God's word. This affects not just the New Testament canon courses but also Systematic Theology, Homiletics, Biblical Theology, and any area that requires an understanding of God's Word.

Learning Koine Greek is far more than simply learning what a word means in Greek. It is about learning a language rather than a code. My job is to help make this doable and enjoyable for you. Please take advantage

Course Syllabus (cont.)

of the help that is available to you in order to be a worker who rightly handles the Word of God, for His glory and your good.

COURSE NARRATIVE & RATIONALE: One of the “gaps” that must be overcome in understanding the Bible is that of language. The Old Testament was written in Hebrew and Aramaic (over 99% Hebrew) and the New Testament was written in “Koine” Greek. Unlike Islam, Judaism and Christianity have translated their Sacred Scriptures and printed translations within a few decades of moving into the culture of a new language. The study of Hebrew and Greek is not necessary to read the Word of God as Judaism and Christianity understand the Word of God.

However, every translation is an interpretation and every Christian leader is responsible that the interpretation(s) of the translation(s) used in the community do not lead people astray. This requires at least a rudimentary knowledge of the original languages of the Bible. It is no accident that the greatest decline in the integrity and focus of the Church corresponded with the loss of knowledge of original languages and the greatest renewal of the Church (the Reformation movement) corresponded with the recovery of the biblical languages.

Traditional teaching of Hebrew and Greek in seminaries and universities has usually required massive memorization of vocabularies and conjugations of verbs and declensions of nouns. The massive amount of information that was necessary to work in the original languages meant that most students of Hebrew and/or Greek (even the best students) were not able to give the necessary time to translating their texts after they left school and entered ministry. In the late 20th century the rise of personal computers made access to this massive amount of information available by the click of a mouse.

The teaching of biblical languages has generally failed to adapt to the new resources available via computer and the internet. This course is an attempt on the part of MWS to adjust to the new resources. This course is not designed to teach one to translate vast amounts of Greek or Hebrew text. A half semester, for example, in either language does not make one qualified to translate.

Our purpose is to teach some basic elements of grammar and syntax that will enable a student to gain insight into a verse or small paragraph of material in the original language. That insight will supplement traditional translations and enable the student to recognize interpretive choices made by the translations. This will enrich both the personal understanding of the student and the ability to share meaning from Scripture with one’s community of faith/ministry.

Thus, we will finally be able to “rightly divide the word of truth” as it was originally intended.

Course Syllabus (cont.)

Proposed Date	Lecture (numbers in parentheses indicate the chapter in BBG)	Assignment Due (WB refers to the BBG Workbook)
Week 1	Introduce syllabus; Greek language, alphabet and pronunciation (1-3)	Memorize the Alphabet prior to the next class!
Week 2	Punctuation and Syllabification (4)	Read (1-3); WB-3; Vocabulary!
	Introduction to English Nouns (5); Review	Read (4); Read 1 John 1:5-10; WB-4,
Weeks 3 & 4	Nominative and Accusative; Article (6)	Read (5); WB-Review #1; Vocabulary!
Week 5	Genitive and Dative (7)	Read (6); WB-6; Vocabulary!
Week 6	Prepositions and εἰμί (8)	Read (7); WB-7; Vocabulary!
Week 7	Adjectives (9)	Read (8); WB-8; Vocabulary!
	Review	Read (9); WB-9
Weeks 8 & 9	Third Declension (10)	WB-Review #2; Vocabulary!
Week 10	1 st & 2 nd Person Personal Pronouns (11)	Read (10); WB-10; Vocabulary!
Week 11	αὐτός (12)	Read (11); WB-11; Vocabulary!
Week 12	Demonstrative Pronouns/Adjectives (13)	Read (12); WB-12; Vocabulary!
Week 13	Relative Pronoun (14)	Read (13); WB-13; Vocabulary!
	Review	Read (14); WB-14
Week 14	Introduction to Verbs (15)	<i>Bonus</i> : Translate 1 John 1:5-2:2 (p. 56); WB-Review #3
Weeks 15 & 16	Present Active Indicative (16)	Read (15) ; Vocabulary!
Weeks 17 & 18	Contract Verbs (17)	Read (16); WB-16; Vocabulary!
Weeks 19 & 20	Present Middle/Passive Indicative (18)	Read (17); WB-17; Vocabulary!
Weeks 21 & 22	Future Active/Middle Indicative (19)	Read (18); WB-18; Vocabulary!
Weeks 23 & 24	Verbal Roots & Other Forms of the Future (20)	Read (19); WB-19; Vocabulary!
	Review	Read (20); WB-20
Week 25	Imperfect Indicative (21)	WB-Review #4; Vocabulary!
Week 26	Second Aorist Active/Middle Indicative (22)	Read (21); WB-21; Vocabulary!
Week 27	First Aorist Active/Middle Indicative (23)	Read (22); WB-22; Vocabulary!
Week 28	Aorist and Future Passive Indicative (24)	Read (23); WB-23; Vocabulary!
Week 29	Perfect Indicative (25)	Read (24); WB-24; Vocabulary!
	Review	Read (25); WB-25
Week 30	Introduction to Participles (26)	Translate John 9:24-34 (p.106) ; WB-Review #5
Week 31	Present (Continuous) Adverbial Participles (27)	Read (26); WB-26; Vocabulary!
Week 32	Aorist (Undefined) Adverbial Participles (28)	Read (27); WB-27; Vocabulary!
Week 33	Adjectival Participles (29)	Read (28); WB-28; Vocabulary!
Week 34	Perfect Participles and Genitive Absolutes (30)	Read (29); WB-29; Vocabulary!
	Review	Read (30); WB-30
Week 35	Subjunctive (31)	WB-Review #6; Vocabulary!
Week 36	Infinitive (32)	Read (31); WB-31; Vocabulary!
Week 37	Imperative (33)	Read (32); WB-32
Week 38	Indicative of δίδομι (34)	Read (33); WB-33; Vocabulary!
Week 39	Nonindicative of δίδομι (35)	Read (34); WB-34; Vocabulary!
Week 40	ἵστημι, τίθημι, δείκνυμι	Read (35); WB-35
	Review	WB-Review #7