

## ἙΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΠΑ'

GREEK 101, ELEMENTARY ANCIENT GREEK

FALL 2007

MWF 1:00-1:50 PM, ORTEGA 243

BRIAN LANTER, INSTRUCTOR

OFFICE: ORTEGA 351A, 277-2434

OFFICE HOURS: M 3:00-3:50, W 2:00-2:50, F 12:00-12:50, or by appointment

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### SYLLABUS

[ὁ σίλλυβος: parchment label]

Course objectives. The undergraduate catalogue [ὁ κατάλογος: a counting up] describes Greek [Γραικός] 101 as an "introduction to Classical Greek," followed by Greek 102, "readings from simple prose." Actually, we will take the entire year to introduce basic [ἡ βᾶσις: a stepping] Attic [Ἀττική] Greek grammar [ἡ γραμματική (τέχνη)], and we will be doing readings from simple prose almost from the beginning. This course will serve as somewhat of an introduction to classical Greek culture, and for those of you who are already studying classical civilization, it will provide further insights which only language study can.

During the first semester we will concentrate on methods [ὁ μέθοδος] of learning a highly inflected language, and on learning or reviewing basic grammatical concepts which are necessary for learning a language by the analytical [ἀναλυτικός] (as opposed to communicative) method. Translating Greek into English requires a much greater awareness of English grammar than is necessary for competence in English. We will also pay some attention to etymology [ἡ ἔτυμολογία]. Studying Greek will give you greater access to the large contribution, direct and indirect (through Latin), which Greek has made to the English language.

Requisites. The requisites are dedication and discipline. Although this course does not require any previous experience in foreign language study, if you have studied neither linguistics nor a highly inflected foreign language, be prepared to work extra hard the first semester. There will be some unfamiliar grammatical concepts, and we must learn the technical names for familiar concepts as well. Learning any foreign language requires a lot of memorization, but learning Greek requires memorization in an analytical framework rather than a real-life framework. We will work on memorization together. The process of learning ancient Greek is, in itself, a valuable intellectual exercise.

We will try to accommodate each other's needs and abilities in order both to maintain a steady pace of progress and to make this an interesting and worthwhile process for all. Whether you are a potential or actual classics major, or have any other particular interest in ancient Greek language or culture that the textbook does not cover, please feel free to ask for more information.

Textbook. The only required textbook for Greek 101 and 102 is Donald J. Mastronarde, *Introduction to Attic Greek*, University of California Press, 1993 (list price \$34.95). You are welcome to make use of any other texts you find helpful. You will be responsible for reading the explanatory sections of the textbook **ON YOUR OWN**, so that we can use most of our class time for questions, practice and additional information.

☞ Really, I'm not kidding, you have to *read* the textbook, not just look at it and figure you'll absorb the material in class. If you are capable of learning ancient Greek *con sprezzo*, then you can shirk the reading. Otherwise, just do it. ☞

Online tutorials. Mastronarde (who teaches at Berkeley) has an excellent "Ancient Greek Tutorial" website with interactive exercises that cover the material in the first part of the textbook. The exercises are fun to do online and will greatly improve your acquisition of the material, because the more different ways you hear or see the material, the more it sticks in your brain. The address is:

[http://ist-socrates.berkeley.edu/~ancgreek/ancient\\_greek\\_start.html](http://ist-socrates.berkeley.edu/~ancgreek/ancient_greek_start.html)

or just Google "mastronarde tutorials" and you will see the link.

Web site and WebCT. Instead of using the library's electronic reserve section, I have a web site for Greek 101, which has all my handouts and links to a number of useful web sites. The address is: <http://www.unm.edu/~blanter>. This course also has WebCT capacity, which I will explain in class.

Lexicon. Mastronarde includes a glossary sufficient for this course. If you intend to continue doing Greek or want to translate anything outside the textbook, or if you are just curious about etymology or Attic usage, you will need your own copy of an abridged version of Liddell and Scott's Greek-English Lexicon: preferably *An Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon*, Oxford University Press (any edition), affectionately known as the "Middle Liddell" (list \$47.00), which is on the shelf as a required text for Greek 301; or to carry more conveniently in your knapsack, the *Abridged Greek-English Lexicon*, Oxford University Press (any edition), affectionately known as the "Little Liddell" (list \$39.95). Both of these are sometimes available in the Greek language section of the UNM bookstore, and sometimes in local used bookstores. Both new and used copies are readily available from online bookstores. Cambridge is in the process of preparing a new lexicon, but it probably won't be available until 2009.

Grammar reference. If you go on to advanced Greek, or do any translating on your own, you will need Herbert Weir Smyth, *Greek Grammar*, Harvard University Press, (any edition) (list \$46.50). Smyth, pronounced [smaɪð], is the standard Greek reference grammar in American

universities, and is often required for higher level Greek courses at UNM. Smyth is so standard that it is often cited without explanation as just "S" with a section number. You can download the 1920 (out-of-copyright) edition in PDF for free from [www.textkit.com](http://www.textkit.com), but it's a hefty tome which is somewhat clumsy to negotiate on screen.

Verb reference. If the Perseus site is functioning, you can look up forms online, for which I will provide instructions. For when Perseus isn't working, there is a useful verb handbook called *All the Greek Verbs (Tutti i Verbi Greci)* by Marinone and Guala, Duckworth, 1985 (list \$25.50) (any edition, domestic or foreign, will do).

## GRADING

Grade distribution. There is no grade distribution curve. The grading scale is based on this principal: if you get an A in this course, you will be very well prepared to continue in Greek 102 at UNM. I will provide your cumulative average twice during the semester, after the two hour exams. Overall grades for the course will be based on the following three components:

**(1) Preparation and participation**, which includes reading the textbook, studying the examples, preparing oral exercises, and doing written homework assignments on time. Class participation includes doing oral exercises and working at the blackboard. Although this is a 100-level course, it is very demanding. *Greek 101 is the hardest 100-level course in a European language taught at UNM*, and probably harder even than the 100-level classes in oriental languages. The textbook was definitely not designed as a self-taught course, so come to class. Like any language, ancient Greek would be better as a five-day per week class, but we have only three days per week. Every class period is important. Merely showing up, however, will not improve your grade – you must be prepared and focus on the work at hand.

**THERE WILL BE SUBSTANTIAL HOMEWORK BETWEEN EVERY CLASS, AND WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS OVER EVERY WEEKEND. YOU SHOULD SPEND TIME ON GREEK EVERY DAY OUTSIDE OF CLASS.**

Longer written homework assignments will normally be due on Monday and returned on Wednesday, corrected but not graded – though I may suggest that you redo unsatisfactory homework. If you cannot complete a homework assignment, turn in what you have done rather than fall behind. If your numerical average from quizzes and exams is on the borderline between two grades, good preparation and homework will have a positive effect on your overall grade. Of course, good preparation and homework will probably get you a good average anyway, so just do it.

**(2) the average of your grades on short weekly quizzes**, which will normally take place at the beginning of class every Friday and be returned with a grade on Monday. Quizzes are cumulative as to grammar and vocabulary, but they concentrate on the most recent material. The quizzes will give both you and me a concrete measure of your mastery of the material. The two lowest quiz grades will not count. The quizzes are a good opportunity to keep your average up so that the exams will cause less anxiety.

(3) the average of your grades on three equally weighted hour exams, the last of which will take place at the regularly scheduled final exam time. Approximately 10% of the points available on each exam will come from sight reading – translating a sentence that you have not seen before. This means you cannot get an A on an exam by merely memorizing how to translate the passages in Mastronarde – you must learn to use what you know.

Your letter grade will not be lower than the combined average of your quiz and exam grades. It will be higher if your homework and class participation demonstrate that you actually have better mastery of Greek than your quizzes and exams indicate.

## DETAILS ABOUT ASSIGNMENTS AND HOMEWORK

The normal pace will be two units of Mastronarde per week through week #12, which will get us about halfway through the survey of Attic grammar in the first semester. Because the curriculum requires completing the textbook in one year, we will not slow down. I strongly encourage you to work in study groups with your classmates. Like many difficult tasks, it is easier to face with companionship. If you feel like you cannot keep up, PLEASE come see me.

**📖 Your standing assignment is to memorize assigned paradigms, memorize all the vocabulary and do all the exercises in each unit.** I'll let you know what I want written and handed in. All units are cumulative – you cannot skim through a unit and expect to comprehend the next one well. Quizzes and exams are cumulative as to both vocabulary and grammar. Do not fall behind!

Besides setting out paradigms and vocabulary for memorization, the textbook also provides linguistic background material which shows why the paradigms are not all as arbitrary as they may seem. Understanding the linguistic material is good, and I'll gladly help you understand it, but arbitrary or not, you **MUST MEMORIZE** paradigms and vocabulary steadily. See page 27 of the textbook for some excellent hints on memorizing.

Fair game for quizzes and exams includes:

- all paradigms assigned to be memorized for recall;
- the ability to apply paradigms to other vocabulary words;
- parsing Greek words using correct grammatical terminology;
- recognition of all vocabulary in Mastronarde;
- translation of all Greek sentences in the Mastronarde exercises; and
- translation of new sentences based on the Mastronarde exercises but using different Mastronardian vocabulary (or new vocabulary which I will supply) – in other words, you will need to be able to use your vocabulary and grammar to translate Greek that you have not seen before.

Recall. Memorizing for "recall" means that you must accurately reproduce the material assigned, without cues or with a limited kind of cue. Recall memorization includes the alphabet and transliteration, grammatical paradigms (examples of the inflections of verbs, nouns,

adjectives, etc.), prepositions with their cases and the principal parts (stem variations) of verbs. We will rehearse these in class, but you will definitely need to rehearse them out loud on your own and/or in your study group.

Recognition. Memorizing for "recognition" means that you must correctly identify and/or translate the material assigned. Recognition memorization includes all vocabulary in Mastronarde, inflected forms of words other than paradigms, and the syntax necessary to translate the sentences in the Mastronarde exercises. Flash cards, commercial or home-made, have proved quite useful to many students in memorizing vocabulary. The online tutorials include vocabulary and morphology practice. Again, practicing words and sentences out loud is important.

Writing. You must learn to write Greek characters legibly. After that, you may type your homework if you want, and I will provide information on ancient Greek fonts, but remember that you will have to write quizzes and exams by hand. All written Greek-to-English translation assignments must be written out *in Greek first*, then in English, *double spaced* (at least) to leave room for corrections and comments. If you cannot complete a written assignment by the time it is due, turn in what you can get done rather than falling further behind.

Composition. We will do some English-to-Greek translation exercises, but not all that are in the textbook, because at three days per week we won't have time. Attic prose composition is useful for solidifying your knowledge of Attic grammar, but it is a wholly artificial exercise. If you wish to attempt extra English-to-Greek exercises on your own, I will be happy to correct them.

Additional help. CAPS will have a Greek tutor. You would be wise to make use of this excellent and free service. CAPS can help students who are behind, but it is equally available for students who are doing well and want more practice. There is no lab course, but feel free to use my office hours as lab time. If you can't visit me in office hours, I will try to arrange another time to help out, and you can email questions to me.

Any student who, because of disability, may require some special arrangements in order to meet course requirements should contact the instructor as soon as possible to make necessary accommodations. It is the responsibility of the student to request accommodations for individual learning needs. UNM will make every attempt to accommodate all qualified students with disabilities. For further information, contact Accessibility Services at 277-3506.

GREEK 101, FALL 2007  
OUTLINE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES, QUIZZES AND EXAMS

WEEK #1: UNITS 1 & 2. ALPHABET,  
PRONUNCIATION, ACCENTUATION &  
TRANSLITERATION

Monday, August 20  
Wednesday, August 22  
Friday, August 24: quiz #1

WEEK #2: UNIT 3. O-DECLENSION  
UNITS 4 & 5. A-DECLENSION

Monday, August 27  
Wednesday, August 29  
Friday, August 31: quiz #2

WEEK #3: UNITS 6 & 7. THE ARTICLE, SOME  
PREPOSITIONS, VOWEL-DECLENSION  
ADJECTIVES; ATTRIBUTION & PREDICATION

☞ Monday, September 3: *Labor Day holiday, no class*  
Wednesday, September 5  
Friday, September 7: quiz #3

WEEK #4: UNITS 8 & 9. Ω-VERBS, PRESENT  
ACTIVE INDICATIVE, CONJUGATION, INFINITIVES;  
ADJECTIVES WITH TWO ENDINGS

Monday, September 10  
Wednesday, September 12  
Friday, September 14: quiz #4

WEEK #5: UNITS 10 & 11. PRESENT INDICATIVE  
OF ᾽ΕΙΜΙ; SOME USES OF GENITIVE AND DATIVE;  
Ω-VERBS: PRESENT MIDDLE/PASSIVE INDICATIVE

Monday, September 17  
Wednesday, September 19  
Friday, September 21: quiz #5

WEEK #6: UNIT 12. ADVERBS, CONJUNCTIONS,  
MORE PREPOSITIONS, RELATIVE PRONOUN

Monday, September 24  
Wednesday, September 26  
Friday, September 28: HOUR EXAM #1

WEEK #7: UNITS 13 & 14. EPSILON CONTRACT  
VERBS; DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES;  
CONSONANT-DECLENSION NOUNS

Monday, October 1  
Wednesday, October 3  
Friday, October 5: quiz #6

WEEK #8: UNIT 15. CONSONANT-DECLENSION  
NOUNS CONTINUED; INTERROGATIVE PRONOUN

Monday, October 8  
Wednesday, October 10  
☞ Friday, October 12: *fall break, no class, no quiz this week*

WEEK #9: UNITS 16 & 17. Ω-VERBS: IMPERFECT  
INDICATIVE; INDEFINITE PRONOUN; USES OF THE  
ACCUSATIVE

Monday, October 15  
Wednesday, October 17  
Friday, October 19: quiz #7

WEEK #10: UNIT 18 & 19. Ω-VERBS: FUTURE  
ACTIVE AND MIDDLE INDICATIVE; AORIST  
ACTIVE AND MIDDLE INDICATIVE

Monday, October 22  
Wednesday, October 24  
Friday, October 26: quiz #8

WEEK #11: UNIT 20. TENSE AND ASPECT;  
INDIRECT DISCOURSE

Monday, October 29  
Wednesday, October 31  
Friday, November 2: HOUR EXAM #2

WEEK #12: UNITS 21 & 22. CONSONANT-  
DECLENSION NOUNS CONTINUED; THIRD PERSON  
PRONOUN; CONSONANT-DECLENSION  
ADJECTIVES; PERSONAL PRONOUNS

Monday, November 5  
Wednesday, November 7  
Friday, November 9: quiz #9

WEEK #13: UNIT 23. ΜΙ-VERBS, PRESENT SYSTEM

Monday, November 12  
Wednesday, November 14  
Friday, November 16: quiz #10

WEEK #14: UNIT 24. ΜΙ-VERBS, ATHEMATIC  
AORISTS

Monday, November 19  
Wednesday, November 21  
☞ Friday, November 23: *Thanksgiving holiday, no class, no quiz this week*

WEEK #15: UNIT 25. IRREGULAR ADJECTIVES,  
NUMERALS, REFLEXIVE & RECIPROCAL  
PRONOUNS; RESULT CONSTRUCTIONS

Monday, November 26  
Wednesday, November 28  
Friday, November 30: quiz #11

WEEK #16: PRACTICE & REVIEW

Monday, December 3:  
Wednesday, December 5: practice exam.  
Friday, December 7: no quiz.

Mon. December 10: FINAL EXAM, time & place TBA.  
If you have a conflict, see me well in advance.