

COURSE SYLLABUS
Department of Biblical Studies
BL650 – Basic Greek
Fall, 2017
Tues, Thurs, 2:45-4:15pm

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I. Description:

This class is designed to teach you the basics of Biblical Greek. At the end of this course of study you will be equipped with the basic grammar, vocabulary and translation skills which you will need in order to do exegesis in the Greek New Testament. This course is in itself preparatory for continued learning in exegesis class.

I can imagine little that is as exciting as getting closer to God's Word in the original language – these are valuable skills which will serve you faithfully in your lifetime of ministry as you serve our Lord. What a privilege to be able to study it! Of course, not everyone approaches basic Greek with this kind of enthusiasm – maybe you would prefer minor surgery! If you are one of those who is terrified at the thought of this course, take heart – YOU CAN DO IT!! Learning a language requires some memorization (and just plain hard work), but will pay handsome dividends for you down the road.

This must be said up front – although you can do it, you will have to work at it. No one learns Greek by osmosis. You must study every day, read the assigned texts, do the assigned exercises, and prepare for quizzes and exams. If not, you will not do well and you will not have usable language skills. Students are advised to minimize all outside commitments during this course of study in order to maximize study time (you'll need it!).

II. Objectives:

The general set of outcomes Trinity desires for each of our graduates includes the following:

1. The student will recognize and identify the biblical theology evident in the course work.
2. The student will be able to articulate an Anglican understanding of biblical, historical, systematic, and pastoral theology.

3. The student will be able to effectively communicate the Christian message to a diversity of people in order to advance the mission of God.
4. The student will be prepared to effectively lead in a variety of Christian communities.

This course is one of the foundational courses preparing students to understand the Bible and biblical theology, thereby grounding this curriculum as a whole (Outcome 1). Such attention to biblical theology is at the heart of a classic Anglican approach to Scripture (Outcome 2; see Article XX of *The XXXIX Articles of Religion*), and an understanding of the Bible is a pre-requisite for both effectively communicating the Christian message and offering effective leadership (Outcomes 3 and 4). So this course contributes to each of these general outcomes in a preparatory way through the following specific objectives, which are each connected to the course requirements described below:

1. To learn how to read and study the New Testament in Greek through familiarity with morphology, syntax and vocabulary.
 - Assessed through weekly quizzes and the final exam.
2. To begin to develop familiarity with the key resources such as the Greek New Testament, and the most significant lexicon.

Along with these objectives related to knowledge and skill that will be assessed through your written work, I have other objectives in mind that are worth mentioning, even though I will not try to assess your development in these areas. Seminary education is not just a matter of growing in knowledge and skill, but also in one's relationship with God and one's Christian character as a disciple of Jesus. I pray that your work in this course will promote such growth.

1. An increased delight in the truth and beauty of the Scriptures.
2. An increased experience of God's love and an increased love for God.
3. An increased commitment to detailed and careful study of the Scriptures.

III. Requirements:

- A. Students are expected to attend all classes. Although roll will not be formally taken, regular unexcused absences will be noted and will affect any borderline grades. Skipping class hurts only oneself and wastes time, money, and resources.
- B. Time will be spent each day in class teaching new material and reviewing exercises. Students are expected to come to class prepared for that day's lessons. It is assumed that all appropriate exercises have been completed and that the necessary vocabulary has been memorized.
- C. Quizzes will be given on a weekly basis on the dates indicated by this syllabus. The final exam will be administered on the date noted below.
- D. Incompletes are not normally given and are given only in the most serious of cases. They are not granted as a way to extend the semester due to incomplete work. In order to request an incomplete, students must obtain the necessary

form online and bring it to the professor who will list the specific assignments to be completed with due dates. The due date cannot extend beyond six weeks from the last day of class. The form will be submitted to the Academic Dean for final approval and will only be granted in the most serious of cases.

E. The professor reserves the right to modify these requirements as needed.

- IV. Grading: The Grading for BL650 will be based on quizzes and the final exam. Ordinarily, quizzes will include vocabulary, grammar, parsing, and translation. The final exam will be primarily translation and will allow you to show your ability to apply all that you have learned in this course by translating Holy Scripture. The quizzes will comprise 75% of the course grade; the remaining 25% is based on the grade of the final exam. All quizzes and the final exam are cumulative.

Note: As per The Association of Theological Schools (ATS) requirements, several samples of student work may be randomly selected and used as a class artifact as part of an on-going assessment of courses and degree programs. Students' names will be removed from any work used for this purpose.

- V. Textbooks and Resources:

Required

William D. Mounce, *Basics of Biblical Greek Grammar: Third Edition* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009)

William D. Mounce, *Basics of Biblical Greek Workbook: Third Edition* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009).

Recommended, but you do not need to purchase for this course:

The UBS Greek New Testament, A Reader's Edition (Grand Rapids: Hendrickson, 2007).

William Mounce, *Basics of Biblical Greek Vocabulary Cards*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004).

Walter Bauer and Frederick Danker, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*, 3rd edition (Chicago: University Press, 2001).

- VI. Schedule and Class Assignments:

Tues.	Sept 5		Ch. 1-6
Thurs.	Sept 7	Ch. 7	
Tues.	Sept 12	Ch. 8	Quiz #1
Thurs.	Sept 14	Ch. 9	
Tues.	Sept 19	Ch. 10	Quiz #2
Thurs.	Sept 21	Ch. 11-12	
Tues.	Sept 26	Quiet Da	
Thurs.	Sept 28	Ch. 13-14	Quiz #3
Tues.	Oct 3	Ch. 15-16	
Thurs.	Oct 5	Ch. 17	Quiz #4
Tues.	Oct 10	Ch. 18	
Thurs.	Oct 12	Ch. 19	Quiz #5
Tues.	Oct 17	No Class – Reading Week	
Thurs.	Oct 19	No Class – Reading Week	
Tues.	Oct 24	Ch. 20	
Thurs.	Oct 26	Ch. 21	Quiz #6
Tues.	Oct 31	Ch. 22	
Thurs.	Nov 2	Ch. 23	Quiz #7
Tues.	Nov 7	Ch. 24	
Thurs.	Nov 9	Ch. 25	Quiz #8
Tues.	Nov 14	Ch. 26-27	
Thurs.	Nov 16	Ch. 28-29	Quiz #9
Tues.	Nov 21	Ch. 30	
Thurs.	Nov 23	No Class – Thanksgiving Holiday	
Tues.	Nov 28	Ch. 31	Quiz #10
Thurs.	Nov 30	Ch. 32	
Tues.	Dec 5	Ch. 33	Quiz #11
Thurs.	Dec 7	Ch. 34	
Tues.	Dec 12	Ch. 35-36	
Thurs.	Dec 14		Quiz #12

Fri. Dec 22 Final Exam Due