



ERSKINE
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

For Christ and His Church

GK 501
Greek I
Fall Term, 2011
Tuesdays, 8-11 A.M.
Due West Campus
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Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 2:00-5:00 P.M., appointment recommended

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Course Description: This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of New Testament (*Koine*) Greek grammar. Emphasis is placed on the mastery of vocabulary, morphology, and syntax. *Elective. Three hours credit.*

I. Course Objectives: The mission statement of Erskine Seminary indicates that its purpose is to educate its students “for service in the Christian Church”, in particular, the study of the Bible “in its own literary, historical and theological settings”, so that the student may “interpret it with relevance and meaning applicable for today.” Competence in working with the New Testament Greek text is a major step towards achieving this mission statement. In this first semester language course, the student will learn elementary aspects of Greek syntax, New Testament vocabulary, verb morphology in the indicative mood, simple noun declensions, etc.

II. Required Textbooks:

Students are expected to secure their own copies of all required textbooks. As a convenience, the seminary has a bookstore portal of the website at <http://www.erskineseminary.org/bookstore.html>. There you will find links to familiar vendors (CBD, Amazon, B&N, and Books-A-Million) and can check availability of texts, compare prices, and place orders. The ETS SBA will receive a modest percentage of the profits from students’ and professors’ purchases through this portal. The Erskine Campus Bookstore will carry a limited number of copies of every required text and orders for books can be placed through the Campus Bookstore.

Nestle, Eberhardt, Nestle, Erwin, Aland, K., et.al. *Novum Testamentum Graece*, 27. Auflage. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1993. ISBN # 3-438-05100-1.

Machen, J.G. and D.G. McCartney, ed. *New Testament Greek for Beginners*, 2nd edition. Upper Saddle River: Prentice Hall, 2003. ISBN # 0-13-184234-X.

Gingrich, F.W, Danker, F.W., ed., 2d. ed. *Shorter Lexicon of the Greek New Testament*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1983. ISBN # 0-226-13613-2.

In addition, there will be small reading assignments and/or handouts throughout the course to help the student organize and understand the relatively large and diverse amount of material to be learned.

- III. Course Requirements:** Students are expected to attend every class meeting. If a student must be absent due to an emergency or illness for all or part of a session, the student is responsible for all work done and due for that session. *No more than three sessions may be missed.* Due to the nature of the course, in particular the compounding nature of language acquisition, missing classroom discussion will almost certainly adversely affect the student's performance on the scheduled exams. Students are expected to be adequately prepared for each class session, particularly the Greek vocabulary and grammar assignments due. Classroom exercises will constitute an important element of our learning together, and will be adversely affected by poor preparation.

Two tests and a **final exam** will be administered, related to material covered in classroom lectures, new grammar and vocabulary, as well as classroom exercises. The examinations must be taken on the assigned dates. See course outline below for the test dates.

- IV. Evaluation:** The Seminary grade scale will be used in determining a letter grade. The student's final grade will be calculated as follows:

Tests = 60% (30% each)
Final Exam = 40%

Note: Completed and graded tests and papers will be returned to the student in a subsequent class period. Papers and tests tendered at the end of the semester (where impossible to return in class) will be held by the professor for pick-up by the student. Alternately, if the student wishes, the paper/test may be placed in the student's campus mailbox, or mailed to the student. In such cases, the student should indicate the mailbox number on the paper/test, or, when mailed, supply a SASE.

- V. Class Meeting Dates:** This course will meet on Tuesday mornings, from 8-11:00 A.M., in Due West. Classroom TBA.
- VI. Seminary Policies:** Click this link to view your syllabus contract with Erskine Seminary.
http://seminary.erskine.edu/content_policies/SeminaryPoliciesforETSSStudents.pdf

Course Outline

A detailed plan of the course is difficult because the progress of the class will determine the speed at which we move. The *goal* for the first semester is to get through Lesson 17 in the Machen/McCartney book. This will enable us to spend some time at the beginning of the spring semester reviewing the grammar from the Fall semester.

Weeks 1-4, August 30, September 6, 13 and 20:

Introduction/Lectures

Test # 1: Weeks 1-4 will be evaluated by means of an objective test on **September 27**.

Weeks 6-9, October 4, 11, 18 and 25:

Lectures/Translation Exercises

Test # 2: Weeks 5-8 will be evaluated by means of a test which will allow the student to demonstrate competence in rudimentary translation, declension of nouns and parsing. The test will be administered on **November 1**.

Weeks 11-13, November 8, 15, and 29 (Note that Thanksgiving Holiday extends from November 19-27; there will be no class on November 22):

Lectures/Translation Exercises

Final Exam: The final exam will be administered during exam week, **December 6**.