



**ERSKINE**  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

*For Christ and His Church*

**GK 601**  
**Greek III**  
**Fall Term, 2011**  
**Thursday Mornings, 8-11 A.M.**  
**Due West Campus**  
**J. P. Hering, Ph.D.**

Office Telephone: (864) 379-8880

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 2:00-5:00 P.M., appointment recommended

E-mail: [hering@erskine.edu](mailto:hering@erskine.edu)

Seminary Fax: (864) 379-3171

Mailing address: P.O. Drawer 668, Due West, SC, 29639

**I. Course Description:** The aim of this course is to increase the student's knowledge and understanding of New Testament Greek. Students translate and analyze selected passages from the Gospels and Acts. In addition to reading, the student reviews principles of word-formation and syntax, enlarges Greek vocabulary, and uses an advanced Greek grammar to perform in-depth analysis of New Testament texts. *Prerequisites: GK 501 and GK 502 (Greek I and II). A note regarding exegesis papers:* In order to receive exegesis credit for this course, students must have successfully completed BI 502 Principles of Exegesis prior to taking this class. Please see Course Requirements below. *Required. Three hours.*

**II. 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. This course builds upon the grammatical skills gained in GK 501/502, with an eye towards honing translation and interpretative skills. The student should gain confidence in using the Greek New Testament (and its apparatus), a Greek lexicon, and grammatical helps as study tools. These tools should provide the basis for a thorough exegetical discipline.

**III. 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.

Note: *This required text is only necessary if the student has not acquired a basic grammar of Greek.* 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.

Metzger, B.M. *A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament*. Stuttgart: United Bible Societies, 1985. ISBN# 3-438-06010-8.

Mounce, William D. *Biblical Greek: A Compact Guide*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011. ISBN # 978-0-310-32606-9.

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.

- IV. 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, 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 Biblical translation assignments due. Classroom discussion will constitute an important element of our learning together, and will be adversely affected by poor preparation.

**Two exams** will be administered, related to review material, new grammar and vocabulary, and the New Testament apparatus. The tests must be taken on the assigned dates. See course outline below for the test dates.

Each student will be required to present the results of **an exegetical exercise** based on a portion of the New Testament text. This text will be discrete from the passage selected for the exegesis paper. A guide sheet will be provided for the preparation and presentation of this exercise.

Each student will research a New Testament text as the basis for a thorough **exegesis paper**. Please consult the professor for details and exegesis guidelines.

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

Tests = 50% (25% each)  
 Exegesis Exercise = 25%  
 Exegesis Paper, 25%

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.

- VI. **Class Meeting Dates:** This course will meet on Thursday mornings, from 8-11 A.M., in Due West. Class room TBA.
- VII. **Seminary Policies:** Click this link to view your syllabus contract with Erskine Seminary.  
[http://seminary.erskine.edu/content\\_policies/SeminaryPoliciesforETSSStudents.pdf](http://seminary.erskine.edu/content_policies/SeminaryPoliciesforETSSStudents.pdf)

## Course Outline

### Weeks 1-4, September 1, 8, 15 and 22:

**Introduction/Lectures:** A grammar review; tools for study of the New Testament; critical texts available for studying the New Testament in Greek; styles and genres in the New Testament; introduction to the Greek of the Gospels; an exegetical method using the Greek text.

**Exegetical Work:** Passages will be assigned for translation and analysis for each Thursday session. In the first weeks, we will concentrate on selected texts from John and Mark.

**Test # 1:** Weeks 1-4 will be evaluated by means of an objective test on **September 29**. This test will focus on the grammar review and any new points of grammar covered to this point. This will be administered during the first hour of class.

**Weeks 5-8, September 29, October 6, 13, and 20:**

**Lectures:** New grammar material; the critical apparatus and its use; diagramming sentences and finding patterns in a passage. Note: There will be no class meeting on October 20. This will be a time for library research for the exegesis paper, using grammar tools, Kittel, etc. A guide sheet will be provided to help find and use the resources.

**Exegetical Work:** Exercises using the critical apparatus; passages will be assigned for translation and analysis from Matthew and Luke.

**Test # 2:** Weeks 5-8 will be evaluated by means of a test which will allow the student to demonstrate competence in using the New Testament critical apparatus and interpreting its significance to the interpretation of the related passage. The text will be administered during the first hour of class on **October 27**.

**Weeks 9-12, October 27, November 3, 10 and 17 (Note that Thanksgiving Holiday extends from November 19-27; there will be no class on November 24):**

**Exegetical Work:** We will concentrate primarily on the writings of Luke-Acts.

**Work due:** Student exegetical presentations will begin on **November 3**.

**Week 13: December 1: Final Class Session**

In our final class session, we will hear any outstanding student presentations, and will translate, *DV*, a short passage from a New Testament epistle.

**Work due:** The exegesis paper, in hard copy, will be due no later than **December 2**.