



**ERSKINE**  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

*For Christ and His Church*

*Christian Commitment and Excellence in Learning*

**GK 601**

**Greek III**

**Fall Term, 2010**

**Thursday Mornings, 8-11 A.M.**

**Due West Campus**

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- 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: *Due to a change in textbooks last year, 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.

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 (*Catalog*, p. 46) 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:**

**Drop/Add/ and Course Withdrawal:** Once a student has completed, signed, and submitted his/her registration to the Registrar for this class, it is a binding contract, and billing will be based on this registration. If the student decides not to take this class, he/she must complete a "drop/add" form and secure the appropriate signatures prior to the drop/add deadline during the second week of the semester or term. If one wishes to withdraw from the course after the drop/add deadline, one must complete a withdrawal form, and tuition will be refunded on a pro rated basis. Failure to withdraw from the class properly will result in the student's receiving a grade of "F" for the course, and full tuition charges will apply. No exceptions will be made to this policy.

**Office Hours**

My normal office hours are printed in this syllabus. However, due to meetings and unforeseen circumstances that may arise, my schedule may change. If you need to see me, I strongly recommend that you call or e-mail to schedule an appointment.

**Language about God and Humanity**

Although God transcends the distinction between male and female, the Bible and the Church's historic creeds and confessions use masculine language in reference to God. Thus, the Seminary encourages all students to retain this masculine usage when speaking and writing about God. Furthermore, the Seminary recognizes that all human beings, male and female, are created equally in the image of God (Gen.

1:26-27), and believers of both sexes are fellow heirs of the grace of life (1 Pet. 3:7). Accordingly, whenever students are speaking and writing about males and females, they should use language that clearly includes both men and women (for example, by saying/writing "humanity" rather than "man" or "people" rather than "men").

### **Conduct in Theological Discussions**

Erskine Seminary is committed to the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, and it expects its students to show respect for all who identify with that one Church. In all written work, oral presentations, and discussions both inside and outside the classroom, the Seminary expects students to conduct discussions of controversial issues in a context of respect for those with whom one disagrees. Please see the Community Life Statement in the Catalog for more information.

### **Incompletes**

The grade of "I" or incomplete is given at the discretion of the professor. A grade of "I" is normally given when a student has substantially completed the requirements for a course but has been prevented by extraordinary circumstances from completing the remainder of the course requirements. A student who wishes to request an incomplete should normally complete an incomplete form prior to the end of the semester and ask the professor to grant the request. (Under unusual circumstances, the student may communicate with the professor by phone or email rather than in person, and the professor may then agree to fill out the form at the student's request. Under exceptional circumstances, the professor may initiate the process by filling out the form on the student's behalf.) If the professor grants the request, he/she will sign the incomplete form and turn it in with his/her final grade report. An "I" in any course must be removed by March 1 for the Fall Term, April 1 for the January Term, August 1 for the Spring Term, and November 1 for the Summer Term. Only the Dean may grant extensions of incompletes beyond the established completion date. Otherwise, these grades automatically become "F."

### **Official Seminary Class Attendance Policy:**

Class participation is considered an important part of the total educational experience at Erskine Seminary. Students are expected to attend classes on a regular basis and are responsible for the mastery of all materials required in the course. Each professor will indicate in writing the specific class attendance policy at the beginning of each course. In general, students are allowed up to three hours of unexcused absence without penalty. Students wishing to take a course which meets four times over the semester **must** attend the first meeting of the course.

### **Style and Bibliographical Formatting Requirements**

All papers must be typed/processed (12-point type, double-spaced, one-inch margins) and fully documented, following the standards in the "Style and Form Standards" (Erskine Seminary). In this course, footnotes and a bibliography are

required in each paper. The paper's cover page and bibliography are not counted towards page requirements.

### **Exegesis Credit Policy for Bible Elective/Exegesis Course Syllabi**

Students intending to use this course to fulfill their Old or New Testament exegesis requirement, must choose a passage and do a thorough exegetical study, using the exegetical procedure taught in the Principles of Exegesis course. Such students, then, must have successfully completed BI 502 Principles of Exegesis and, for those who began in Fall 2008 or after, BI 503 Introduction to the Biblical Languages prior to taking any course for exegesis credit. Additionally, students who are required to take the Biblical languages (Hebrew and Greek) must, in place of BI 503 Introduction to the Biblical Languages, successfully complete the respective language courses (Hebrew I & II for Old Testament courses; Greek I & II for New Testament courses) prior to taking any Bible course for exegesis credit. Students taking Bible electives without having met the exegesis and language course prerequisites may only count those courses as general Bible electives, and cannot receive exegesis credit for them.

### **Chapel Attendance Policy (FOR TUESDAY-THURSDAY ON-CAMPUS CLASSES)**

All morning and afternoon on-campus classes (except for Friday and Saturday courses) carry a chapel attendance requirement. Consult the catalog for the specifics of the chapel attendance policy. There is a per chapel fee if you attend fewer chapels than required.

### **PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS**

If your course contains a paper or project required as a portfolio submission, star or highlight the project and inform students it is their responsibility to submit the graded and polished document to the appropriate administrative person for filing in their portfolio.

### **PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is the use in writing of wording or ideas produced by others without crediting the author and/or source from which the material was taken. As the following statement indicates, plagiarism is a serious offense that undermines both the witness and the integrity of the Christian community:

*Plagiarism injures the community by inhibiting the recognition and cultivation of gifts imparted by the Spirit. Clearly unattributed use of the words and/or ideas of others fails to give appreciative recognition of their gifts. But this illegitimate appropriation of the gifts of others also blocks the recognition and cultivation of the actual gifts of the person engaged in plagiarism.*

*Plagiarism creates an atmosphere of falsehood in the community's discernment and cultivation of gifts, both within the Christian community and in God's larger creation. Since freedom comes only by way of truth (Jn. 8:32), such falsehood can only result in captivity, and therefore has no place in the Christian community.*

*On this basis, the Seminary adheres to the following general requirements for the acknowledgement of sources of academic work. These requirements apply to both print and electronic media.*

*1. Quotations. Any sentence or phrase that a student uses from another source must be placed in quotation marks or, in the case of longer quotations, clearly indented beyond the regular margin. Any quotation must be accompanied (either within the text or in a note) by a precise indication of the source.*

*2. Paraphrasing. Any material that is paraphrased or summarized must also be specifically acknowledged in a note or in the text.*

*3. Ideas. Specific ideas that are borrowed should be acknowledged in a note or in the text, even if the idea has been further elaborated by the student.*

*4. Bibliography. All the sources consulted in the preparation of an essay or report should be listed in a bibliography.*

*In addition to plagiarism, the following related practices are also unacceptable compromises of the truth requisite to a free community:*

*1. Multiple submission. Failure to obtain prior written permission of the relevant instructors to submit work which has been submitted in identical or similar form in fulfillment of any other academic requirement at any institution.*

*2. False citation. The deliberate attribution to, or citation of, a source from which the material in question was not, in fact, obtained.*

*3. Submission of work done by someone else, either with or without that person's knowledge. Neither ignorance of the regulations concerning academic violations nor personal extenuating circumstances are an adequate defense against charges of plagiarism. The Seminary's provisions for "due process" apply in cases of alleged plagiarism.*

[The italicized statement above is used by permission of The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, based upon a document adapted by LTSP, with permission, from "Princeton University Rights, Rules and Responsibilities," 1990 Edition. Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey.]

For details refer to the Erskine Seminary Handbook under the Honor Code.

**NOTE:** Under no circumstances will the professor accept a paper containing others' work, either downloaded from Internet sites or used from other students' papers. (In other words, the purpose of the assignment is for the student to reflect critically on the topic at hand and to articulate those reflections in writing.) If the student turns in such a paper to the professor, the grade is an automatic "F" or "0". As in scholarly writing, the student may quote from a reference work using proper citations. The student may also reference others' work in the student's own wording but must give proper credit by citing the original source. (See Turabian for instructions on footnotes, parenthetical references, citations, reference lists, and bibliographies.)

If the student is a published author and chooses to cite from his/her copyrighted material, proper citations must be made as well. Not to do so is considered plagiarism.

## Course Outline

### **Weeks 1-4, September 2, 9, 16 and 23:**

**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 30**. 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 30, October 7, 14, and 21:**

**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 21. 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 28**.

### **Weeks 9-12, October 28, November 4, 11 and 18 (Note that Thanksgiving Holiday extends from November 20-28; there will be no class on November 25):**

**Exegetical Work:** We will concentrate primarily on the writings of Luke-Acts.  
**Work due:** Student exegetical presentations will begin on **November 4**.

### **Week 13: December 2: 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 3**.