

GREEK 101, ELEMENTARY GREEK, FALL 2010

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Nick Dobson

TIME: MTWF 1:00-1:50

OFFICE: WH 115A, x2103



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PLACE: Wallace 115

OFFICE HRS: M-F 10-11 & by appointment (or serendipity)

Course Description:

The aim of Greek 101 & 102 is to learn basic reading and writing skills in Greek as quickly and as thoroughly as possible. At the end of two terms of elementary Greek, a student should know the fundamentals of Greek grammar, have a basic Greek vocabulary, and be able to read a Greek text with the help of a dictionary. Speaking and listening skills in Greek will be encouraged in order to assist the development of reading and writing Greek.

Completion of Greek 101 and 102 fulfills the foreign language requirements for graduation. Elementary Greek can also fulfill partial requirements for a major in Greek or Classics. Classes that meet the language requirement are described in the Monmouth College catalogue in the following way:

The creation and use of language is the most significant achievement of human beings, for our ability to organize our understanding in verbal symbols and to communicate sets us apart from all other life forms. The symbols of our language make communication possible at many different levels of meaning and allow us to translate our private experience into universal terms . . . A sure understanding of language is the foundation of all knowledge, and the ability to use verbal symbols effectively is the most important of all skills.

This component provides that every student have experience with a second language. The study of a foreign language allows students to see that their native language often reflects cultural needs and interests at the same time that it shares many basic patterns with other languages.

Text:

Groton, Anne. *From Alpha to Omega, A Beginning Course in Classical Greek*. rev. 3rd ed., Focus Publishing 2000. ISBN 1-58510-034-X

Preparation for class:

The most important thing to remember about learning a language is that it is a cumulative process, one set of forms and concepts building upon another. It is quite normal for someone new to a language to make lots of mistakes and not to master new material in a single day. Be patient with yourself. The important thing is to **USE THE LANGUAGE** as much as possible. At the same time, since you will be learning nearly all of Greek morphology in two terms, it is important not to fall behind. Therefore, every day spend time *reviewing* vocabulary and grammar. Second, spend time *reading* connected prose and re-reading it. Third, *practice* by asking a partner questions in Greek, by composing sentences that use new vocabulary, new sentence patterns, new grammar, and by doing the homework. If you are an active learner, using all your senses and motor skills, you will learn Greek much more easily, and best of all you will retain it!

Steady, daily progress is the best way to assure retention and mastery of the Greek tongue, and consequently good grades. Cramming for quizzes and tests, though it may seem to work in the short term, will inevitably hurt you later on.

Evaluation:

Class Participation	10%
Quizzes	30%
Homework	20%
Tests (including final Tu. 12/14 8am)	40%

Requirements:**I. Participation (10%) and attendance policy**

Learning another language is a lot easier in a group, but only if everyone in the group is working together. This kind of course requires daily attention. You cannot study only before tests and quizzes. You must attend class faithfully and be prepared every day. Attendance at all meetings of the class is required. Active participation by all students in the class is very important. You are expected to ask questions, volunteer answers, and actively participate in class.

Each student is permitted 3 unexcused absences during the semester. A student with **more than THREE** unexcused absences will drop one grade point on the final semester grade for each unexcused absence over three.

II. Quizzes (30%)

There will be frequent quizzes. At the end of the semester several low quiz grades will be dropped. Therefore, there are **no make-ups** on quizzes unless they are missed due to excused absence.

III. Homework (20%)

Written homework will be assigned daily.

IV. Tests (40%)

There will be at least 3 major tests. The dates for these tests will be announced in class at least one week in advance. These tests will demonstrate your understanding of the grammar and assignments. There are **no make-ups** on tests unless they are missed due to excused absence.

The Greek 101 Final Exam is on Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2009, at 1 pm.

V. Extra Credit

There will be several opportunities to gain extra credit in this class, including writing response papers after attending Classics Department and archeological lectures during the semester.

Final Note: **Do not get behind** at any time. Ask for help **before** you feel you are slipping. *Carpe diem!*

Tutoring:

Greek tutors will be available several hours a week to help students individually with class assignments. Tutors are paid by the college, & their services **ARE FREE TO YOU!!!**

Grading scale:

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following pattern:

A 93-100	A- 90-92		
B+ 87-89	B 83-86	B- 80-82	
C+ 77-79	C 73-76	C- 70-72	
D+ 67-69	D 63-66	D- 60-62	F below 60

Honesty and Plagiarism:

Don't cheat! Passing off someone else's work as yours is plagiarism. **Any** student submitting plagiarized work will receive a **0** for that assignment.

Caveat: This syllabus is subject to revision by the instructor, provided that written or verbal notice is given in class.