

#201 Basic Greek 1
Western Reformed Seminary
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Fall 2022

COURSE INFORMATION

Course objectives

Basic Greek 1 is designed to cover the first half of the Basic Greek curriculum. You will be learning about the Koiné Greek used in the New Testament, about the Greek alphabet and writing system, about the three declensions of Greek nouns, and much about the Greek verb. In addition, you will begin to acquire the basic Greek vocabulary you will need to translate and study the Greek New Testament with confidence.

Course outcomes

First year Greek involves the memorization and drill of many forms of Greek nouns, verbs, and adjectives. While this memory work may seem boring and unproductive, it provides the necessary foundation for fruitful study in the following years. With the knowledge of Greek gained in this first semester you will be able to begin translating the New Testament itself later in the second semester.

Textbook assignments

The textbook for this class is J. Gresham Machen, *New Testament Greek for Beginners* (Second Edition). This semester we will be completing Lessons 1-17.

Read each lesson carefully, writing down the various forms and rules as they are presented; this can be organized into your own elementary Greek grammar that you will consult often.

At the end of each lesson (except the first) there are written exercises. Please do these completely—both the Greek to English and English to Greek sentences. You may be asked to rewrite some of your translations on an overhead sheet, so that the class can examine them.

Quizzes

Starting with Lesson 1 there are things to memorize in each lesson, and starting with Lesson 3 there are vocabulary lists with each lesson. At the end of each lesson you will take a quiz. For vocabulary, English definitions will be given, and you are to write the appropriate

Greek word. Each quiz will be cumulative, including review from previous lessons. Since this is a 4-hour course and we are meeting only three days in class, quizzes and tests will be scheduled for Fridays, and may be taken at a time convenient to Prof. Lensch.

It is recommended that you buy or make vocabulary cards, with Greek on one side and English on the other. These are very helpful in learning and reviewing vocabulary. Also, be sure you are able to write the word in Greek, correctly spelled and accented.

Tests

After each three lessons there will be a test covering the material in those lessons, and reviewing previous material. The last test will be taken after completion of Lesson 17.

Class attendance

Since much of the learning and drill in learning this biblical language takes place in class, prompt attendance is expected, unless you are providentially hindered. Part of the grade for the course will be based on class attendance, preparation, and participation.

Grading

Your final grade will be based on these results:

Attendance and participation	20%
Assignments	20%
7 tests	35%
17 quizzes	25%

Course schedule

Note: Quizzes and tests are to be taken outside of class under the supervision of an approved proctor; they are to be turned in before class on the date listed.

Aug.	29		19	
	31		21	(G. W. Presbytery – no class)
Sept.	1	Quiz 1	22	(G. W. Presbytery – no class)
	5	(Labor Day Recess)	26	Quiz 4; Test 1
	7		28	
	8	Quiz 2	29	
	12		Oct. 3	Quiz 5
	14	Quiz 3	5	
	15		6	

	10	Quiz 6
	12	
	13	
	17	Quiz 7; Test 2
	19	
	20	
	24	Quiz 8
	26	
	27	
	31	Quiz 9
Nov.	2	
	3	
	7	Quiz 10; Test 3
	9	
	10	
	14	Quiz 11
	16	
	17	
	21	Quiz 12; Test 4
	23	
	24	(Thanksgiving – no class)
	28	Quizzes 13-14
	30	
Dec.	1	Quiz 15
	5	Test 5
	7	
	8	Quiz 16
	12	
	14	
	15	Quiz 17, Test 6