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NT 500 Concise Greek

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NT500 Concise Greek
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Tue./Thur

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1. Course Overview

1.1 Course Description

An introduction to exegetical Greek for ministry. Particular emphasis is placed on inductive learning of exegetical Greek, a working knowledge of Greek syntax and grammar, the use of standard exegetical tools and of Bible study software, consideration of relevant linguistics issues and issues surrounding the interpretation of the New Testament.

1.2 Course Objectives

- 1.2.1. Know and use the Greek alphabet
- 1.2.2. Interpret basic Greek grammar and syntax
- 1.2.3. Easily read and pronounce Greek words
- 1.2.4. Awareness of and hands-on practice with standard reference works for exegesis—both printed and electronic
- 1.2.5. Use modern linguistics in exegetical study
- 1.2.6. Know basic characteristics of the Greek New Testament
- 1.2.7. Know and use the Greek definite article

1.3 Concerning language courses:

All courses working with languages are demanding. As mentioned above, it is expected that you will spend 2-3 hours out of class for every hour that you spend in class. Considering that we are in class for 3 hours a week this means that you will be spending 9-12 a week in study (counting in-class time). Please make an honest assessment of whether you can give the class this type of commitment. Falling behind in a language course is like bungee jumping without attaching the cord to your ankle!

1.4 Course Requirements and Evaluation Percentages

(1.4.1). Involvement in Class Activities:

This includes regular attendance, engagement with in-class discussions and exercises, and completing reading assignments. Persons missing more than 3 days of class sessions will not be eligible for a passing grade.

Students will be required to submit a reading report at the end of the class detailing the amount of assigned reading that was completed. Completion of the assigned reading will account for 50% of the final grade in this area

Attendance and Completing Required Reading – 15%

(1.4.2). *Worksheets and Practice Sheets:*

Students will have opportunity to become familiar both with the Greek text of the New Testament and also with various tools and methods used in preparation and use of such materials for ministerial tasks. They will have opportunity in completing the worksheets to develop necessary skills and informational background through the 14 worksheets completed over the semester.

14 Worksheets – 25%

(1.4.3). *Quizzes:*

At various times throughout the semester students will have the opportunity to display growing competencies in grammar, translation and use of tools by means of quizzes taken both in and outside of class. Quizzes will cover both course lecture notes and course readings.

Quizzes – 15%

(1.4.4). *Examinations/Final Project :*

Students will have opportunity to display the knowledge acquired through lectures, reading and worksheets in a midterm and final examination. The midterm will be a test taken in class and the final will be an in-depth analysis of a passage in 1 John.

Midterm 20%; Final Project 25%

Letter Grade/Percentage Standard (See Asbury Theological Seminary Catalog for a description of letter grades [e.g., what is a “B”])

A	95 – 100%	C	73 –76.9%
A-	90 – 94.9%	C-	70 –72.9%
B+	87 – 89.9%	D+	67 –69.9%
B	83 – 86.9%	D	63 –66.9%
B-	80 – 82.9%	D-	60 –62.9%
C+	77 –79.9%	F	Below 60

1.5 A Brief Note on Class/Teaching Philosophy

As those preparing for ministry, we must consider not only for whom we are preparing, but also what we are preparing to do, the tasks we are to undertake and the responsibilities that are before us. As people preparing for ministry, one of the primary tasks that we will undertake and one of our primary responsibilities is to be people of the Word and to proclaim that Word to those with whom we come in contact and those for whom we are spiritually responsible. The Word is a primary focus for everything that we do. As such, we should be willing to devote our best in service to and in learning how to properly exegete and handle the text. Put another way, we will invest hundreds and thousands of dollars, hundreds of hours of practice and incredible levels of emotional and

mental involvement into hobbies, sports, musical instruments and other areas of our lives but often approach things within the Kingdom, and our preparation for our tasks with a level far inferior to our commitments elsewhere. If proclamation of the text is one of our primary responsibilities, then why would we approach our preparation for proclamation and teaching of the text with any less devotion than we would our other interests?

2. Class Policies

(2.1.1) *Late Work*: With the pace of a language course, late work is simply not an option except under the direst of situations. Students must turn in assignments and take quizzes/tests on the dates specified. ***Work will be collected at the end of each class on the date when it is due and any work turned in after that is considered late.*** If for some reason this is impossible, students must notify the instructor ***in advance*** or as soon as possible regarding the reason for/nature of the absence/late work. A time for completion of any late work will then be set for the work/quizzes/tests to be taken and handed in. Any work turned in after the specified time that it is due will automatically receive a reduction (25% grade reduction for all non-quiz assignments and a 33% grade reduction for all quizzes) off of the grade earned if turned in within the first week after it is collected. An additional 25% or 33% for every week past that first week. (That is, if a particular assignment is due and is not turned in, the student will have one week from the due date to complete the assignment at a 25% (33%) reduction. Two weeks late will result in a 50% (66%) reduction, three weeks 75% (99%) and so on.) Late work turned in may not receive any comments.

(2.1.2) *Absence Policy*: The student may miss up to three classes, without penalty, provided: 1) that the instructor is notified *in advance*, 2) any homework due that day is completed *in advance or arrangements are made with the instructor*, 3) all reading for the day missed is completed and 4) arrangements are made with the instructor to make up quizzes or other assignments. Students who miss a fourth day will lose one letter grade from their final grade (i.e. from A- to B+). *Note: Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class.*

(2.1.3) *Questions and accessing class materials*: Please ask questions when you do not understand some feature we are studying. Usually many other students have the same question. Due to the large amount of content to be covered and the complexity of particular questions, some questions may need to be either deferred or addressed outside of class time. A class icon will be added to your desktop for such interaction to take place. Worksheets and other handouts will also be accessed through the desktop icon. For questions on accessing the icon, navigating the icon or accessing materials via the computer see the staff in the information commons area.

(2.1.4) *Group Study*: Feel free to study with other students and help each other with the worksheets and examinations and quizzes. However, be careful to not become dependent on other students and not to copy one another's work. Work handed in may have been done after discussions with other students but should not directly reflect (copy and paste)

the work of any other students nor should the work be a collaborative effort that results in one project/assignment merely being copied and turned in for each person.

(2.1.5) *Work Format*: All work turned in must include the following: Your name at the top of the page and your name and SPO # on the back side of the assignment so that work may be returned via the SPO. Work should also include a space for the date the assignment was due and the date that assignment was turned in on the first page at the top of the assignment (this information will be filled in by you). If work is being turned in electronically, all of the information should also be included, with the exception that instead your name and SPO # appearing on the back side of the assignment, a cover page must be created as the first page of the assignment with the appropriate information. Work turned in electronically may be graded and handed back in class or it may be graded electronically with the track changes program in Microsoft Word.

3. Required Materials

3.1 Texts

Black, David Alan. *It's Still Greek to Me: An Easy-to-Understand Guide to Intermediate Greek*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998.

Green, Joel. *Hearing the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.

Douglas, J.D., ed. *The New Greek-English Interlinear New Testament*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale, 1993.

3.2 Required Software

BibleWorks

Version 6.0 of BibleWorks may be purchased at the bookstore. Students may also use the program on the computers located in the computer lab on the main floor of the library.

3.3 Recommended Texts

Cotterell, Peter and Max Turner. *Linguistics and Biblical Interpretation*. (London: S.P.C.K.; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1989).

Wallace, Daniel. *The Basics of New Testament Syntax*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.

OR

Wallace, Daniel. *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

4. Course Schedule

	Date	Subjects	Readings *	Quizzes / Exams(#)	Assignments Those in bold due at end of class.
Week 1	Tues	Introduction, Syllabus, Greek Alphabet	Read Black chs. 1-2. Read: "Introduction: English Grammar" in J. W. Wenham, <u>The Elements of New Testament Greek</u> (<i>on reserve in library</i>)		Memorize alphabet
	Thurs	Writing Greek Letters, Practice Pronunciation, Vowels, Diphthongs, Marks, Greek Language Family, Pronunciation Rules,	Read Black ch. 14. Green chs 1; 20.		Practice Writing Alphabet. Practice Pronunciation with John 1:1-5. View Intro to BibleWorks Powerpoint.
Week 2	Tues	The Bible, The Reader, The Writer, and Meaning. The Greek Verb pt 1- Time, Aspect, Tense, Voice, Mood, Person, Number.	Black, ch. 8. Green chs. 15-17 Chapter 15, "Understanding the Other: A Gadamerian View on Conceptual Schemes" by Charles Taylor in <u>Gadamer's Century</u> edited by Malpas (<i>on Reserve in Library</i>)	Quiz #1 alphabet and morphology /reading	Practice Sheet A; Read Mark 1:1-5 in Greek to practice reading/pronunciation
	Thurs	The Greek Verb pt 1 cont. Introduction to the Standard Lexicons. The Greek Verb pt 2 – Refined distinctions	Black ch. 9		Read John 1:5-10 in Greek to practice reading/pronunciation. Using BibleWorks and the Analytical Lexicon, locate all the verbs in John 1:1-6 and parse them.
Week 3	Tues	The Greek Verb pt 2 cont. The Art of Boundary Making. Questions on Worksheet #1?			Worksheet #1. Practice sheet B. Practice pronouncing Mark 1:6-15. John 1:1-6 verb assignment
	Thurs	The Role/Importance of Cotext.			Using BibleWorks, Identify the Verbs in Mark 1:1-10 and Interpret the time and aspect of the Greek Tenses.

Week 4	Tues	Boundary making and cotext cont. Commentaries, Reference Books, and Their Uses.	Black ch 3; Green chs. 2, 14.	Quiz #2	Mark 1:1-10 verb assignment
	Thurs	Greek Cases and their uses pt 1	Black ch 4		Worksheet #2;
Week 5	Tues	Greek Cases and their uses pt 2. Pronouns, Definite Articles.	Black, chs. 5-6		Practice sheet C. Memorize Definite Article Declension. Practice Locating and Observing the Use of the Definite Article in Mark 1:1-15
	Thurs	Setting a Research Agenda	Begin Word Study Reading (See handout); Green 11		Worksheet 3 Definite Article assignment. Using BibleWorks, Identify the Nouns and Adjectives in Mark 1:1-15 and Interpret the Greek Cases.
Week 6	Tues	Setting a Research Agenda cont. Greek Prepositions. Greek Participles	Black ch. 7		Worksheet 4. Nouns/Adjectives assignment.
	Thurs	Greek Participles. Greek Infinitives.	Black chs 10-11 Begin Word Study Readings (see handout)	Quiz #3	Worksheet 5. Using BibleWorks, find the Participles and Infinitives in John 3:1-15 and examine how they are translated.
Week 7	Tues	Clauses, phrases and connectors 1	Black ch. 12, 13;		Participles and Infinitives Assignment. Using BibleWorks, Find the phrases and clauses in John 3:1-15 and examine how they are translated and what they are modifying. Practice Sheet D
	Thurs	Clauses, phrases and connectors cont Diagramming Sentences Catch-up and review.	Cotterell and Turner (<i>on reserve in library</i>) ch. 6, 7		Worksheet 6; Diagram Colossians chapter 1

Week 8	Reading Week				
Week 9	Tues	Midterm	Green ch. 10		Practice Pronouncing 1 John 3:1-3
	Thurs	Genre and Expectations, Delimiting Boundaries	Cotterell and Turner chs. 5; Green ch. 5, 6, 10; Brook Pearson and Stanley Porter, "The Genres of the New Testament," in <u>A Handbook to the Exegesis of the New Testament</u> ed. by Stanley Porter.		Practice Pronouncing 1 John 3:4-6. Worksheet 7; Clauses and Phrases assignment.
Week 10	Tues	Introduction to Modern Linguistics. Exegetical Worksheet/Final Paper Intro;	Green 8, 9;		Practice Pronouncing 1 John 3:7-10; Assign groups; Worksheet 8
	Thurs	Into to Modern Linguistics Cont. The Importance of Semantic Domains.	Cotterell and Turner, 5	Quiz 4	Word Study summaries Diagram Assignment.
Week 11	Tues	Doing Things with Words: Common Semantic Fallacies	Cotterell and Turner 2, 3		Practice Reading 1 John 3:11-17 Worksheet 9
	Thurs	Lexical Resources and Diachronic Study. Concordances and Synchronic Study	Green 12, 13.		Worksheet 10; Practice reading 1 John 3:18-24
Week 12	Tues	Overview of the Final Paper			
	Thurs	Introduction to Sociolinguistics. The Special Problem of Metaphor.	Green 4, 16, 17	Quiz 5	Worksheet 11; Grammatically work through 1 John 3:1-10 applying the discussion and reading done so far Group/Exegetical Assignment.
Week 13	Tues	Grammatical Analysis of 1John passage 3:1-10	Green 3,		Worksheet 12;

	Thurs	Text, Theology, and Sermon Discussion of Group Projects and Reading.	Green 18, 19; Chapter 5, “Old Testament Theology as Christian Theological Enterprise” in <u>Text and Truth</u> by Francis Watson (<i>on reserve in library</i>)		Worksheet 13
Week 14	Tues	The New Testament and Various Critical Approaches Textual Criticism	Green 7; Chapter 1: Eldon Epp, “Textual Criticism in the Exegesis of the New Testament,” in <u>A Handbook to the Exegesis of the New Testament</u> ed. by Stanley Porter.	Quiz 6	Worksheet 14 Grammatically work through John 15
	Thurs	Analysis of John 15 Catch-up;			
Week 15	Finals				

*Readings should be completed before coming to class.

Quizzes in bold taken in class.

+ Due at the end of class.