

GRK 101: Elementary Greek I

Fall 2019

Instructor Information:

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- Office Hours: Monday through Friday 1:00-2:00, or by appointment

Course Information:

- GRK 101.01
- MWF 10:00-10:50 pm
- LA 202

Course Description:

Elementary Greek I is the first in a two-course sequence that prepares students to read some of the most influential poetry in the history of literature: the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. These fundamental texts prepare us to explore, in turn, works of later authors written in other Greek dialects, such as Plato, Thucydides, Sappho, Sophocles, Aristophanes, Hippocrates, Archimedes, etc. Through the study of Homer and the Greek language, we will explore the origins of political theory, tragedy, medicine, mathematics.

Outcomes: The goal of this class is to acquire the grammar, vocabulary, and skills necessary to read Homeric Greek. The successful student will:

1. Master the essential principles of Homeric Greek grammar and syntax introduced in Lessons 1-34 of *A Reading Course in Homeric Greek, Book 1* (Schoder, et al)
2. Become familiar and confident in the use of basic terminology used to describe grammar and syntax of the Greek language.
3. Be able to identify and produce the morphology of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd declension nouns, pronouns, and adjectives.
4. Be able to identify and produce the morphology of verbs in the Present System and the Future System (Active/Middle/Passive, Indicative/Subjunctive/Optative/Imperative).
5. Master the vocabulary of Lessons 1-34 of the textbook.
6. Begin to build the foundation for reading the Homeric poems in the original.

Assessment:

Grades will be calculated by the following breakdown: Participation and Engagement (15%), Homework (20%), Vocabulary Quizzes (20%), Tests (45%)

Participation and Engagement (15%):

Active participation is vital to the success of learning a foreign language. Participation is not the same as attendance. Although the English word “attendance” conventionally means “to be present,” the English term is derived from the Latin *attendere* (*ad + tendere*), which means literally “to stretch toward” or more generally “to direct or turn toward.” From this root, the

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Latin term takes on various meanings including not only “to direct attention to, apply the mind to, to attend to,” but also “to strive eagerly for” and “to be intent on.” To this end, “to attend” Greek 101 means not only to be present, but to stretch one’s intellect toward the subject matter at hand, not only to direct attention to *διδάσκαλος* and other *μαθηταί*, but to strive eagerly to learn Greek. You will earn points based on your presence in class and your willingness to participate.

Students will receive daily participation grades on a 3 to 0 scale: 3 points for being present, prepared, and generally attentive, a 2 for being present and willing to participate even if not adequately prepared, 1 for being present, but unable or overly hesitant to participate, and 0 for absence.

PLEASE NOTE: Repeated tardiness or getting up in the middle of class is considered part of your attendance record. Similarly, dealing with a phone, whether silencing an incoming call, answering a call, sending or receiving text messages is part of your attendance record; you are not “attending” class, if you are frequently responding to messages emanating from outside the classroom. Additionally, these are distracting to your instructor and fellow classmates. Please show respect by limiting these types of disruptions.

Homework (20%):

Written homework will be collected on a regular basis. We may will spend a portion of the class period going over homework as a means of practicing pronunciation and getting immediate feedback exercises. Students are expected to make corrections on any assignments we go over in class. All corrections should be made in a different color than used to complete the work.

Homework should be written legibly, skipping every other line to allow comments, on loose-leaf notebook paper. I encourage you to keep a 3-ring binder with your homework for review.

There will also be periodic online activities that will contribute to your Homework grade. These activities will be accessed through the Moodle Course shell and frequently will require students to "Self-Report" grades. Online activities may require the input of Greek.

Written homework will be graded on a 5 point scale: Late homework will not be accepted without arrangements made prior to the due date.

Points	Qualitative Description of Written Homework	Standard Grade Equivalence
5	homework complete, largely correct (occasional errors are expected) and demonstrates careful effort and diligence	letter grade A = 100%
4	homework nearly complete with more frequent errors but still demonstrates careful and diligent work	letter grade A- = 92%
3	homework partially complete but largely error-free OR complete but with frequent errors, or homework that was gone over in class but has no corrections marked	letter grade B = 84%
2	homework incomplete with significant errors, seemingly carelessly or hastily attempted	letter grade C = 74%
0	homework not submitted.	

Vocabulary quizzes (20%):

There will be regular vocabulary quizzes administered in class over the course of the semester. These will cover the vocabulary in the “Memorize” sections of several lessons at a time. Students will be expected to know not only the meaning of the words, but all additional grammatical information (e.g. nominative and genitive forms, gender of nouns; principle parts of verbs and the cases they govern). Students will be expected to complete both Greek to English and English to Greek.

Grammar tests (45%):

There will be four tests administered in class as well as a final exam. Tests will be modeled on the types of homework and exercises. Students will be expected to be able to identify and reproduce forms, identify and explain syntactical constructions, and translate short sentences (Greek into English). Language learning is by nature a cumulative process. Although tests will focus on the material covered since the previous test, they will be cumulative both in terms of the vocabulary and grammar.

A note on the unrelenting regularity of quizzes and tests: Although I recognize that students have different learning styles, in my experience it is generally true that students who are tested frequently and on a regular basis have greater success learning languages. While the schedule is rigorous (and may seem sadistic), it has the following benefits:

- a. Frequent quizzes and tests allow less material to be assessed at any given moment.
- b. It helps keep students on track throughout the semester; students are less likely to wait until major exams to cram and more likely to make steady progress leading to longer term memorization.
- c. Frequent testing is more forgiving of students’ good days and bad days, etc.

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It is unlikely that you will have taken a class that demands as much sheer memorization as Greek does in the first year. Success for most students depends on steady and consistent preparation. Attendance is mandatory. If for some reason you find it impossible to make it to class, you must notify me immediately. Quizzes will not be re-scheduled except under the direst of circumstances.

Email and Moodle: Students are required to use their university email accounts, and are expected to check their accounts regularly. This class will also use a Moodle course supplement. Students will need to know their Net ID and associated password to access Moodle. All announcements concerning assignments, quizzes, events, etc. will be sent to university email accounts and will be posted to Moodle.

Nota Bene (that's Latin): Most of the learning process is up to you. No matter how much I do in the classroom, I cannot implant Greek into your heads. The best strategy is to try to work a little bit on your Greek every day. There are no real shortcuts. You need to spend the time outside of class memorizing, drilling; I can answer any questions, offer further explanations, help with your reading and translating, I will even offer moral support and compassion. I will try to establish and maintain a supportive and productive atmosphere in which to learn, but we will have to work together. The really hard work is up to you.

Required Text:

A Reading Course in Homeric Greek, Book 1. 3rd edition revised. Schoder and Horrigan, revised by Leslie Collins Edwards. Focus Publishing/R. Pullins Co. 2004.

Note on language of Schedule:

1. Before attempting to do homework, read the lesson carefully. Take notes on the grammar. **Copy paradigms into a separate notebook.** *Repetitio est mater memoriae* (That's Latin). Online drills (vocabulary and grammar) will offer opportunities for *repetitio*. Rare is the individual who is able to learn a language without actively memorizing the information in the text book. Do not assume that you will be able to learn Greek after a cursory reading.
2. Memorize Vocabulary: Use whatever method that you find most effective in memorizing the vocabulary efficiently. I recommend standard flashcards, and will award bonus points occasionally for bringing in your flashcards. Make sure to be familiar with all meanings offered in the text book and all grammatical information included in the entries.
3. Assignments are listed on the days that they are due.
4. Complete §X: Complete means write out the exercises in a specific section number. Use loose leaf paper, write out all Greek sentences that you are asked to translate. Skip lines and allow space for corrections. Be prepared to hand in the homework at the end of the hour.

Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or a disciplinary sanction by the

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University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online at [Student Conduct Code](#)

Disability modifications

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and [Disability Services for Students](#). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with Disability Services, please contact Disability Services in Lommasson Center 154 or call 406.243.2243. I will work with you and Disability Services to provide an appropriate modification.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics and Assignments.

Please note that this schedule is subject to change.

Week 1

Monday, August 26: Introduction: Sound and Rhythm

Wednesday, August 28: Lessons 1 and 2: Greek Alphabet, Its Sounds, and Syllables

- Prepare: Read Lessons 1 and 2. Practice alphabet (write it out 5 times).
- Complete §3 and §7.

Friday, August 30: Lessons 3, 4, 5: Accents and Punctuation

Week 2

Monday, September 2: Labor Day -- No Class

Wednesday, September 4: Lesson 6: Overview of Declensions

- Prepare: Read Mondri & Corrigan (Moodle), 1-2; 14-16. Read Lesson 6.
- Memorize Vocabulary (§19), make flashcards.
- Complete §§20-22.

Friday, September 6: Lesson 7: First Declension in -η

- Prepare: Read Lesson 7. Memorize 1st -η paradigm. *Repetitio mater memoriae!*
- Memorize vocabulary (§25), make flashcards.
- Complete §§26-27. Pay attention to case endings for translations. Refer back to §18a-d
- Vocab Quiz Lessons 6-7

Week 3

Monday, September 9: Lesson 8: First Declension in -α

- Prepare: Memorize 1st -α paradigm. *Repetitio mater memoriae!* Memorize vocabulary (§31), make flashcards.

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- Complete §§32-33. Bonus: Write 3 paradigms (ἀρετή, -ῆς; γαῖα, -ης; θάλασσα, -ης)

Wednesday, September 11: Review of the First Declension

- Prepare: Memorize vocabulary (§36), make flashcards. Bonus: show me your home-made flashcards.
- Complete §§37-38.

Friday, September 13: Test 1: First Declension and Vocab 8-9

Week 4

Monday, September 16: Lesson 10: εἰμί: Present and Imperfect Indicative and Infinitive

- Prepare: Read Lesson 10.
- Memorize vocabulary (§42), make flashcards.
- Read Mondt & Corrigan (Moodle) on: indicative (§11.7.1), infinitive (§12), person, and number (§11.3).
- Complete §§43-44.

Wednesday, September 18: Lessons 11: Second Declension - Masculine

- Prepare: Read Lesson 11.
- Memorize 2nd declension masc. paradigm. *Repetitio mater memoriae!* Write 3 paradigms (ἄνθρωπος, -ου; λόγος, -ου; φίλος, -ου.)
- Memorize vocabulary (§47) make flashcards.
- Complete §§48-50.

Friday, September 20: Lesson 12: Second Declension - Neuter

- Prepare: Review Gender in Mondt & Corrigan (Moodle, §4.2).
- Read Lesson 12.
- Memorize 2nd declension neut. paradigm.
- Memorize vocabulary (§54), make flashcards.
- Complete §§55-57. Write 3 paradigms: (δένδρεον, -ου; χρυσός, -οῦ; δόξα, -ης)
- Bonus: show me your home-made flashcards.

Week 5

Monday, September 23: Lesson 13: Review of First and Second Declension

- Vocab Quiz Lessons 10-12
- Prepare: Read Mondt & Corrigan on Participles (Moodle, §13), Read Lesson 13. Memorize vocabulary (§62).
- Review all paradigms of the 1st and 2nd declensions (1st -η, 1st -α, 2nd M and 2nd N). *Repetitio mater memoriae!*
- Complete §§63-65.
- Bonus. Decline the nouns δῶρον, ξεῖνος, ψυχή with the adjective καλός, καλή, καλόν. Be mindful of agreement!

Wednesday, September 25: Lesson 14: Intensive and Demonstrative Pronoun/Adjectives

- Prepare: Read Lesson 14.
- Memorize paradigm form αὐτός, αὐτή, αὐτό and ἐκεῖνος, ἐκείνη, ἐκεῖνο. Write them out 3 times.
- Memorize vocabulary (§71), make flashcards.
- Complete §§72-74.

Friday, September 27: Lesson 15: ὁ, ἡ, τό and ὅδε, ἧδε, τόδε

- Prepare: Memorize paradigms presented in Lesson 15. Write each of them out 3 times. Repetitio mater memoriae!
- Memorize vocabulary (§79), make flashcards.
- Complete §§80-81.
- Bonus: show me your home-made flashcards.
- Vocab Quiz Lessons (13-15)