

Course Syllabus

Course Number & Title: #201 Basic Greek 1

Semester: Fall 2026

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Course Description: Basic Greek 1 covers the first half of the Basic Greek curriculum. You will be learning about Koiné Greek used in the New Testament, the Greek alphabet and writing system, 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.

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 years to come. 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.

Delivery: In-person, 16-week semester schedule

Course Prerequisite(s): None

Student Learning Objectives:

- Understand and apply the foundational concepts of New Testament Greek as presented in the first half of *New Testament Greek for Beginners* by J. Gresham Machen, completing all exercises with accuracy.
- Translate passages from Greek to English and from English to Greek, both in written and oral form, demonstrating an ability to interpret and reproduce the language accurately.
- Memorize and recall vocabulary from the textbook, showing proficiency in identifying the correct glosses from Greek to English and English to Greek on vocabulary quizzes.

- Demonstrate mastery of the material in the chapters covered in Machen's textbook by taking tests throughout the semester, analyzing and applying grammatical rules and vocabulary in various contexts.

Course Requirements:

1. Required Texts

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

2. Course Schedule

This schedule shows the dates for the quizzes and tests. They are to be submitted before or at the start of class on the listed days. Daily assignments from Machen's text will be given at each class; you can write them in on this schedule.

Aug.	31	
Sept.	1	
	2	
	3	Quiz 1
	7	(Labor Day; no class)
	8	
	9	
	10	Quiz 2
	14	
	15	
	16	Quiz 3
	17	
	21	
	22	Quiz 4
	23	
	24	
	28	Test 1
	29	Quiz 5
	30	(ARTS meeting; no class)
Oct.	1	(ARTS meeting; no class)
	5	
	6	
	7	Quiz 6
	8	
	12	Test 2
	13	Quiz 7
	14	

	15	
	19	(JAB in SC; no class)
	20	(JAB in SC; no class)
	21	(JAB in SC; no class)
	22	(JAB in SC; no class)
	26	Quiz 8
	27	
	28	
	29	Quiz 9
Nov.	2	
	3	
	4	Quiz 10
	5	
	9	Test 3
	10	
	11	Veterans Day (no class)
	12	Quiz 11
	16	
	17	
	18	Quiz 12
	19	
	23	Test 4
	24	Quiz 13
	25	
	26	(Thanksgiving – no class)
	30	
Dec.	1	Quiz 14
	2	
	3	
	7	Quiz 15
	8	
	9	
	10	Quiz 16
	14	Test 5
	15	
	16	Quiz 17
	17	Test 6

Assignment Descriptions:

1. Required Assignments

Read each lesson of Machen 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. Your work needs to be available for the class to see, either by sharing your screen or by emailing it to the professor before class. Your work will be seen by the class, and corrections will be made in class.

2. Quizzes and Tests

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. Quizzes are to be taken at home or another location with a trusted proctor during the week. Paper copies can be turned in on the day the quiz is due, or emailed to the professor by that class time. More particular instructions will be given in class.

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 can write the word in Greek, correctly spelled and accented.

After every 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.

3. Class Participation

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 course grade will be based on class attendance, preparation, and participation.

Grading

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

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