



# BLUE RIDGE INSTITUTE

## FOR THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

### NT502: Greek I

Lynchburg Campus  
Location: Rivermont EPC; Room (*tbd*)  
Monday Evenings 6:30–8:30pm  
June 3—Aug 26 (Summer 2019)

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Prerequisite: n/a

### **Course Description**

NT502: Greek I is a three credit course that opens an entirely new world to the student of Scripture. While it must be understood that mastering this language does not settle all interpretive and theological problems, it does aid in understanding the New Testament more accurately. Therefore, it is vital that pastors and teachers engage with the original language of the New Testament. To this end, this course introduces the basic grammar and vocabulary of New Testament Greek, preparing the student to translate, exegete, interpret, and communicate that text for the benefit of the Church.

### **Course Objectives**

- 1) For the sake of improving one's reading ability in the GNT, the student is to memorize the foundational vocabulary of the GNT and prove competency with frequent vocabulary quizzes.
- 2) Given that language is built on rules of grammar, the student will learn basic grammar and demonstrated through translation assignments.
- 3) Because interacting with the text increases one's awareness of the various exegetical issues, the student will translate from the GNT using various tools as aids but not crutches.
- 4) Since the goal of learning the language is to properly exegete and communicate the GNT for the task of preaching and teaching in the local church, the student will learn the place of Greek in the task of communicating the Word of God.
- 5) With the vast amounts of scholarly commentaries, lexicons, and other resources that require a knowledge of biblical Greek, the student will learn to interact with these aids in order to increase their ability to correctly interpret the GNT.

## Required Texts

- 1) William Mounce, *Basics of Biblical Greek Grammar*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019.
- 2) William Mounce, *Basics of Biblical Greek Workbook*, 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019.
  - \* These will also be the textbooks for Greek II, so do not fear the cost as much.
  - \*\* It is necessary (as much as possible) to get the 4<sup>th</sup> edition (*especially the workbook*) so the assignments and reading will match up. However it is up to the student to note any differences in the editions.

## Recommended Texts

- 3) A Greek New Testament that contains a textual apparatus of some kind. The following are recommended options, listed in order of preference.
  - a. Nestle-Aland *Novum Testamentum Graece*, 28<sup>th</sup> edition.
  - b. UBS, *The Greek New Testament*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition.
  - c. Tyndale House, *The Greek New Testament*.
- 4) A Greek Lexicon. The following are recommended options, listed in order of preference.
  - a. Silva, *The New International Dictionary of NT Theology and Exegesis*
  - b. BDAG, *A Greek-English Lexicon*. (older versions are BAGD).
  - c. Liddell & Scott, *An Intermediate Greek-English Lexicon*.
  - d. Louw & Nida, *Greek-English Lexicon...*

## Course Assignments

- 1) **Workbook Assignments**—15%. Practice makes perfect! These assignments will be done both in class but mainly as homework. Your grade is based on completion primarily as well as effort and accuracy additionally. Assessment of the assignment will take place at the beginning of each class (probably during the Vocab quizzes).
- 2) **Vocabulary Quizzes**—30%. As a regular part of most classes, there will be a short vocab quiz to help internalize these new words. Don't worry! There are loads of free apps for your phone to make studying simple.
- 3) **Exams**—25% & 25% (Mid-term & Final). In order to assess the student's overall progress, there will be 2 major exams which will cover vocab, grammar, translation, exegesis, and task-based questions.
- 4) **Class Participation and Attendance**—5%. Not all parts of this course are vocab memory and grammar comprehension. This last part is an incentive to contribute to the class, especially for those students who actively participate in class and are faithful in their attendance. Part of this is measured with the student's preparedness in having read the lessons *prior* to the beginning of the class.

**Course Lecture & Reading Schedule: [Schedule is subject to adapt as necessary]**

Wk	Date	Reading Chapter	Vocab Quiz	Hour 1	Hour 2	WB Exercise
1	6/3	1–6.27		Alphabet, Pronunciation	Nouns Intro; Nominative & Accusative	3, 4, & Review 1
2	6/10	6.28–7	3–4	Article; Genitive	Cont. Genitive & Dative	6 (P & T), 7 (P & T)
3	6/17	8–9	6–7	Prepositions; εἰμί (“I am”)	Adjectives	8 (P & T), 9 (P&T), p. 32 (4:1–3)
4	6/24	Track 2 15–16	8–9	Intro to Verbs	Present Active Indicative	<b>Track 2</b> 16 (P, W, T, & A)
5	7/1	17–18	15–16	Contract Verbs	Present Middle/Passive Indicative	17 (P & T), 18 (P & T)
6	7/8			Review	<b>Mid-Term</b>	
7	7/15	19	17–18	Review Mid-Term Exam	Future Active & Future Middle Indicative	19 (P, W, & T)
8	7/22	20	19	Verbal Roots	Cont.	20 (P, W, & T)
9	7/29	10	20	Third Declension	Cont.	10 (P, W, & T)
10	8/5	11	10	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Person Personal Pronouns	Cont.; Additional Third Declension	11 (P, W, & T)
11	8/12	12–13	11	αὐτός	Demonstrative Pronouns/Adjectives	12 (P & T), 13 (P & T)
12	8/19	14	12–13	Relative Pronouns	Cont.	14 (P & T)
13	8/26			Review	<b>Final Exam</b>	

## Grading Weights:

- 1) Classroom Participation and Preparedness—5%
- 2) Workbook Assignment—15%
- 3) Vocab Quizzes—30%
- 4) Mid-Term Exam—25%
- 5) Final Exam—25%

## Course Procedures & Policies:

- 1) For all matters of procedures and policies, please see the BRITE catalog pp. 36–40 (<https://www.brite-va.org/brite-catalog/>). For all other matters, see below.
- 2) Lecture, note-taking, quizzes, & homework are not the only components of this course, *but they are rather important*. Additionally, questions, dialogue, and discussion are highly encouraged in Mr. Decker’s class. In fact, one’s participation and ability to interact well with others may be the difference between a letter grade (B+ to a A-). This subjective component is left to the professor’s discretion (see “Grading Weights” #1 above). However, students are always expected to interact with the professor and each other in a respectful manner.
- 3) Reading is mostly preparatory and expected to be completed prior to the start of the class as scheduled in the syllabus.
- 4) Late work policy. Unless *pre*-approved by the professor or extreme providential prevention (illness or death in family), a 5% reduction per day past due will be incurred for the late assignment. (See James 4:2d)
- 5) Make-up quizzes and exams are available in specific cases as long as the excuse has been pre-approved. However, it is the responsibility to seek out the professor and arrange the time and place for the make-up quiz or exam.
- 6) Because this is a Christian institution that seeks to glorify Christ academically; cheating, plagiarizing, and disrespect will result in automatic disciplinary action according to the standards outlined in the catalog and administered by those in charge of the student oversight at BRITE.
- 7) *Extra-credit is offered as a case-by-case basis as the student requests from the prof.*
- 8) The professor holds the right to change/modify/amend the syllabus as needed.