

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF ART HISTORY, CLASSICS, AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES CLASSICS PROGRAMME

GREE 112 INTRODUCTION TO GREEK

20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2015



Early Greek alphabet painted on the body of an Attic black-figure cup.
Athens, National Archaeological Museum

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 1 July 2015
Teaching dates: 2 March to 5 June 2015
Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3–19 April 2015
Last assessment item due: 5 June 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Mon, Tues, Thur, Fri 11:00-11:50, in Murphy MY632

Names and contact details

Dr Diana Burton, OK 516; 463 6784; diana.burton@vuw.ac.nz
No set office hours; come by any time when the door is open. I am unlikely to be available on Wednesdays.

Communication of additional information

Any additional information will be posted on the Classics Programme notice board on the fifth floor of Old Kirk (OK).

Prescription

An introduction to ancient Greek for beginners, with emphasis on the acquisition of basic reading skills.

Course content

This course is an introduction to the morphology, syntax, and vocabulary of ancient Greek. No previous knowledge of the language is necessary to attend this class. This course will give students a basic first knowledge of areas of the Greek language, the focus being on learning grammar and vocabulary, and reading and understanding the language. Exercises will include translation from Greek into English and sometimes from English into Greek, grammar and vocabulary exercises. After completing this class you should be able to read easy passages of ancient Greek in the textbook and know about a third of basic Greek grammar and syntax as well as some basic vocabulary.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course will be able to:

- 1. demonstrate comprehension of the basics of Greek grammar and syntax;
- 2. translate passages of simple Greek;
- 3. translate simple English sentences into Greek.

Teaching format

This course is taught via a seminar format in which the lecturer explains Greek grammar, vocabulary and translation; students participate fully in all activities, including reading and translating sentences and passages and writing answers on the whiteboard. Students are expected to bring all homework exercises, completed in advance, to class.

Mandatory course requirements

There are no mandatory course requirements for this course.

Workload

In order to complete the course successfully, an 'average' student should expect to spend somewhere in the neighbourhood of 200 hours fulfilling the requirements of the course, i.e. 4 class hours per week during the trimester and the remainder in preparation, revision and assignment writing. **Remember this is a rough guideline only.** Some students may need to put in more time, others less, and the time commitment will be greatest just prior to due dates for assignments and the slide test. In general, however, the following rule applies: the more you put into the course, the more you will get out of it, as measured both in terms of your learning and understanding, and in terms of your grade.

Assessment

The assessment of this course is 100% internal. It is designed to help the student and lecturer evaluate progress in three key areas as well as to provide a final grade. The main areas to be tested are: (a) learning of vocabulary and grammar; (b) understanding of how vocabulary and grammar are used, tested by the translation of simple sentences of Greek to English or English to Greek, and (c) application of the student's knowledge by translating longer passages from Greek into English.

The assessment is through (more or less) fortnightly tests and assignments. There is no grade for attendance, but in order to do well in this class students should attend as many classes as possible (at least 85% of all classes), complete all preparation for every class and participate in each.

| As | sessment items and workload per item | % | CLO(s) | Due date |
|----|--------------------------------------|-------|--------|--------------|
| 1 | 20-minute test | 10% | 1, 2 | Fri 6 March |
| 2 | 20-minute test | 10% | 1, 2 | Mon 16 March |
| 4 | 20-minute test | 10% | 1, 2 | Mon 30 March |
| 3 | Take-home assignment | 12.5% | 1, 2 | Fri 10 April |
| 5 | 20-minute test | 10% | 1, 2 | Mon 20 April |
| 6 | 20-minute test | 10% | 1, 2 | Mon 4 May |
| 7 | Take-home assignment | 12.5% | 1, 2 | Mon 18 May |
| 8 | 50-minute final test | 25% | 1, 2 | Fri 5 June |

Short tests: 50% - 5 short tests will be written in class as listed in the timetable below. Each will count for 10% of the total marks of the course.

Final test: 25% - one longer test to be written in class.

You are expected to write legibly. What we cannot read will be counted as wrong.

Note that the **aptitude test** in Week 1 will differ in format from the other tests. This test is designed so that if any students find their interests and/or study habits are unsuited to a language course, they can get early warning. It will have three components: 1) knowledge of parts of speech and basic syntax; 2) deciphering a made-up language, based on examples; 3) knowledge of Greek vocabulary from Chapter 1.

Take-home assignments: 25% - 2 assignments to be completed outside of class and handed in on the dates designated below. They must be handed in by **5 pm** on the days they are due. Each will count for 12.5% of the final grade. Question sheets will be handed out in class two weeks before the due date.

Marking criteria

Your work in tests will be marked on the accuracy of your grammatical knowledge and your understanding of vocabulary. For your translations into English, you should stick close to the grammar and vocabulary of the Greek text, but your translations should also be in good fluent English: we will discuss this balancing act further in class.

Submission and return of work

Written work submitted as part of the internal assessment of this course should be handed in to the Assignment Box (located next to OK 508) or given or emailed directly to the lecturer. If you email it to me, and I don't reply, I haven't received it!

All in-term tests must be taken on the day set, unless there are demonstrable extenuating circumstances. Tests will normally be returned the following Friday.

Extensions and penalties

The penalty for late submission of take-home assignments is one mark (out of 20) for each late working day. Extensions must be requested ahead of the due date for a good and demonstrable reason.

Set texts

M. Balme, and G. Lawall, Athenaze: An Introduction to Ancient Greek, Book 1, 2nd edition (Oxford)

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

| | Class I | Rep | name | and | contact | detail | S |
|--|---------|-----|------|-----|---------|--------|---|
|--|---------|-----|------|-----|---------|--------|---|

Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progess (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: <u>www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates</u>
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support

- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

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