

GREE 112

Introduction to Greek

TRIMESTER 1 2016



SCHOOL OF ART HISTORY, CLASSICS & RELIGIOUS STUDIES

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF ART HISTORY, CLASSICS, AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

CLASSICS
GREE 112 INTRODUCTION TO GREEK
20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 29 February to 29 June 2016

Teaching dates: 29 February to 5 June 2016

Easter break: 24–30 March 2016

Mid-trimester break: 25 April to 1 May 2016

Last assessment item due: 3 June 2016

Study period: 6–9 June 2016

Examination/Assessment Period: 10–29 June 2016

Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Classes: Mon./Tue./Thu./Fri. 09:00–09:50, Alan MacDiarmid Building 102

This course has no additional lectures or tutorials.

Names and contact details

Course coordinator: Dr Peter Gainsford | Old Kirk 519 | peter.gainsford@vuw.ac.nz | 04 4636886

Office hours: Tue./Fri. 11:00–12:00

Classics Administrator: Hannah Tokona | Old Kirk 508 | hannah.tokona@vuw.ac.nz | 04 4635319

Communication of additional information

Additional information on changes will be conveyed to students via noticeboards in Old Kirk level 5, on Blackboard, and by e-mail.

Prescription

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

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;
4. appreciate the historical contexts in which the language was used.

Teaching format

All teaching will be during the class times specified above. In class, the lecturer explains the elements of Greek language (vocabulary, morphology, and syntax), and elements of ancient Greek society and history. Students will participate fully in all activities, including reading and translating sentences and passages, and writing answers on the whiteboard. Students will complete all homework exercises in advance, and bring their work to class for in-class checking (homework will not be collected).

Workload

In order to complete the course successfully, an 'average' student should expect to spend somewhere in the neighbourhood of 200 hours on the course, i.e. 4 class hours per week during the trimester, and the remainder in preparation, revision and assignment writing.

This is a rough guideline only. Some students may need to put in more time, others less. The time commitment will be greatest just prior to due dates for assignments. 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

Assessment is 100% internal, and is designed to help the student and teacher 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; (c) application of the student's knowledge by translating longer passages from Greek into English; (d) elements of ancient Greek society and history, to ensure appreciation of the historical context in which the language was used.

Assessment is through tests and assignments scheduled on a more-or-less fortnightly basis. There is no credit for attendance, but students wishing to achieve a pass mark are strongly advised to attend at least 85% of all classes, to complete all preparation for every class, and to participate in each class.

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	20-minute test	10%	1, 2	Fri. 4 March
2	20-minute test	10%	1, 2, 4	Mon. 14 March
3	20-minute test	10%	1, 2, 4	Mon. 4 April
4	20-minute test	10%	1, 2, 4	Mon. 18 April
5	Take-home assignment	12.5%	1, 2, 3	Fri. 30 April
6	20-minute test	10%	1, 2, 4	Mon. 9 May
7	Take-home assignment	12.5%	1, 2, 3	Mon. 23 May
8	50-minute test	25%	1, 2, 4	Fri. 3 June

20-minute tests: 50% - five short tests will be written in class as listed in the timetable above. Each will count for 10% of the total marks of the course. These tests will consist of questions on

vocabulary; morphology, syntax, and translation into English; and exercises on elements of ancient Greek society, myth, and language.

Note that the test in Week 1 will have a different format from the other tests. The first test is designed as an aptitude test, so that if any students find their interests and/or study habits are unsuited to the course, they can get early warning. It will have three components: (1) understanding and recognition of parts of speech (in both English and Greek); (2) deciphering a made-up language, based on examples; (3) knowledge of Greek vocabulary from *Athenaze* Chapter 1. Full knowledge of the Greek alphabet will be expected by the time of the first test.

Take-home assignments: 25% - two assignments to be completed outside of class and submitted on the dates specified above. They must be handed in by 5 pm on the days they are due. Question sheets will be handed out in class at least one week before the due date. Unlike the tests, these assignments will involve translating whole sentences into Greek.

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

Marking criteria: You are expected to write legibly. What cannot be read will be counted as wrong. 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. In general, your main aim is to make sure the examiner knows you have understood the material.

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, preferably, emailed directly to the course coordinator. If you email it and you don't get a reply, it has not been received and you must re-submit it.

All in-term tests must be taken on the day set, unless there are demonstrable extenuating circumstances. Monday tests will normally be returned in the Tuesday or Thursday class.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

In-class tests must be sat in class on the prescribed day. Students who find that they need an extension on a take-home assignment must contact the course coordinator in writing (e-mail or via pigeonhole in Old Kirk 508). An extension is not guaranteed, so contact the course coordinator as far as possible in advance of the deadline. Extensions will not be granted retroactively except in cases of bereavement or serious demonstrable medical impairment.

Penalties

The penalty for late submission of take-home assignments is one grade (i.e. 5% of the total mark for the assignment) for each late day (including Saturdays/Sundays).

Materials and equipment and/or additional expenses

There are no additional materials, equipment, or additional expenses relating to this course.

Practicum/internship arrangements

There are no practicum/internship arrangements relating to this course.

Set texts

M. Balme, and G. Lawall, *Athenaze: An Introduction to Ancient Greek*, Book 1, 3rd edition (Oxford).

Recommended reading

There is no recommended reading for this course.

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.

Student feedback

We have carefully reviewed feedback and results from student evaluations of past iterations of GREE 112. These were largely positive, with no salient suggestions for changes to the course. Thus we are continuing to offer GREE 112 in its present form.

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
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- 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
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- 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