



Nazarene Theological Seminary

1700 E Meyer Blvd • Kansas City, MO 64131 • 816/268-5400

GRK 510 — Introduction to New Testament Greek
Fall 2010

Essential Information

Please refer to the following resources for information essential for the successful completion of courses and degree programs at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Links to these resources are available at http://support.nts.edu/index.php/Essential_Information. Additional technical support information can be found at <http://support.nts.edu>.

- NTS Mission Statement & Purpose and Master of Divinity Objectives
- Tips for online learning success
- NTS library services
- NTS bookstore procedures
- Online technical requirements and Moodle support information
- NTS Student Handbook including statements on quality of work, plagiarism, and academic probation
- *A Handbook for Inclusive Language*

Instructor Information

Professor: Michael Purlee
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Office Hours: By Appointment

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Do not call between 9:00 pm and 7:30 am

Catalog Description

Beginning study of the grammar and vocabulary of New Testament Greek.

Course Narrative & Rationale

Introduction to New Testament Greek fulfills the Biblical Language requirement for the M. Div. program, or an elective option for the Biblical Studies requirements in the M. Div. / M. Div. Honors programs and the M. Div. / Counseling dual degree. This course will develop a student's working knowledge of Koine Greek, introducing the student to the alphabet, basic grammar, and vocabulary of New Testament Greek, thus enabling the student to begin to translate the New Testament in its original language for use in exegetical courses, biblical study and sermon preparation. This introduction will equip students to utilize commentaries and exegetical tools that require a basic working knowledge of New Testament Greek.

Translations of the Christian Scriptures in a person's native language serve as important *tools* for congregational life, and this course will not seek to displace the work done in the translations. However, it is the hope of the professor that over the course of study the student will not only be able to appreciate and begin to identify the social, political and cultural themes at play in the text of the Greek New Testament through a closer study of the original language, but that the student will be able to understand the implications of such themes for theological and ecclesiological reflection.

Course Outcomes

The student of New Testament Greek will be evaluated on their progress based on their demonstrated ability in three areas:

Memorization – This is not the most glamorous part of learning a language, however it is foundational. You will:

1. Memorize the alphabet of Koiné Greek and be able to reproduce it in both the lower and upper cases;
2. Remember and reproduce nominal and verbal system paradigms; and
3. Memorize the basic vocabulary of the Greek New Testament (including words appearing in the New Testament 50 times or more).

Comprehension – Grammar: spell-check can't catch your mistakes anymore! The student will:

4. Recall or be refreshed in basic grammatical categories of the English language;
5. Know the formation, patterns of declension and functions of the noun system in all declensions;
6. Know the formation, inflection, and function of verbs in most tenses and moods, including an introductory knowledge of participles; and
7. Understand the use of prepositions and conjunctions.

Application – The fruit of your labor! The student will:

8. Be able to read Greek aloud with consistent and correct pronunciation; and
9. Be able to translate basic passages from the New Testament (with the help of a lexicon!).

Other objectives include:

Appreciation and Enjoyment – This course is offered for the enjoyment of the students and as an important tool for ministry. I would hope that:

10. Students will be able to appreciate the value of a working knowledge of New Testament Greek for biblical exegesis and ministry; and
11. That the students will enjoy the process of learning and utilizing another language.

Required Texts & Course Materials

Aland, Barbara and Kurt; Karavidopoulos, Johannes; Martini, Carlo M.; Metzger, Bruce M. eds. *Novum Testamentum Graece*. 27th ed. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1993.

Mounce, William D. *Basics of Biblical Greek: Grammar*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2003.

Mounce, William D. *Basics of Biblical Greek: Workbook*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2003.

Course Outline

- I. Noun System: Mounce 1-14
 - a. Introductory work (week 1)
 - b. Cases in the first and second declension (weeks 2-3)
 - c. Prepositions, adjectives (week 4)
 - d. The third declension [it sounds mysterious, and it is!] (week 4)
 - e. Pronouns (week 5)
 - f. Exam I: Noun System, October 12, 2010
- II. Verbal System (Part I): Mounce 15-25
 - a. Present (Active/Passive/Middle) and Future (Active/Middle) (weeks 6-7)
 - b. Verbal Roots, Imperfect (Active/Middle/Passive) and Aorist (Active/Middle) (weeks 8-9)

- c. Aorist and Future passive and Perfect (Active/Middle/Passive) (week 10)
 - d. Exam II: Verbal System (Part 1), November 23, 2010
- III. Verbal System (Part 2): Mounce 26-30
- a. Participles (weeks 12-13)
 - b. Final Vocab Exam, Monday, December 6, 2010
 - c. Comprehensive Final Exam, Monday, Dec. 13, 2010 and Thursday, Dec. 16, 2010

Course Assignments & Requirements

Homework: The exercises in the *Workbook* correspond to the chapters in Mounce's grammar. The student will be expected to complete a homework assignment for each day spent in class. When completing the homework assignment the student should follow the guidelines handed out during the first class session. Students will be expected to have completed their assignments on the day the assignment is due, so that we may utilize them for our in-class review of the material. Grading of the assignment will be weighed between the completion of the work in tandem with the student's contributions to class discussions.

There are four translation assignments due on the days of exams. These will be more heavily weighted and I will evaluate them based on a separate rubric for the translation assignments, which will be handed out during the first day of class.

Regular homework assignments may be collected at the end of class for evaluation. Always come prepared to turn in your homework assignments.

Each student works at a different pace and some may need to go beyond the work assigned in class in order to succeed. If a student finds him or herself struggling with the material he/she is encouraged to ask questions during lecture and assignment review, to seek out one-on-one interactions with his/her professor and classmates when necessary, and to go beyond the assigned material when the concepts covered in the reading and lectures still seem unclear. *Cumulative 200 points possible.*

Vocabulary Quizzes: Each Monday the student will take a brief (5 word) vocabulary quiz to keep them accountable for their work in memorization. At least two hours a week (about 20 minutes a day) should be devoted to memorization and review of the vocabulary found at the end of each chapter in Mounce's grammar. Each quiz will cover material one week in advance of the homework, so that the student's work in the vocabulary will prepare them for the homework assignments in the week to come. *Cumulative 200 points (20pts. each)*

Topical Quizzes: Topical quizzes are designed to give the student an essential grouping of paradigms that will serve as rubrics to unlock the rest of the language. Each student will be required to memorize these paradigms and to reproduce them in class. Points will only be awarded to the student when he or she can reproduce the paradigm with little or no error. Given the nature of these quizzes the student will be allowed to take them again. However, a penalty of 10% will be assessed each time the student repeats the quiz (Completed on the First attempt, 100%; on the second attempt, 90%; on the third attempt, 80%; etc.). Make-up quizzes can be arranged with the professor as needed. *Cumulative 200 points possible.*

Exams: Two exams will be administered over the course of the semester. These will review the grammar covered in Mounce and in class. *Cumulative 100 points possible.*

Final Vocabulary and Comprehensive Exams: The final vocabulary exam will be on Monday, December 6, which may include any vocabulary from chapters 4-30 (100 words total). The comprehensive final exam will take place in two one-hour sessions during the week of finals, one part on Monday, December 13 and the second part on Thursday, December 16, during the normal class session. The final exam will be comprehensive. The first part will focus on the material from Mounce's grammar, while the second part will be an extended translation exercise (open book, open note). *100 points possible for the final vocabulary exam; 200 points possible for the comprehensive final exam.*

Regular Study: For only a rare and fortunate few individuals do languages come easily. Greek demands hours of hard but rewarding study for most people. It is impossible to cram for this class. Daily preparation and review are imperative. This course is not designed to be impossibly difficult; it is my hope that with hard work and perseverance all students will gain a working understanding of New Testament Greek. If, for any reason during the course, a student is concerned with his or her comprehension or is having difficulty for any reason, please feel free to speak with me. I am easily accessible via the email address listed at the top of the syllabus.

Distribution of Student Learning Hours

	hours
Face-to-face Class Sessions	35
Reading	10
Writing	25
Memorization, Exams & Quizzes	65
TOTAL	135

Method for Submitting Assignments / Form and Style Expectations

Daily homework assignments, if collected, will be submitted to the professor in person on the day that the assignment is due. Refer to the in-class handout from the first day of class for the appropriate format for the homework assignments.

Translation assignments are to be submitted through the NTS Moodle website under the appropriate assignment tab. Refer to the handout from the first day of class for the correct format of these assignments.

Inclusive Language

NTS is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, NTS urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussions, and in their writings. All written work presented to meet course requirements must use gender inclusive language.

Policy Regarding Late Work & Missed Exams

This course moves at an accelerated pace. Students are expected to attend every class session so that they may contribute to class discussions during lecture and homework review. I expect everyone to be present and to arrive on time to class. Absences in excess of one week (i.e. three class sessions) will result in a penalty of one letter grade to your final score. Refer to the attendance policy in the Student Handbook for more information on the school's absence policy. Late work will not be accepted.

Course Grading

Quizzes, daily assignments, and tests are intended to help motivate students to achieve the course objectives. Grades are only a rough measure of success in this endeavor. I record grades for:

Homework	200	(20 %)	
Vocab Quizzes/Tests	200	(20 %)	
Topical Quizzes	200	(20 %)	“A” 1000-900
Chapter Tests	100	(10 %)	“B” 899-800
Vocabulary Final	100	(10 %)	“C” 799-700
Comprehensive Final	200	(20 %)	“D” 699-600
<i>Total Points</i>	<i>1000</i>	<i>(100%)</i>	“F” 599-0

In accordance with the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, NTS is committed to providing students with disabilities the opportunity to participate and benefit from its programs and activities. Accordingly NTS will make reasonable modifications to its programs and activities to accommodate otherwise qualified students with disabilities, unless such modifications would impose an undue burden on the operation of the particular program or activity or would fundamentally alter the nature or purpose of the program or activity. Students needing accommodations should contact the Office of the Registrar. They also should contact the instructor no later than the end of the first class session to discuss learning needs and adaptive strategies which have been beneficial for the student in the past.