

Department of Theology

GRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: **Fall 2009**
Instructor: Dr. Julian V. Hills
Course #: THEO 8210
Course Title: **Intensive Hellenistic Greek Grammar**

Content:

Course description in the Graduate School *Catalogue*:

THEO 224: *Advanced grammar; readings in texts from 300 B.C. to A.D. 300. Emphasis on the language of the New Testament as reflective of continuity and change in Greek vocabulary, morphology, syntax, style; and on the historical context and theology of these texts.*

While the essential content of the course is prescribed, the entire shape and pace of it will depend on the number of students registering and their previous work in Greek. We shall work on the outline during the first two meetings. Each student will develop his or her own "contract" of work to be completed, subject to revision as the course progresses.

Format:

Prepared and sight readings from the LXX, the Greek NT, and other Jewish, Christian, and pagan authors. Lectures on key points of grammar.

Assignments and/or Examinations:

- Some quizzes during the semester, probably "take home" on the honor system.
- 3 or 4 lexical and grammatical worksheets ("dossiers") to be distributed to the whole class, to facilitate reading of prepared texts.
- A 3-hour "take home" honor system final examination, comprising (1) some sentences for translation into Greek; (2) prepared readings (no aids allowed); and (3) sight readings (use of lexicon, but not grammar, permitted). The level of difficulty will of course depend on students' previous preparation and progress.

Language Pre-requisites:

- Most students will probably have some Greek; but total beginners may develop a contract specifying, among other things, completion of work through a teaching grammar.

Required Texts:

- A Greek New Testament — a recent Nestle-Arland or UBS edition.
- Allen Wikgren, ed., *Hellenistic Greek texts* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1947; still in print).
- Herbert Weir Smyth, *Greek Grammar* (rev. Gordon M. Messing; Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1953).

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Optional texts:

- Additional bibliography as the course proceeds. Those students beginning Greek or refreshing their basic knowledge will be encouraged to acquire J. Gresham Machen, *New Testament Greek for Beginners* (1923 and many reprintings); I prefer the original edition to the recent "second edition."