

NT6100 – Greek Readings
Course Syllabus, Fall 2019 — RTS-Orlando

1. Course Details

- One credit hour
- Wednesdays from 1:00pm–2:00pm, August 28–December 4
- Course Description: *A study of selected Greek texts, with a focus on helping students improve their ability to read the Greek NT with confidence. Prerequisite: NT5100 and NT5125.*

2. Instructor Information

- Gregory R. Lanier, Ph.D., Associate Professor, RTS-Orlando
- Email: glanier@rts.edu
- Office: Main administrative building
- Office Hours: Email to set up appointment

3. Objectives

- Grow in appreciation for the importance of the study and use of the original biblical languages in lifelong and vibrant Christian ministry
- Develop greater proficiency with reading the Greek NT *as Greek*, in large chunks, and with sensitivity to the sentence and discourse level of a given writing
- *Note: The philosophy behind this course is that one develops a lifelong love for Greek—which will, in turn, help you incorporate it into your daily ministry life—by repeated and sustained exposure to it. As such, we'll be reading a lot of Greek and focusing on understanding it (not just translating / parsing).*

4. Texts

- Steven E. Runge, *Discourse Grammar of the Greek New Testament: A Practical Introduction for Teaching and Exegesis*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2010.
- A critical edition of the Greek New Testament
 - Nestle-Aland (28th edition), or
 - UBS Greek New Testament (5th edition)
- Additional required reading will be posted to Canvas

5. Course Assignments

- **Textbook Reading**
 - Read the entirety of *Discourse Grammar* by the fourth week of class. We will be using the concepts in Runge regularly throughout the course, so the sooner you finish it, the more easily you will be able to apply your learnings.

- **Greek Reading**
 - Each class will take the form of a seminar in which we will learn with and from one another as we analyze a specific passage.
 - The reading schedule will be posted on Canvas prior to the start of the course.
 - In order to participate in the discussions, you will need to do the following *before* each class:
 - Read the assigned Greek passages (twice)
 - Write down questions and observations you have about the text
 - Gather whatever information you need to make sense of the passage (parsing; definitions from lexicons; cross-references; etc.)
 - *You do not need to make a translation or parse every word (unless necessary for comprehension)*

- **Class Participation**
 - Class discussion is the bread and butter of this course.
 - During our class time, we will focus on
 - *Enjoying the act of reading Greek*
 - *Understanding the flow of the text*
 - *Intertextual issues (e.g., use of the OT, where appropriate)*
 - *Reinforcing and deepening our grasp of Greek syntax*
 - *Moving from text to homiletics/teaching/etc.*
 - Key: a seminar-style course is only as good as the participation. This is reflected in the weighting given to this in the grading. My hope is for these in-class hours to be a rigorous, fun, and transformative time of interacting with God's word at a deep level.

- **Examination**
 - A single examination will be administered via Canvas during RTS finals week.
 - It will consist of a single passage from the GNT, for which you will be asked to do the following:
 - Make lexical, syntactical, and discourse-level observations
 - Outline the flow of the passage
 - Comment on key aspects of the Greek that you would want to bring out—but which, strictly speaking, are difficult to pick up in a simple word-for-word translation
 - The exam will be graded on the basis of the quality of your observations. You will have 90 minutes to complete it, and it will be open book/notes. The goal is not to *translate* but to grow in our ability to read and interact with the text *as Greek*.

6. Grading

• Textbook reading	10% (<i>Assessed via Yes/No question in Canvas</i>)
• Greek reading	30% (<i>Assessed via Yes/No question in Canvas</i>)
• Class participation	30%
• <u>Examination</u>	30%
	100%

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: NT6100 – Greek Readings Professor: Gregory R. Lanier, Ph.D.
 Campus: Orlando Date: Summer 2019

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u>		<u>Rubric</u>	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
<p><i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None 	
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Minimal	Increased knowledge of Greek grammar helps with understanding English better
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	Working with NT Greek Basics of exegesis
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Modeling the Reformed tradition's emphasis on studying the original languages
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Minimal	Discipline of daily reading of God's Word
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Minimal	Ability to conduct close study of the Word of God in its original language
Winsomely Reformed	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	None	
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Moderate	Instructor will make efforts to indicate why/how Greek should impact sermon preparation
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	None	
Shepherd	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Minimal	Use of original languages daily should benefit the student's ministry long-term
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	Greek-related issues underlie significant contemporary church issues