



## BRISBANE COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY

### UNIT OUTLINE GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY

UNIT TITLE	<b>NEW TESTAMENT GREEK I</b>
UNIT CODE	B74211
UNIT STATUS	Elective
HOST FIELD	A/B
PREREQUISITE/S	-
INCOMPATIBLES	-
CREDIT POINTS	10cp
REQUIREMENTS	3 hours per week contact and 7 hours per week study over a 13-week semester.
FREQUENCY OF OFFERING	Annually — Semester 1
PREPARED BY	Revd Dr Ray Barraclough/Revd Lynette Burden
UNIT COORDINATOR	Revd Dr Malcolm Coombes
TEACHING STAFF	Revd Lynette Burden
DATE PREPARED	10 February 2004

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#### **Rationale**

Given the significant role the New Testament writings have played and continue to play, in the life of the Christian Church, as well as in the wider Western society, mastery of the language in which they are written, Koine Greek, is a valuable tool in studying those scriptures, as well as the Septuagint. The transmission of the New Testament texts, the issues facing the textual critics, and challenges for New Testament translators can only be appreciated by a knowledge of the morphology and syntax of Koine Greek. In addition, a study of Koine Greek enhances the ability of students to engage in deeper and more extensive exegetical and hermeneutical study of scriptural and extra-canonical texts. For these reasons the unit is best undertaken early in the study of New Testament texts.

For the postgraduate student who has not undertaken Greek studies, the unit would allow them to deepen their appreciation and understanding of the New Testament texts (particularly if their primary degree has been in Theology).

#### **Relation to Course**

This unit contributes to the wider field of biblical studies by enabling students to attend to translation, exegesis and interpretation of key New Testament texts from their Koine Greek manuscripts. As well, a grasp of New Testament Greek will also contribute to a deeper awareness of major issues studied in the fields of Church History and Theology.

## **Aim**

This unit seeks to provide students with an introduction to the basic syntax, morphology, grammar and vocabulary of New Testament Greek, or Koine Greek, in order to enable students to begin to read the New Testament texts. A further aim is to introduce students to the tools which will enable them to link their study of New Testament Greek with subsequent exegetical studies of scriptural and extra-canonical texts. As well, attention will be given to textual criticism, to enable students to develop skills in addressing the strengths and weaknesses of variant readings.

## **Learning Outcomes**

On the successful completion of this unit, students will have developed capability in:

1. mastering the basic syntax and a working vocabulary of New Testament Greek.
2. using lexicons, concordances, grammars and other resources associated with New Testament Greek
3. assessing the translation and exegesis of Greek passages of the New Testament,
4. translating and reading the Greek New Testament and the accompanying apparatus.

An additional outcome is that students who successfully complete this unit will be equipped to pursue further studies in Koine Greek.

## **Content**

1. The lectures will be based on the textbook on grammar with practice in translating. In particular students will be able to identify 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Declension nouns, adjectives, prepositions, pronouns and a number of verb tenses (present, imperfect, future.)
2. Initially the emphasis will be on developing a store of memorized syntax, morphology and vocabulary. By the end of the unit, students will have been introduced to 236 Greek words, which comprise 73% of the total word count of the New Testament.
3. Attention will be given to reading New Testament Greek texts, with the consideration of textual and manuscript transmission issues – e.g., John 1:1-16, Matthew 6: 9-15.
4. There will be some emphasis on building proficiency in using analytical lexicons and concordances
5. Students will be tested regularly as regards mastery of syntax and vocabulary.

## **Organisation and Teaching Strategies**

The contact time of three hours per week will include both lectures and tutorials. The lectures will focus on mastery of syntax and vocabulary. Students will work in small groups on translation exercises.

## **Assessment**

1. Six weekly tests (first half of semester) (25%) – objective 1
2. A mid-semester examination (1½ hours) which tests the student's capability as regards mastery of syntax and translation (25%) – objectives 1, 3 and 4
3. A translation assignment which tests the student's capability as regards use of analytical lexicons and concordances (10%) objectives 2 and 3
4. An end-of semester examination (2 hours) which tests more extensively the student's capability as regards mastery of syntax and vocabulary and ability to use analytical lexicons to translate unfamiliar Greek passages. (40%) – objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4

## **Generic Attributes:**

- The ability to engage in lifelong learning, intellectual development and critically reflective and creative thinking.
- The ability to evaluate opinions, make decisions and reflect critically on the justifications for decisions.
- Mastery of the skills underpinning scholarly discourse in theology and ministry, plus mastery of any additional skills needed to undertake significant graduate-level research in theology or ministry.

## **Textbooks**

### **Required**

- Aland, K et al (eds) *The Greek New Testament with Dictionary* (4th ed). UBS, 1994  
Mounce, W D 2nd Edn *Basics of Biblical Greek: Grammar* Zondervan, Grand Rapids, 2003  
Mounce, W D 2nd Edn *Basics of Biblical Greek: Workbook*: Zondervan, Grand Rapids, 2003

### **Recommended**

- Metzger, B M A *Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament* (rev ed) Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, Stuttgart, 1994  
Mounce, W D *The Analytical Lexicon of the Greek New Testament* Zondervan, Grand Rapids, 1993  
*The RSV Interlinear Greek-English New Testament* Nestle-Marshall-RSV Bagster, London, 1975

## **Academic and General Resource Requirements**

### **References - Books**

- Bauer, W., Arndt, W F., Gingrich, F W., and Danker, F W *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (2nd ed) University of Chicago, Chicago, 1979  
Douglas, J D ed , *The Greek English Interlinear New Testament* Wheaton, Illinois, 1990  
Kubo, S, *A Reader's Greek-English Lexicon of the NT and a Beginner's Guide for the Translation of New Testament Greek* Zondervan, Grand Rapids, 1975  
Metzger, B M, *Lexical Aids for students of New Testament Greek* (rev ed.) Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, Stuttgart, 1994  
Mills, W E, *New Testament Greek: An Introductory Grammar* (2nd ed) Edwin Mellen, New York, 1985  
Morrison, C & Barnes, D H, *New Testament Word Lists* Eerdmans, Grand Rapids, 1966  
Moule, C F D *An Idiom Book of New Testament Greek* (2nd ed) Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1959  
Moulton, W F & Geden, A S A *Concordance to the Greek Testament According to the Texts of Wescott and Hort, Tischendorf and the English Revisers*: (5th ed revised H K Moulton, with supplement) Clark , Edinburgh, 1996  
Webb, J M & Kysar, R *Greek for Preachers* Chalice Press, St Louis, 2002  
Wenham, J W *The Elements of New Testament Greek*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1991  
Wenham, J W *Key to the Elements of New Testament Greek*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1965

### **References – Online and Other IT Resources**

- Greek Tutor: Multimedia CD-ROM* Parsons Technology, Iowa, 1996.  
Religion-Online. <http://www.religion-online.org>  
Resource Pages for Biblical Studies. <http://www.torreys.org/bible> - follow the prompts for Learning Biblical Greek.  
The New Testament Gateway. <http://www.ntgateway.com>  
Virtual Religion Index. <http://religion.rutgers.edu/vri/index.html>