ANCIENT GREEK I

Fall 2011 Semester, San Diego State University
Brett Robbins, PhD., Department of Classics & Humanities
Class Hours: MW 11-11:50am, TTh 11am-12:15pm, Classroom: AH-2146 PSFA 413
Office Hours (AL-628): T 2-3:15 PM (or by appointment)
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In this class you will learn the basics of reading and comprehending the Ancient Greek language. By the end of the semester, you will be reading simple, unaltered passages of Greek prose and poetry. This ability will enable you to explore one of the most powerful, captivating, and enduring languages in the world. It is a rewarding journey, challenging and also fun and exciting as well. We will complete roughly half of the textbook this semester and the other half in the spring:


Grading: Three components will determine your final grade:\(^1\)

- 60%: six exams (10% each, including the Final)
- 15%: quizzes (please bring paper and pen every day)
- 25%: class attendance/participation

The **exams** are listed on the schedule. The quizzes will be administered randomly throughout the semester, with anything covered so far in the semester free game, due to the cumulative nature of language-acquisition over time.

Assignments cannot be made up under any circumstances except in the case of a documented medical emergency. Since attendance/participation play such a large part in your overall grade, I expect you to attend class every day and to participate in reciting paradigms out loud, writing the answers to the previous night’s homework on the board, etc.

You will be graded not only on how often you participate but on how well, so the better you prepare at home, the better you are likely to do in the classroom as well.

\(^1\) I reserve the right to modify, in the best interests of the class, the policies and schedule as set out on this syllabus. You are responsible for being present in class to hear and keep track of any such changes.
"This course is one of nine courses that you will take in General Education Foundations. Foundations courses cultivate skills in reading, writing, research, communication, computation, information literacy, and use of technology. They furthermore introduce you to basic concepts, theories and approaches in a variety of disciplines in order to provide the intellectual breadth necessary to help you integrate the more specialized knowledge gathered in your major area of study into a broader world picture."

H1-H4: "This course is one of four Foundations courses that you will take in the area of Humanities and Fine Arts. Upon completing of this area of Foundations, you will be able to:
1) analyze written, visual, or performed texts in the humanities and fine arts with sensitivity to their diverse cultural contexts and historical moments;
2) develop a familiarity with various aesthetic and other value systems and the ways they are communicated across time and cultures;
3) argue from multiple perspectives about issues in the humanities that have personal and global relevance;
4) demonstrate the ability to approach complex problems and ask complex questions drawing upon knowledge of the humanities."

Schedule

In class I will make explicit the procedure we'll follow regarding the distribution of lessons, which you are responsible to attend class to ascertain). Occasionally we might fall behind in a particularly difficult chapter, in which case we will push the next chapter back a bit. Although this is the rough chapter-division we'll honor in class, there will be some degree of "playing it by ear" involved, consistent with the flexibility necessary for the study of languages.

- Week 1:
  o Chapter 1  
- Week 2
  o Chapter 2  
- Week 3
  o Chapter 3  
- Week 4
  o Chapter 4  
- Week 5
  o Chapter 5  
- Week 6
  o Chapter 6  
- Week 7
  o Chapter 7  
- Week 8
  o Chapter 8  
- Week 9
  o Chapter 9  
- Week 10
  o Chapter 10  
- Week 11
  o Chapter 11  
- Week 12
  o Chapter 12  
- Week 13
  o Chapter 13  
- Week 14
  o Chapter 14  
- Week 15
  o Chapter 15