

Brown University
Department of Classics
MGRK 0500: Advanced Modern Greek I
Section I (Reading, Listening and Responding);
Section II (Topics and Texts)
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+ By appointment. CLS Office

Important Information

a) Enrolled students may access source materials and information here:

<https://brown.instructure.com/courses>

b) Links for audio files:

<https://canvas.brown.edu/courses/370849>

c) For information on verb conjugation:

<http://moderngreekverbs.blogspot.gr/>

(With Italian translations)

<http://cooljugator.com/gr/>

(List of verbs in alphabetical order) d) For Poetry and Literature:

<http://www.snhell.gr/>

e) Translation

<http://artsweb.bham.ac.uk/pking/grengtra.htm>

f) Viewing

<http://www.greek-movies.com/>

g) On line dictionaries

<http://www.in.gr/>

http://www.greek-language.gr/greekLang/modern_greek/tools/lexica/index.html

http://www.greek-language.gr/greekLang/modern_greek/tools/lexica/triantafyllides/

h) Grammars of Modern Greek

http://www.greek-language.gr/greekLang/modern_greek/tools/grammars/index.html

i) Songs Playlist

OCRA: <http://dl.lib.brown.edu/reserves/student/student.php>

j) For information of Greek films

<http://www.gfc.gr/index.asp>

k) Greek radio and television portals

<http://www.e-radio.gr/>

<http://www.tv-greek.com/>

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This proficiency oriented, integrated skills course is for students who have completed MGRK0400 or have advanced language awareness through contact with Modern Greek in other ways. A placement test might be necessary prior to enrolment.

MGRK0500 places emphasis on the improvement of oral, aural, reading and writing skills via presentations, debates, writing projects and conversations drawn from readings of specially selected texts, including literary and journalistic prose as well as from regular viewing assignments.

The first part of the course will be organised around a textbook and will offer students the opportunity to expand on their language awareness and linguistic skills as they encounter texts grouped under topics such as: family life, campaigning organisations and the environment, entertainment rituals, the position of women regarding education and the world of work, language, culture and identity etc.

The second part of the course will offer students the opportunity to and survey samples of representative texts of Modern Greek literature and other cultural specimens of contemporary relevance.

Both aspects of the course will encourage students to communicate through the written and the spoken word by applying the appropriate grammatical system, range of structures and vocabulary. Although competence in the manipulation of the language and knowledge of grammar and vocabulary is a prerequisite for this course, there will be regular reviews to “refresh” memory or to clarify points.

Materials will be drawn from literature, history, music, cinema and the media. Activities will include movie and video shows, informal gatherings, literary discussions, guest lecturers on relevant topics as well as communicative and grammar activities and translation from and into Greek. There will be a series of language tasks organised around a popular TV series («Στο παρά πέντε»), which has been adapted to suit the requirements of this course.

AIMS

1. To develop understanding of the written and spoken forms of language from a variety of registers
2. To enable students to communicate confidently, clearly and imaginatively in Modern Greek, through the written word, as well as orally, using increasingly accurate, complex and varied language

3. To develop critical insights into, and contact with, contemporary Greek literature, society and the cultural background and heritage of Greece
4. To enable students to demonstrate their capacity for critical thinking; to analyse, evaluate and perceive the study of Modern Greek within a broader context
5. To manipulate language in order to organise ideas, to present opinions and argue persuasively, in writing and orally; to understand and apply the finer or more complex points of the grammatical system
6. To transfer meaning from English into Greek and vice-versa
7. To develop positive attitudes to language learning and a suitable foundation for further or more specialised study of Modern Greek, in any field.
8. To extend students intellectually

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course (500-600) learners ought to:

- Have the necessary language awareness that allows them to be proficient users of the language
- Understand a wide range of longer, as well as demanding, texts and recognize implicit meaning
- Express themselves fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions and demonstrating the ability to rephrase when needed
- Use language flexibly and effectively for social purposes as well as for, academic and professional purposes
- Produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on a variety of subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices
- Explain and understand viewpoints giving and recognizing the advantages and disadvantages of various options
- Demonstrate a high level of intercultural awareness and distinguish patterns of social conventions and ritual behavior in order to handle communication appropriately

COURSE METHODOLOGY & RESOURCES

A textbook will provide the basis for expanding the students' language awareness in order to communicate confidently and accurately within the framework of selected topics and enable them to respond pertinently to written and oral language. Additional materials will be drawn from authentic sources such as contemporary journals and newspapers, as well as specially adapted and written material authored by me. Students will be asked to undertake independent research on their areas of interest and present their work orally in class, or in writing.

A reading list of selected extracts from prose and poetry will provide the focal point for close analysis, discussion of the ideas and the historical or social co-ordinates of the text, vocabulary expansion and translation exercises. Music and film will provide additional insight into a topic

and opportunity for transcultural comparisons, by highlighting patterns or links with the literature or other forms of artistic and cultural expression of other countries.

Digitized excerpts from a current, popular TV series («Στο παραπέντε») will provide the point of departure for creative writing and web based exercises and offer students a glimpse of contemporary Greek society at its funniest! The full series can be found on <http://www.greek-movies.com/>

Listening and viewing Comprehension activities and tasks will be posted on Canvas. The audio files accompanying these will also be found on Canvas («Απ' το ραδιόφωνο»), whereas the visual files will be found here: http://www.brown.edu/cis/sta/dev/amanatidou_clips/index.html

Specially designed handouts will supplement the grammar and material presented in class and in the textbooks. These can be found on Canvas

There will be regular vocabulary quizzes pertaining to the Units studied in class.

A number of self-assessment interactive tasks (Canvas) will allow students to monitor their own progress and identify areas of strength or weakness. There will be plenty of opportunity for feedback and students are encouraged to communicate promptly regarding questions or issues that present difficulty.

On the first day of class, each week, students will be required to present a short oral account of their weekend activities (real or constructed!).

Weekly schemes of work will be posted Canvas and it will be the students' responsibility to download these and any other designated handouts and bring them to class when appropriate. Regular reviews will recycle already taught material and link it to the new material ahead. Review handouts will be posted on Canvas when need arises.

Out of class activities will include film screenings, informal gatherings and lectures by guest speakers and grammar walk-in clinics.

ATTENDANCE AND HOMEWORK

Attendance is mandatory. It is not only essential for the achievement of learning outcomes but also for securing a good final grade. In the case of absence, you will need to notify the instructor and make up the work missed by either contacting a fellow student or accessing the information on Canvas. Absence does NOT constitute a reason for not handing in assignments, except in the case of illness, religious holidays or other serious emergencies. If, for no serious reason, work is handed in late, this will result in a lower class participation grade. The same goes for frequent late arrivals.

If work is handed in late and within the framework of 24 hours after the deadline, 10% will be deducted from the student's grade for that particular assignment. Work submitted after the 24

hour grace period will not be accepted, unless a prior agreement has been reached and relevant documentation has been provided. If there are exceptional circumstances that might affect your performance or attendance, please let me know at once. There is a gradebook on Canvas which is updated each week, so the students can keep in touch with the numerical view of their performance. Each student is responsible for accessing this information. The instructor will approach students in good time, to alert them to issues of poor performance that may result in failing the course.

6 unexcused absences will prevent a student from achieving grade A.

ASSESSMENT

Composition of Final Grade:

- 25%: class work, daily homework and weekly written, listening and viewing comprehension assignments: Students will be assessed on their performance in various tasks, which must be handed in promptly, and on all aspects of class work. Attendance is mandatory, unless there is a medical or other serious reason. In the case of such absence, notification will be required and the missed homework will have to be completed within a prescribed time frame.
- 10% weekly vocabulary quizzes
- 30%: mid-term exam.
- 35%: final exam

(Assessment criteria available to students on request)

BOOKS

(THE FOLLOWING LIST APPLIES TO MGRK0600, ALSO)

A.

TEXTBOOK

- Κλεάνθη Αρβανιτάκη, *Επικοινωνήστε Ελληνικά 3, Δέλτος*, ISBN 9608464056
- Κλεάνθη Αρβανιτάκη, *Επικοινωνήστε Ελληνικά 3, Workbook A*, ISBN 9608464064

B. Selected extracts from:

The following texts are recommended and can be bought on line ([www. Greecein print.com](http://www.Greeceinprint.com)) or found at Rockefeller library.

Extracts from:

Ελισάβετ Μουτζιάν-Μαρτινέγκου, *Αυτοβιογραφία*

Α. Παπαδιαμάντη, *Η Φόνισσα*

Γ. Ρίτσου, *Επιτάφιος*

Γ. Ιωάννου, *Διηγήματα*

Μ. Αναγνωστάκη, *Ποιήματα*

Α. Σαμαράκη, *Ζητείται Ελπίς*

Κ. Ταχτσή, *Το τρίτο στεφάνι*

Α. Ζέη, *Η αρραβωνιαστικιά του Αχιλλέα*

Δεκαοχτώ Κείμενα

Αμάντας Μιχαλοπούλου, *Έξω η ζωή είναι πολύχρωμη, Γιατί σκότωσα την καλύτερή μου φίλη (διηγήματα)*

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In Translation:

David Ricks, ed, *Modern Greek Writing*, An Anthology on English Translation

E. Keeley and Ph. Sherrard, *A Greek Quintet: Cavafy, Sikelianos, Seferis, Elytis, Gatsos*, 2nd ed., Euboia 1992

Recommended:

1. D.N. Stavropoulos, *Oxford Greek-English Learner's Dictionary*.
2. D.N. Stavropoulos - A.S. Hornby, *Oxford English-Greek Learner's Dictionary*.

C. Films

Βαλκανιζατέρ

Ζορμπάς

Ο βασιλιάς

Από την άκρη της πόλης

Μπραζιλέρο

Ουρανία

Κυνόδοντας

+

The TV series «Στο παρά πέντε»

C. Recommended:

3. D.N. Stavropoulos, *Oxford Greek-English Learner's Dictionary*.
4. D.N. Stavropoulos - A.S. Hornby, *Oxford English-Greek Learner's Dictionary*.

