



Course Syllabus: GCIV 590 | History of Greek Language

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
GCIV 590	History of Greek Language	10
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
None	Languages and Literature	Fall/Spring
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Elective	Greek Civilization	English
Level of Course	Lecturer(s)	Year of Study
2 nd Cycle	Dr Nikolaos Pantelidis Dr Io Manolessou	
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Co-requisites
Distance Learning	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- Illustrate the history of the Greek language, from antiquity until today.
- Draw an outline of the geographic extension and local variation of Greek throughout its history.
- Provide students with the opportunity to use the Greek alphabet, as well as other scripts used to write the Greek language and evaluate their history.
- Offer, through the case-study of Greek (one of the oldest attested languages in the world), a thorough understanding of the mechanisms of language variation and change.
- Lead to a deep understanding of the influence of Greek on the formation of the international cultural and scientific vocabulary.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Recognize and approach texts written in various forms of Greek
2. Identify different forms of Greek
3. Discuss the basic structures of Greek and their evolution through time
4. Recognize the influence of Greek on the vocabulary of other languages
5. Comprehend how the Greek language is the medium of expression and transmission of Greek civilization in various eras.

Course Content:

1. Basic concepts I: Language – Dialect- Register – Writing – Pronunciation – “Greek” – “Hellenic”
2. Basic concepts II: Language change and language relationship
3. The history of Greek: division into periods
4. Greek and writing, alphabets and scripts
5. Early Greek: Prehistory and proto-history
6. Classical Greek and the Ancient Greek dialects
7. Greek in the Hellenistic and Roman period
8. Medieval and Early Modern Greek
9. The Modern Greek dialects and Greek outside Greece
10. The modern period I: the language question
11. The modern period II: Standard Modern Greek
12. Greek and the other languages

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Webex Sessions; Forum Discussions; Wiki Exercises; Recorded Lectures.

Assessment Methods:

Short papers; Wiki Exercises; Forum Discussions; Final Assessment*.

*The Final Assessment can be either a Final Exam or a Final Assignment with Viva

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
<i>Greek: A History of the Language and Its Speakers</i>	Horrocks, Geoffrey C.	Wiley/Blackwell	2010	9781405134156
<i>A Historical Greek Reader: Mycenaean to the Koiné</i>	Colvin, Stephen	Oxford University Press	2007	9780199226603
<i>Language History, Language Change, and Language Relationship: An Introduction to Historical and Comparative Linguistics</i>	Hock, H.H. & Joseph, Brian D.	De Gruyter	2009	9783110214307

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
<i>A History of Ancient Greek: From the Beginnings to Late Antiquity</i>	Christidis, A.F. (ed.)	Cambridge University Press	2007	9780521833073
<i>A Brief History of Ancient Greek</i>	Colvin, Stephen	Wiley/Blackwell	2013	9781405149259
<i>Medieval and Modern Greek</i>	Browning, Robert	Cambridge University Press	1983	052129078-0
<i>Language and National Identity in Greece, 1766-1976</i>	Mackridge, Peter	Oxford University Press	2009	9780199214426