

Ancient Greek: Language Acquisition I (A005058)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026

A (semester 1)

Dutch

Gent

seminar

lecture

Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026

Vanacker, Katrien

LW07

staff member

Vanhoutte, Nina

LW07

staff member

Bernard, Floris

LW07

lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026

crdts

offering

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Ancient Greek, phonology, morphology

Position of the course

This course is the basis for the language acquisition of Ancient Greek, which will be further developed in Language Acquisition II. Language teaching starts from zero.

The courses focuses on the grammar at word-level (morphology), and provides the basis for the syntax on the level of simple sentences.

Contents

This course offers students a thorough insight in ancient classical Greek morphology (including accentuation), vocabulary, pronunciation, and syntax on the level of basic sentences. Students learn both to passively recognize and to actively compose grammatical forms (nouns, verbs). They gain insight in the formation and combinations of stems, endings, and other morphological elements, and the phonological rules that determine the eventual grammatical form. Grammar is to a high degree taught by way of induction, on the basis of (initially modified) original texts. The knowledge of vocabulary and grammar is activated and integrated by means of exercises in Greek composition of sentences (Dutch-Greek).

Initial competences

This course can also be followed by students who do not have knowledge Greek from secondary education, since language instruction starts from zero. One has to take into account, however, a high rhythm and an intensive workload.

Final competences

- 1 To identify the morphological forms of the declensions and conjugations of Classical Greek.
- 2 Actively compose the morphological forms of conjugations and declensions of Classical Greek (for verbs on the basis of the list of main tenses).
- 3 To have insight in the phonological rules that govern the formation and combinations of stem, endings, and other morphological elements
- 4 To have insight into the basic syntax of Classical Greek (functions of cases, syntax of simple sentences).
- 5 To apply the principles of Classical Greek accentuation on every possible sequence of words.

- 6 To have active knowledge of the basic vocabulary of Classical Greek.
- 7 To understand and analyse simple Classical Greek sentences (from texts that have been read in class).
- 8 To compose a simple sentence in Classical Greek, on the basis of the grammar and vocabulary that has been learned.
- 9 Pronounce Classical Greek correctly according to the standard rules of pronunciation.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lecture (response lecture with inductive teaching of grammar)
- Seminar (coached exercises)

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: Ankura. Basiswoordenlijst Oudgrieks
 Indicative price: € 23
 Optional: no
 Language : Dutch
 Author : Toon Van Hal
 Online Available : No
 Available through Student Association : Yes
 Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive
 Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : intensive
 Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : regularly

Type: Handbook

Name: The Cambridge Grammar of Classical Greek
 Indicative price: € 43
 Optional: no
 Language : English
 Author : Evert van Emde Boas, Albert Rijksbaron, Luuk Huitink, Mathieu de Bakker
 ISBN : 978-0-52112-729-5
 Online Available : No
 Available in the Library : Yes
 Available through Student Association : Yes
 Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive
 Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : intensive
 Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : intensive

References

Course content-related study coaching

- Differentiated exercises at the seminars
- Regular feedback on the tests
- Self-correcting exercises on digital learning platform
- Feedback after exam

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Skills test

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

- Test: Regular tests which assess the progress in knowledge of grammar (morphology, vocabulary, and basis syntax). Tests comprise queries about the passive recognition and active composition of verb and noun forms, and the composition of Greek sentences
- Final exam: contains the same type of exercises as those made during the tests.
- Second examination NPE: the continuous assessment is included in the written assessment of the second examination period.

Calculation of the examination mark

Regular tests: 40%

Final exam: 60%

Unmotivated absence at one of the tests leads to the score of zero for that test.

Facilities for Working Students

Due to the interactive nature and the structure of the course (in which one session is always based on the previous one), presence during all sessions is strongly recommended. Presence during the regular tests is obligatory. The precise planning will be communicated before the first session.

There is no alternative moment for the final exam.

Possibility to obtain feedback through appointment.