

The Trojan War:
Homer *Iliad*, *Odyssey*

Poetry:
Sappho

Greek Drama
Tragedy:
Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides
Comedy:
Aristophanes

Philosophy:
Socrates, Plato, Aristotle

Mathematics:
Pythagoras, Euclid

Medicine:
Hippocrates, Galen

Science:
Archimedes

History:
Herodotus, Thucydides
Xenophon

The Bible:
Septuagint
New Testament

***All these and more
await you in Greek!***

ANCIENT GREEK AT LSU

While there is a tradition of teaching Greek only to a brilliant elite, at LSU, we take a different approach. We teach Greek like a language spoken and written by ordinary people. It just takes you to extraordinary places.

Interested students should sign up for
GREK 1001
(Classical and Biblical together)
Sec. 1 M-Th 8:40-9:30
or
Sec. 2 M-Th 9:40-10:30

We would love to hear from you and
tell you more!

Greek Coordinator

Albert Watanabe
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Paul Anderson
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The language of Leonidas
& the
300

**The Spartans spoke little
but said much
(and wittily, too)**

**Learn what it is
to be SPARTAN
to be GREEK
to be FREE**

Learn Greek!

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Top Ten
Reasons

GREEK

is

Too Good

to Pass Up!



10. Hippocrates: You've heard the oath, now learn the language.

Doctors have been swearing the Hippocratic oath for thousands of years. You can learn what the original oath said and find out why physicians are still using Greek terms on the job.

9. Democracy: a form of government, a culture, a Greek word.

And it wasn't just a word, it was a whole new way of thinking and a new way of living. Over two thousand five hundred years ago, a city in Greece tried a bold new experiment in giving power to the people. Learn what the ancient Greeks still have to teach us about a working democracy.

8. A few simple stories in Greek changed the world.

The Apostles and other early Christians (who would have read the Old Testament in Greek, known as the *Septuagint*) wrote the New Testament in ordinary Greek for ordinary people and transformed their world. Imagine what you can do.

7. 300 Spartans!

The Spartans spoke little but said a lot. Read the original language of the Spartan 300 at Thermopylae! Plus the stories behind movies like *Troy*, *Alexander* and more. All these stories continue to enthrall us, and they're all better in the original Greek.

6. Comedy! Tragedy! High drama, low humor, and all the theater in between.

Speaking of movies, the Greeks invented them, too; not the technology, of course, but they started acting out stories and created the plots that still dominate movies and television. The Greeks were enthralled with language, and nowhere is this more true than on stage.

5. Impress your friends with philosophy.

The language of philosophy actually makes sense in Greek. Read how Plato revered the grubby philosopher Socrates and how the grubby Cynic Diogenes called Plato an idiot.

4. Greek is more than a fraternity or sorority.

But with Greek you can learn those letters and their secrets!

3. Harry Potter speaks Ancient Greek.

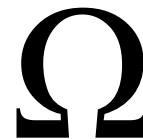
Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone has been translated into Ancient Greek, with more to come. Be the first among your family and friends to read it!

2. Eureka!

The famous Greek engineer Archimedes shouted $\epsilon\upsilon\rho\eta\kappa\alpha$ ("I found it!") when he discovered the principle of measuring volume by water displacement. You will be able to shout out authoritatively when you make your own discoveries.

1. Twenty-Four letters: One cool alphabet.

Greek has the longest continuous written record of any language in the western world (from the second millennium B.C. to the present day). Learn more about where our own alphabet came from and about this whole amazing tradition.



Greek Helps Your Career

- **Test Scores.** Many fields in the sciences, politics, humanities and the arts originated in ancient Greek schools. Training in Greek prepares you for the major exams in these and other fields (e.g., MCAT, LSAT, GRE).
- **Vocabulary.** Medicine, biology, mathematics and other professions use a technical vocabulary derived from Greek.
- **Critical Thinking.** Ancient Greek philosophy developed the methods for critical thinking and problem solving that employers today still want.
- **Ethics and Humanities.** Increasingly, employers are concerned about the character of their employees and superiors. Issues of ethics are at the core of the language and culture of ancient Greece.
- **Prestige.** Studying Greek requires discipline and commitment. Everyone recognizes what an accomplishment it is to succeed in Greek. Schools and employers know not just anyone succeeds in Greek, so you stand out among applicants.

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WHY TAKE GREEK?

A Guide

for

Students & Parents

Greek Explains Your World

Science, Medicine & Mathematics

The earliest writings in medicine, biology, physics, and mathematics in the Western tradition are in Ancient Greek. Learning the language of the early scientists trains you in the scientific method, provides you with core scientific terminology, and instills the principles of rational exploration of the world.

Democracy and Politics

The United States has declared that democracy is to be the preferred form of government around the world. Democracy as it originated in ancient Greece is historically rare, but Classical Athens is the model for democracies. Greek is **the** language of a working democracy.

Mythology and Culture

The tales of Troy, Hercules, and the Olympian Gods have enthralled generations with lessons about their ἀρετή (excellence), ἕβρις (hybris), κλέος (glory) and ἄτη (destruction). These stories are all the more powerful and meaningful in the original language.

A

Greek Enriches Your Life

Spirituality

Not only is the New Testament written in Greek, but Jews for centuries read the Old Testament in Greek (called the *Septuagint*). People of all faiths and creeds have turned to classical Greek authors such as Plato for their profound writings on the nature of the human soul and divine essence in this world and beyond.

Theater

Greek δράμα (drama) is the word for "action." The Greeks invented the storytelling we take for granted everyday on television, in movies, and at the theater. Tragedy uses exquisite Greek to explore the stories of Oedipus, Antigone, the *Oresteia*, and Medea, while comedy provides fantastic fables like Lysistrata. Learn them as they were written.

Philosophy

The very word is Greek for "love of learning." The ancient Greeks tested the limits of their own language as they grappled with beauty and truth in their writings on ethics, psychology, epistemology, metaphysics, logic (all Greek words and concepts) and more.

Literature and Humanities

The Greeks wrote novels, poetry, history, and more in one of the most celebrated artistic cultures in the history of the world.

Is Greek Hard?

Students frequently hear or worry that Greek is too hard for them. Consider:

Alphabet

The Greek alphabet looks exotic, but it is easy to learn. It is in fact the basis for our own alphabet, but it has only twenty-four (24) characters rather than twenty-six (26).

Pronunciation

Greek uses only about 28 different sounds, whereas English uses more than 35. Moreover, the Greeks simply spelled words the way they pronounced them, unlike other languages where pronunciation often differs from spelling.

Vocabulary

Greek has a smaller vocabulary than English, and most Greek words have English derivatives so you can figure out their meaning.

Ordinary People

Average people leading average lives spoke and read Greek for generations. We teach you Greek as an ordinary person would understand it, and you will learn a lot about languages in general and English in particular in the process!

Ω

The Bible:
Septuagint
New Testament

Church Fathers
Jewish History
The Orthodox Church

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We would love to hear from you and
tell you more!

A simple
message

and

Some simple
words

in

GREEK

changed
the world

you can too!



Matthew, Luke, Mark, John, Paul, Peter

They were just a few of many people with a simple message. They delivered that message in simple language and it spread around the world. The language they used was Greek.

You can learn to read their message as they wrote it. The Greek program at LSU invites you to come learn the language of the New Testament and so much more.

Why Bother with Greek?

Would you settle for someone else always telling you what the Bible says and never reading it for yourself? In a way, when you read the Bible only in translation, that is what you do. You are always listening to what someone else tells you about the Bible. Translators do the best they can, but all they can do is tell you what they think it says. Why not read for yourself?

The Bible As They Knew It

For centuries, Greek was the most widespread language around the Mediterranean. It was the language of diplomacy, theater, philosophy, novels, research and science.

Very few people knew Hebrew, so most Jews and early Christians knew the Hebrew Bible in a Greek translation known as the Septuagint. When the writers of the New Testament refer to the Old Testament, they quote the Septuagint.

When the first disciples wanted to spread the Word in writing, they chose Greek.

A Whole New World

We teach Classical Greek and Koine Greek (the Greek of the Bible) together. If you also want to read Homer, we offer Honors Elementary Greek, which teaches the Homeric dialect at the same time. Learning the basics of Greek opens up a whole world of fascinating writings, from engineering to medicine, from tragedy to comedy, from poetry to history, from philosophy to novels.

Do It for Yourself

From your very first course, you read original Greek. We begin with names and places, work up to sentences, and by the end of the first year, passages from the New Testament, Septuagint, and other writings. We don't preach. We don't interpret. We don't mock. We don't criticize. We just teach you to read and figure you can take it from there.

You CAN Do It

"But Is It Hard?" is the question we hear most. Greek has a reputation for being impossibly complex and obscure. The simple truth, however, is that most speakers and writers of Greek in antiquity were not any brainier than anyone else. There is a tradition, however, of teaching Greek only to a brilliant elite. At LSU, we take a different approach. We teach Greek like an ordinary language spoken and written by ordinary people. It just takes you to extraordinary places.

