



**University of  
Leicester**

**School of Archaeology &  
Ancient History**

**AH1008**

**Language tools for  
ancient history: Greek**

*Academic Year:* **2009-2010**  
*Semester:* **2**

*Time and location:* In five groups:

- 1** Nick Wilshere: Monday 10-11 (Att. SB2.09) and Wednesday 12-1 (BEN LG87)
- 2** Nick Wilshere: Monday 11-12 (Att. SB2.09) and Tuesday 4-5 (Att. SB1.12)
- 3** Dan Reynolds: Monday 11-12 (Att. SBB10) and Wednesday 12-1 (Att. SB.1.05)
- 4** Gillian Ramsey: Monday 1-2 (Att. SBB10) and Tuesday 3-4 (Att. SB2.09)
- 5** Marcella Raiconi: Monday 1-2 (Att. SB2.09) and Wednesday 12-1 (BEN LG 82)

**Att.** = Attenborough Tower; **Att S** = Att. Seminar Block; **KE** = Ken Edwards;  
**GP** = George Porter

*First meeting:* **week 14**

*Module coordinator:* **Dr Constantina Katsari**  
*e-mail:* ck82@le.ac.uk  
*Room:* 026  
*Office hours:* See outside my door

*Your individual appointments  
(e.g. tutorials, seminars):*

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*document prepared by:* CK, 1-1-2010

## AH1008 Language tools for ancient history: Greek

**Weighting:** 10 credits

**Coordinator:** Dr Constantina Katsari

**Other tutors:** Nick Wilshere, Dan Reynolds, Gillian Ramsey, Marcella Raiconi

**Module outline:** This course introduces students to a range of basic linguistic phenomena including grammar, vocabulary, and main principles of sentence structure (syntax). These aspects are studied in their historical and archaeological context. Textual material discussed may include excerpts from ancient writers, official documents inscribed on stone or other materials, inscribed art representations, coins, and papyri. Non-assessed exercises form an integral part of the course and are set regularly; these help towards a smooth and steady learning process, essential in the study of languages. Students are divided into groups according to previous experience of languages. In a computer class, students learn to use the Antioch software for word-processing ancient Greek. Numeracy is reinforced through analysis of epigraphic evidence.

- Aims:**
- To enable students to understand the structure of the Greek language, how it was used, and the implications for the critical interpretation of historical sources
  - To impart basic linguistic skills in Greek, particularly those useful for the study of ancient history in combination with archaeology
  - To introduce students to a range of kinds of original texts
  - To enable students to use parallel translations in their study of ancient history and to read translations with greater critical understanding
  - To apply numeracy skills to a body of historical data
  - To build confidence in making oral responses to tutors before one's peer group
  - To develop team-working skills through assessed group work

**Intended learning outcomes:** At the end of the module students will be able to:

- demonstrate a knowledge of basic Greek grammar and syntax
- translate short sentences and documents such as simple inscriptions, coins, papyri, and extracts from literary texts
- demonstrate a basic understanding of the significance of documentary texts for the study of Greek history

**Method(s) of teaching:** 1-hour seminar

**Method of assessment:** source report (25%) and 1-hour open-book test in final class time (75%)

## Teaching schedule

Week 14		2 classes
Week 15		<b>2 classes</b>
Week 16		2 classes
Week 17		2 classes
Week 18		<b>2 classes</b>
Week 19	1-5 Mar	Reading week
Week 20		2 classes
Week 21		2 classes
Week 22		2 classes
Week 23		2 classes
Week 24		1 class and test

## **Assignments, assessment, and deadlines**

- (1) You will be required by your tutor to undertake various exercises and translations during the course of the term; when requested, these must be handed in and will be marked but will not count towards the module assessment.
  
- (2) Individual source-based report (25% of final module mark). In consultation with your class tutor, you will choose an original source document (of any type, but it must have an ancient Greek text on it of some sort) and prepare a short report on the nature of the source and the particular problems it poses as a source for ancient history. The report should include a translation of the text and also basic bibliographic information about where the source is published and at least two relevant pieces of bibliography about that source (and its associated historical problems). You will be given more information on the exercise during the course.

**DEADLINE for submission of reports: 15 March 2010 at 5 p.m.**

- (3) One-hour assessed open-book test, taken in the classroom, normally in the final class (75%).

## Reading list

- **Grammar book** - this is the book we will be using in every class:  
Morwood, J. (2001), *The Oxford Grammar of Classical Greek* (Oxford: Oxford University Press). ISBN 0-19-860456-4. Normally £9.99.
- **Dictionary** – an essential tool:  
Morwood, J., and Taylor, J. (2002), *The Pocket Oxford Classical Greek Dictionary* (Oxford: Oxford University Press). ISBN 0-19-860512-9. Normally £10.99.

Another standard dictionary, though more advanced than Morwood-Taylor, is:

Liddell, H. G. (1871), *Greek Lexicon: Abridged from Liddell and Scott's Greek-English Lexicon* (Oxford: Oxford University Press). About £20; can be found more cheaply second-hand. There are copies in the Library at shelfmark 880.32.

**Websites** - some websites you may find useful are:

MATHOS. a beginner's Greek course covering basic grammar, at

<http://www.lampeter.ac.uk/classics/mathos>

PERSEUS. Greek (and also Latin) texts and translations, at <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu>

(and note the Berlin-based mirror at: <http://perseus.mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de/>)

THE INTERNET CLASSICS ARCHIVE, Greek (and Latin) translations, at:

<http://classics.mit.edu/>

THE INTERNET ANCIENT HISTORY SOURCEBOOK (more online texts), at:

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/asbook.html>

THE CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF ANCIENT DOCUMENTS (Oxford-based site with many links and resources for the study of epigraphy), at:

<http://www.csad.ox.ac.uk/>

For ancient coins, the following two sites are useful (but **no** substitute for proper scholarly literature):

<http://www.classicalcoins.com/page51.html>

<http://www.coinarchives.com/>

**See** the department's *Undergraduate Course Handbook*, section 7.5 on using the WWW.

You should also regularly check the Module **Blackboard** site for additional materials