

## **M101LC Modern Greek Language and Culture Spring / 2018**

### **Course Instructor(s):**

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Hours available: TBA  
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### **Class Meetings:**

DAY: Monday-Wednesday      HOURS: 13:15-15:20      AC2

*“Language is the road map of a culture. It tells you where its people come from and where they are going.”*

*–Rita Mae Brown*

### **Course Description**

This course aims to combine the classic beginning Modern Greek language instruction with Modern Greek culture. While keeping with the conventional language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing), this course integrates the “fifth skill” of language, culture, in a way that allows a full understanding of Modern Greece. Through language focused cultural lessons, students will learn the importance of language in everyday situations, and become active participants in Modern Greek culture.

This course aims to enable students to: a) communicate in the language and handle basic life situations; b) read in the language; c) learn everyday vocabulary from relevant social topics; and d) write simple letters and brief notes.

Students will develop oral language proficiency and cultural awareness through different activities, both inside and outside the classroom (neighborhood walks, graffiti, Greek idioms, street signs, visit to the Greek parliament, magazine covers, current pop culture videos, etc.).

These varied aspects of language practice and cultural exploration will include etymological and historical information, allowing the students to engage comfortably and become integrated with Modern Greek language and society.

### **Learning Objectives**

- Know enough Greek to live among Greeks without feeling linguistically isolated
- Read and understand signs, labels, announcements, and easy texts
- Listen, understand, speak, and participate in daily life
- Be able to engage in basic every day conversations with a Greek, while applying the proper cultural sensitivities relevant to the local society
- Acquire a basic knowledge and understanding of Greek history, current events, and culture
- Move comfortably and sensitively in the host society
- Give students the opportunity of being well informed and perceptive residents of Greece
- Challenge students perspectives of the world and become aware of the cultural lens and norms through which one see and interpret the world

## Course Outcomes

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Introduce and give information about themselves
- Describe their family and friends
- Express likes and dislikes
- Order in a café and a restaurant (taverna)
- Buy things at a kiosk or other small shops
- Ask for the bill, pay and get the change
- Buy clothes and other items
- Buy fruits, vegetables, meat, fish and groceries
- Ask for and understand basic directions
- Make reservations, ask for a hotel room, buy a ticket and ask for information about places to travel
- Describe their daily routine
- Call a doctor, make an appointment and describe basic symptoms

The above follow the guidelines of the Common European Framework of References for Languages (Council of Europe, 2001) [http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/source/framework\\_en.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/source/framework_en.pdf)

In the M101 level students acquire the A1 level requirements.

## Course Topics

1. **Who am I?**  
(Πώς σε λένε, πόσων χρονών είσαι, τι δουλειά κάνεις)
2. **The Greek family**  
(μένω με τους γονείς μου, οι σχέσεις σήμερα, παρέα)
3. **Getting around**  
(μέσα μεταφοράς, απεργία, διαδήλωση, ταξίδια, διακοπές)
4. **The Mediterranean Diet**  
(τι ώρα τρώμε, η ταβέρνα, η παρέα, η ελληνική-μεσογειακή κουζίνα)
5. **Daily Errands**  
(το σούπερ μάρκετ, η λαϊκή, το φαρμακείο, το ταχυδρομείο)
6. **Congratulations! Let's celebrate.**  
(Χρόνια πολλά, να ζήσετε, Καλή Πρωτοχρονιά, να τα εκατοστήσεις, Χριστός Ανέστη, θρησκεία και ελληνικά)
7. **The 9-to-5**  
(δουλειά, τότε και τώρα, οι Έλληνες/Ευρωπαίοι στην εργασία σήμερα)
8. **Unspoken Rules**  
(gestures, body language)
9. **Get out the vote**  
(Ζήτω η Ελλάς, η πολιτική κατάσταση, κόμματα, σύνταγμα)

## Projects and extra-curricular events

The nature of this course will take the students out of the classroom as a part of the learning experience. The following activities may be incorporated into the semester work (varies per semester and are not limited to those listed below):

- Going to an open air movie theater
- Visiting the neighborhood farmer's market
- Visit traditional coffee shops
- Class dinner at a local tavern
- Visit the Greek Parliament
- Street art/graffiti walk through Athens

## Teaching approach and expectations

Learning a new language is not an easy task; neither is learning a new culture while you're at it. This course will provide a welcoming environment and comfortable classroom atmosphere so students can feel confident and supported when practicing their new language skills, discussing unfamiliar cultural phenomena, or expressing their opinions and views. The teaching style is interactive, which means more student participation, group work, and learning from sharing and practice. Athens and the rest of Greece will become an extension of the classroom for a true integrated learning experience.

## Course requirements

**Class attendance policy:** As in all language classes, your presence in class is absolutely necessary. In case of an occasional excused absence, students are responsible for making up for the material taught. Unexcused absences may result in the student failing the course or being dropped from it.

**Class participation** covers:

Level of participation and ability/willingness to answer questions in class

Involvement in class and group work / discussions

Participation is very important and is graded because it is part of the learning process.

**Homework:** Any material/exercises from your book covered in class orally will be written homework (HW) to be completed until the following session. Workbook (WB): Students are expected to do/write the exercises indicated in class. WBs will be collected regularly for correction.

**Oral Presentations:** Students are asked to do an oral presentation at the mid and at the end of the semester on a topic of their preference which they ACT (no reading from written script) in class (skits, sketches, songs). They can work on their own or preferably in small groups.

**Projects:** Projects are proposed during the semester (e.g. neighborhood walks or hunt, travel journal, photo/label collection, watching a Greek film etc.).

## Grading and Evaluation

The grade for this course will be based on the following distribution:

Tests: 20% (there will be a test after the completion of one or two chapters). Homework

(WB & projects): 20%

Class participation and attendance: 20%

Midterm & final oral presentation: 20% Final

written exam: 20%

## Books, Course Materials, Moodle

### Required textbooks

1. Triantafillidou, L., Kokkinidou, M., Takouda, Ch., Sehidou, I. & Stavrianaki, K. (2014) *Ellinika sto pi kai fi (Modern Greek in no time) (Ελληνικά στο πι και φι)*. Athens: Gutenberg.
2. Triantafillidou, L. & Anagnostopoloulou, A. (2011). *So, what do you say? (Λοιπόν, τι λες;)* (Companion book). Athens: Nostos.
3. Dimitra, D. & Papahimona, M. (2002). *Greek Now 1+1 (Ελληνικά Τώρα 1+1)*. Athens: Nostos.

### Additional resources and materials

1. Dimitra, D. & Papahimona, M. (2002). *Workbook 1 (Τετράδιο Ασκήσεων 1)*. Athens: Nostos.
2. Greek films and documentaries at the library with English subtitles.
3. Greek on line: <https://www.sfu.ca/snfchs/greek-language-program/odysseas.html>
5. Cultural information is available at:  
<http://subjectplus.dikemes.edu.gr:22888/subjects/guide.php?subject=exploreathens>
6. Check also a previous neighborhood walk at:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H8iYn5TDqnM>

Thematic Units	Communicative tasks/ Speech acts	Grammar	Vocabulary	Role playing, presentations, and projects	Cultural elements Brief discussions
<b>Week 1 &amp; 2</b> Greetings Introductions	I greet I introduce myself I give information about myself (name, nationality, age, occupation etc.)	Auxiliary verb to be in present Verbs 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> person, conjug. A in present tense Definite and indefinite articles in nominative singular case Nouns: masc., fem., neuter, nominative singular, ending in -ος/-ας/-ης /-α/-η/-ο/-ι/-μα Numbers (1-30)	Greetings What's your name? How are you? Where are you from? Verbs (to want, to wait for, to know, to understand, to have, to live)	Students introduce each other exchanging basic information about themselves Role-playing: At a party I introduce myself and get to know other people.	Body language Signs Gestures Greetings
<b>Week 3</b> Family Friends	I describe my family and friends I express likes and dislikes	Possessive pronouns Personal pronouns Verbs conjugation A (-ω), present tense, affirmative and negative Verb I like Adjectives: masc, fem, neuter ending in -ος/-α/-η/-ο nominative singular Numbers (30-100)	Family members Occupations What do you like?	Students bring a family photo and present their family in class. Students ask each other questions about their family, likes and dislikes	Role of the family in the Greek society Family law in Greece Friends and "parea" in Greece
<b>Week 4</b> At the café-tavern-restaurant-kiosk	I order in a café or in a tavern I buy things at a kiosk I ask for the bill, I pay and get the change	Verbs conjugations B1 (-άω/-ώ) and B2 (-ώ)	Drinks Beverages Food	Students practice in groups ordering in a café Class trip to a kiosk and to a café in the neighborhood. Dinner in a taverna. Students order in Greek.  Explore the neighborhood through a project game.	Tipping in Greece Who pays the bill? Sharing food

<b>Week 5</b> At the hotel Accommodations	I ask for a room and other information	Nouns: masc, fem, neuter, singular accusative ending in -ος-ας-ης /-α-η /-ο-ι- μα Personal pronouns-direct object (τον, την, το)	Hotel room facilities	Role playing in class, hotel reservation. On line search in class for hotels in Greek webpages	Travel patterns How people travel in Greece?
<b>Week 6</b> At a store	I buy clothes	Adjectives accusative singular Agreement with nouns	Clothes Colors Sizes	Role-playing in a store: in groups students buy their favorite products.	Shopping in Athens: big stores, small stores, Ermou street
Directions	I ask for directions	Adverbs of place Prepositions (με, σε για, από)	Places in the city Locations	Lost in the city. Mini class game asking for directions Explore the area with the neighborhood map on Google	Lost in Plaka? Visit and explore the central market of Athens and shops at Evripidou st.
<b>Week 7</b> Daily routine	I describe my daily routine I speak about myself	Irregular verbs (λέω, πάω, ακούω, τρώω κτλ.) Numbers (100-1000) Adverbs of frequency	Time Days of the week Months	Counting things around Narrating our life in Athens and in Greece	What people do every day in Greece? Patterns and daily routines.
<b>Week 8</b> Transportation Travel Holidays	I ask for information I buy a ticket I make reservations I express a preference I express dissatisfaction about prices & facilities I describe the weather	Possessive/genitive case in masc., fem. singular Simple past and future 1st & 2nd person sing. of verbs to go, to see, to eat, to do, to return, to be.	Means of transportation Weather Facilities	On the bus, metro, trolley, tram: Students take public transportation on their own and report in class their trips. Check and talk about the weather in class on meteo.gr Present your travels in class through pictures and short descriptions	Validate your ticket! Public transportation Lines, queues etc.

<b>Week 9 &amp; 10</b> At the market	I buy fruits and vegetables, meat, fish and groceries	Plural of nouns and adjectives nominative, accusative (-ος-ας-ης /-α-η/-ο-ι-μα Personal pronouns replacing direct object Interrogative pronouns (πόσος-η-ο)	Fruits Vegetables Meat Fish Groceries	Shopping in groups in class using pictures, labels, brochures from stores, products' packages etc. Check on webpages of traditional groceries stores Visit the Laiki, the open area market in Pangrati.	How people shop there? Who are the vendors?
<b>Week 11</b> Health At the doctor	I call the doctor and make an appointment I describe my symptoms	Reflexive/middle voice verbs in -άμαι and -ομαι Demonstrative adjectives (αυτός, εκείνος)	Body parts Symptoms	Are you sick? Call the doctor now!	Herbs, spices, mountain tea in Greece
<b>Week 12</b>	Review	Grammar review	Vocabulary practice and review	Oral presentations and oral practice Present your favorite place on Athens	