

## **GRW 6435: Greek Prose Composition**

**Instructor: K. Kapparis**

**Weekly meeting venue: Classics Library**

**Outline:** Anyone who has attempted to learn a modern language will testify to the importance of speaking, imperfectly at first, and getting better with usage and time. For the learning of the two Classical languages the speaking component is not deemed to be essential, because they are not spoken (at least not in the form that we study them). However, the process by which one is encouraged (or compelled) to use a language actively, and not simply understand it passively, is equally important in the learning process. You may not be asked to speak Classical Greek or Latin, and you may not even be asked to write it in daily usage. However, the attempt to compose in the language is extremely valuable as a learning tool, because it forces one to understand in depth the way the language works. For example, if you had to use correctly the subjunctive in a composition, you would come to understand much better what it is and when it should (or should not) be used. In this respect Prose Composition performs a similar function to the speaking and writing components in Modern Languages and is equally important for the learning process.

**Assessment:** Training on a weekly basis is essential for progress in this course, and for that reason the assessment primarily will be based on your weekly assignments (70% of the grade, i.e. 5x14, for the 14 weeks of the course). VIGOROUS class participation carries 10%, and the Final Test carries 20%.

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is obligatory and critical for success in this course. No HyFlex option has been envisaged for this class. Except serious illness, a volcanic eruption or a meteor strike, no other excuse will be accepted for missing a class, and the grade will be reduced even for one unjustified absence. Since success in the course rather rests on a continuous effort to improve your Greek, than a certain benchmark or level of accomplishment, being part of this effort every week, and making the most of it, is of paramount importance.

**Course Handbook:** North – Hillard ***Greek Prose Composition*** (The numbers in the schedule below correspond to the pages of North-Hillard)

### **Schedule**

#### ***Part 1: The Basics***

##### **Week 1:**

Introduction

The Article [1-7]

**Week 2:**

Nouns and Adjectives.  
Participle  
Middle and passive voice [8-19]

**Week 3:**

Place  
Time and Space  
Comparison [20-29].

**Week 4:**

Absolute Genitive  
Pronouns  
Connection [34-45]

**Week 5:**

Indirect Statement [48-55]  
Direct Questions [58-61]

**Week 6:**

Indirect question  
Genitive as an object [62-71]

**Week 7:**

Dative  
Accusative  
Commands, Exhortations, Wishes  
Negatives [72-81]

**Week 8:**

Indirect Commands  
Subordinate Clauses in Indirect Speech [82-86]  
Causal Clauses  
Use of Tenses in the Moods  
Final Sentences [90-97]

**Week 9:**

Verbs of Fearing  
Consecutive Clauses  
Conditional Sentences [98-121]

**Week 10:**

Participles  
Impersonal Verbs  
Verbal adjectives  
Prepositions [122-142]

**Week 11:**

Indefinite Construction  
Temporal Clauses

Usage of the negative particles [148-165]

***Part 2: Composition of complex passages with focus on styles***

**Week 12:** The Greek of Xenophon

**Week 13:** The Greek of Lysias

**Week 14** The Greek of Thucydides

**Week 15:** The Greek of Aristotle

**Week 16:** Final Test

**Meeting Arrangements:** Masks are highly recommended, and social distancing should ideally be observed to the extent that it is possible.