

COURSE SYLLABUS

Introductory Modern Greek Language for Erasmus Students

Institution: Ionian University

Target Group: Incoming Erasmus+ Students

Course Title: Introductory Modern Greek Language for Erasmus Students

Course Code: TBA

Level: Undergraduate / Introductory

Semester: Winter/Spring

ECTS: 9

Contact Hours: Recommended: 2 hours per week

Prerequisites: None

Language of Instruction: English and Modern Greek

Course Instructors: Eleni Moraiti, MA & Dr. Stella Voutsas

Main Coursebook: TBA – details will be announced prior to or during the first week of classes

Supplementary Materials: Instructor-prepared materials, authentic and adapted texts, audio-visual resources, and selected online materials

1. Course Rationale

The course is designed specifically for incoming Erasmus+ students studying at Ionian University who wish to acquire basic communicative competence in Modern Greek during their period of study in Greece.

The course responds to the practical linguistic needs of international students living and studying in Greece by providing them with the language required for everyday communication in academic, social, and public settings.

Students are introduced to the fundamental structures and vocabulary of Modern Greek while also becoming familiar with selected aspects of contemporary Greek society, everyday life, and communicative practices.

The course aims not only to support students linguistically, but also to facilitate their integration into the local academic and social environment. In this sense, language learning is approached as an important part of the wider Erasmus experience.

Particular emphasis is placed on communication in situations that incoming students are likely to encounter during their stay in Greece, including university life, accommodation, shopping, eating out, transport, social interaction, and basic exchanges with members of the local community.

The course also encourages intercultural reflection, allowing students to compare their own linguistic and cultural experiences with those encountered in Greece.

The course corresponds broadly to **Level A1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)**.

2. Course Description

Introductory Modern Greek Language for Erasmus Students is intended for students with little or no previous knowledge of Greek.

The course introduces students to the foundations of contemporary Modern Greek and develops elementary competence in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Students begin with the Greek alphabet, pronunciation, and basic writing conventions and gradually acquire the vocabulary and grammatical structures necessary for communication in familiar everyday situations.

Students learn to introduce themselves and others, exchange personal information, discuss their studies, talk about family and daily routines, express preferences, ask and answer basic questions, make simple purchases, order food and drinks, ask for directions, understand basic signs and notices, and participate in short social exchanges.

The course has a strong practical orientation and is designed to support students' everyday experience as Erasmus students in Greece.

Language instruction is integrated with selected aspects of contemporary Greek culture and social life, with particular attention to contexts relevant to students living and studying in Greece.

3. Course Aims

The course aims to:

1. introduce students to the Greek alphabet and the basic sound system of Modern Greek;
2. develop elementary competence in listening, speaking, reading, and writing;
3. enable students to use Greek for basic communication in everyday situations;
4. provide students with the language required for common situations encountered during their Erasmus stay;
5. introduce high-frequency vocabulary and fundamental grammatical structures;
6. develop confidence in using Greek from the earliest stages of language learning;
7. support students' linguistic and social integration into the local environment;
8. familiarise students with selected aspects of contemporary Greek society and everyday culture;

9. encourage awareness of the relationship between language, culture, and communication;
 10. promote intercultural reflection within the multilingual and multicultural Erasmus classroom;
 11. provide a foundation for further study of Modern Greek.
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4. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the course, students should be able to demonstrate elementary communicative competence in Modern Greek.

4.1 Listening

Students should be able to:

- recognise familiar words and frequently used expressions;
- understand basic greetings and introductions;
- understand simple questions concerning personal information;
- follow short and clearly articulated classroom instructions;
- understand simple exchanges concerning familiar everyday topics;
- identify basic information relating to numbers, dates, times, prices, and locations;
- understand simple language encountered in common everyday situations.

4.2 Speaking

Students should be able to:

- greet people and use appropriate introductory expressions;
- introduce themselves and others;
- provide and request basic personal information;
- talk briefly about their country, studies, family, interests, and daily activities;
- explain that they are Erasmus students and give basic information about their stay;
- express basic likes, dislikes, preferences, and needs;
- ask and respond to simple questions;
- order food and drinks;
- participate in simple shopping exchanges;
- ask for and understand basic directions;
- communicate in simple situations related to university and everyday life;
- engage in short prepared or semi-prepared conversations.

4.3 Reading

Students should be able to:

- recognise and read the Greek alphabet;
- understand familiar words and short phrases;
- understand simple public signs and notices;

- read short dialogues and messages;
- extract basic information from menus, timetables, forms, posters, and advertisements;
- understand short texts dealing with familiar everyday topics;
- recognise basic information useful for daily life in Greece.

4.4 Writing

Students should be able to:

- write the Greek alphabet accurately;
- provide basic personal information in writing;
- complete simple forms;
- write short phrases and sentences;
- write brief messages and personal notes;
- compose short descriptive paragraphs;
- write a simple personal email or message;
- provide basic information about themselves and their Erasmus experience.

4.5 Language Awareness

Students should demonstrate introductory knowledge of:

- Greek pronunciation and stress;
- grammatical gender;
- definite and indefinite articles;
- common noun and adjective forms;
- personal and possessive pronouns;
- frequently used verbs;
- present-tense forms;
- basic expressions of past and future time appropriate to beginner level;
- negation;
- interrogative structures;
- numbers;
- basic prepositions;
- simple word order;
- high-frequency vocabulary relevant to everyday life.

4.6 Intercultural Awareness

Students should be able to:

- identify selected features of contemporary Greek social and cultural life;
 - recognise that communicative behaviour varies across linguistic and cultural contexts;
 - discuss simple examples of cultural similarity and difference;
 - reflect on aspects of everyday interaction encountered during their stay in Greece;
 - compare communicative practices in Greece with those of their own countries without resorting to stereotypes;
 - demonstrate openness towards different communicative styles and social conventions.
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5. Indicative Course Content

The precise sequencing of material may be adjusted according to student needs, the duration of the semester, and the pace of the group.

Week	Communicative Focus	Indicative Language Focus
1	First contact with Greek	Greek alphabet, pronunciation, stress, greetings
2	Introducing yourself as an Erasmus student	Personal information, nationality, languages, basic questions
3	University life at Ionian University	Studies, departments, subjects, classroom language
4	Meeting people and social interaction	Friends, family, descriptions, possessives
5	Numbers, dates, time and schedules	Telephone numbers, dates, days, months, telling the time
6	Everyday life in Greece	Daily routines, common verbs, present tense, frequency
7	Food, cafés and restaurants	Ordering, preferences, quantities, everyday transactional language
8	Accommodation and neighbourhood	Home, rooms, household objects, location and prepositions
9	Shopping and everyday transactions	Prices, clothing, quantities, demonstratives
10	Getting around Greece	Transport, places, asking for and giving directions
11	Leisure, invitations and social life	Hobbies, social arrangements, preferences
12	Travel, experiences and future plans	Basic reference to past and future events
13	Revision and integrated communication	Consolidation of listening, speaking, reading and writing

6. Cultural and Intercultural Dimension

Cultural material will be integrated throughout the course rather than taught as a separate theoretical component.

Indicative areas may include:

- contemporary Greek everyday life;
- Greece and the Greek-speaking world;
- Corfu and the Ionian Islands;
- university and student life in Greece;
- forms of address;
- greetings and social conventions;
- family and interpersonal relationships;
- food and hospitality;

- cafés and public social life;
- shopping and opening hours;
- public transport and everyday mobility;
- festivals and celebrations;
- music and popular culture;
- basic aspects of contemporary Greek society;
- verbal and nonverbal aspects of everyday interaction;
- intercultural comparisons arising from the students' own experiences.

Students will be encouraged to use their Erasmus experience as a basis for reflection on language and culture.

7. Teaching and Learning Approach

The course will adopt a communicative, learner-centred, and interactive approach.

Particular emphasis will be placed on meaningful communication and on helping students use Greek outside the classroom during their stay in Greece.

Greek will be introduced progressively as a language of classroom interaction, while English may be used strategically, particularly at the beginning of the course, for explanation and clarification.

Teaching and learning activities may include:

- guided language presentation;
- pronunciation and reading practice;
- pair and group work;
- short dialogues;
- role plays;
- information-gap tasks;
- listening activities;
- vocabulary-building activities;
- guided writing;
- short reading activities;
- simulations of everyday situations;
- short individual or group presentations;
- games and interactive exercises;
- audio-visual material;
- online activities;
- independent study.

Where appropriate, learning activities may draw directly on students' experiences in Greece and on authentic examples of language encountered in the local environment.

8. Assessment

Assessment will reflect the communicative and developmental nature of beginner-level language learning.

Students will be assessed across listening, speaking, reading, writing, vocabulary, grammar, and communicative effectiveness.

Proposed Assessment Scheme

Component	Weight
Participation and classroom engagement	10%
Short quizzes	15%
Written assignments / language portfolio	15%
Mid-semester test	20%
Oral assessment	15%
Final written examination	25%
Total	100%