

UNIVERSITY OF CRETE – SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

SYLLABUS FOR MODERN GREEK AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

LEVELS A1-A2

FALL SEMESTER 2026-27

CODE NUMBER	MGRL A
INSTRUCTORS	Dr. Maria Pouloupoulou, poulopom@uoc.gr Thelka Pasparki, pasp.thelka@gmail.com
OFFICE HOURS	After classes, by appointment
AMOUNT OF TEACHING HOURS	80
ECTS	5
COURSE DESCRIPTION	The course is intended for students with little or no previous knowledge of Modern Greek, introducing them to the language within its cultural context. The course is mainly communicative, encouraging oral interaction in everyday situations. At the same time, it highlights the fundamentals of the Modern Greek grammar (explained in English). Students are introduced to aspects of the Greek culture on several occasions. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate successfully at a basic level.
PREREQUISITES	A strong commitment to learning the language.

TEACHING MATERIAL	• Pouloupoulou M (2025), “A taste of Greek language and culture”, material produced in the framework of the Ingenium Alliance • Pouloupoulou M. (2015), <i>Modern Greek: Grammar Notes for Absolute Beginners</i>, e-book available at: https://repository.kallipos.gr/handle/11419/4393 • Reference books (dictionaries, grammars) are available at the Library.
REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING	• Attendance-Participation: Students are required to attend classes regularly, and to participate in class. • Homework: Students should do their homework and hand it to their teacher on time. They should also prepare short individual or group projects to be presented in class. • Midterm exam • Final examination
WEIGHT OF THE REQUIREMENTS IN THE FINAL GRADE	• Attendance-Participation 30% • Homework 20% • Midterm exam 20% • Final examination 30%
OBJECTIVES*	<i>Writing:</i> The student can write an elementary short text such as an e-mail, a note, a letter, or fill a form with personal information. <i>Reading:</i> The student can read short texts provided they are based on the grammar and the vocabulary of the level.

	<i>Speaking:</i> The student can express basic needs, give brief descriptions or hold an everyday conversation on one of the topics taught in class. <i>Listening:</i> The student can understand clear messages and announcements, as long as the other person is ready to repeat or rephrase something.
--	---

*see Council of Europe: *Common European Framework for Languages: Learning, teaching, assessment* (<https://rm.coe.int/168045b15e>)

LEVEL A1-A2

INDICATIVE CONTENT

STRUCTURE AND GRAMMAR	• Preliminaries Pronunciation and writing Stress • Noun Phrase Introducing gender and case Nominative, Accusative and Genitive cases for major categories of nouns Adjectives: explaining agreement Singular and plural The definite and the indefinite articles – zero article Pronouns: personal, interrogative, possessive, demonstrative, indefinite The structure of the noun phrase • Verb Phrase Tense: present, past simple and future simple tenses The Modern Greek “infinitive” (Subjunctive) Basic imperatives
------------------------------	--

	Adverbials (time, place, frequency, manner, quantity) The copular verb “to be” (<i>είμαι</i>) The structure of the verb phrase Beyond the Noun and the Verb Phrases Sentence types: affirmative, interrogative, negative Intonation and focus Coordination (“and”, “or”, “but”) Subordination (temporal, causal, conditional clauses)
COMMUNICATION AND CULTURE	Body language - facial expressions - speaking distance Greeting Exchanging personal information Introducing people Describing ongoing activities or routines Shopping Evaluating, expressing likes and dislikes Asking to get information Inviting – Accepting or rejecting an invitation Describing people Being formal At the restaurant Positing events on space and time Talking about the past Making plans about the future Expressing ability, necessity, obligation, probability Making comparisons Speaking on the phone Going to the bank Agreeing-disagreeing
VOCABULARY	Numbers Family terms Working and Studying Countries, Cities Languages Colours Clothing Public places, shops, services

	Food, meals, cooking, recipes Houses, rooms, furniture Items of everyday life Means of transport Animals Money
--	---