



Union
Theological
College

Programme Specification

Postgraduate Certificate in Biblical Greek

Awarding Body	Presbyterian Theological Faculty Ireland (PTFI)
Teaching Body	Union Theological College, 108 Botanic Avenue, Belfast BT7 1JT
Type of Collab. Arrangement	N/A
Award Title	PG Certificate in Biblical Greek
Final Award	PG Certificate in Biblical Greek
Exit Award(s)	N/A
Department	Department of Biblical Studies
Language of Study	English
FHEQ Level	Level 7
JACS Code	V610
QAA Subject Benchmark	QAA Benchmark Theology and Religious Studies (2022)
Normal Completion Time & Max Duration of Study	Full-time study - one calendar year Part-time study – up to three years after enrolment.
Mode of Study	Full-time/part-time
Mode of Delivery	Online
Date Approved and Name of Authorised Body	14 th August 2018, PTFI
Applies to Students Commencing Study in (month/year)	September 2026, January 2027



Summary of the Programme

The PG Certificate in Biblical Greek is a postgraduate certificate that is designed to enhance prior theological training by enabling mastery of the biblical Greek language.

Aims of the Programme

Main Educational Aims

This programme aims to provide students with:

1. A developed understanding of biblical Greek grammar and vocabulary.
2. A high degree of competence in reading and translating a number of selected texts from the New Testament in its original language.
3. A developed ability to evaluate critically techniques employed in the exegesis of the Greek New Testament.
4. A high degree of independence and self-direction in learning.

Criteria for Admission

Programme Entrance Requirements

Applicants must normally have a 2.1 honours degree or above or equivalent qualification acceptable to PTFL.

For overseas students, a 2.1 honours degree is normally equivalent to a Cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.3 or higher from an accredited institution.

Union Theological College requires all applicants whose first language is not English to have one of the following qualifications as evidence of their English language ability:

- An undergraduate or master's degree that was taught and assessed in English in a majority English-speaking country as defined by UK Visas and Immigration.
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic module (not General Training): overall score of 7.0 with at least 6.5 in each category.
- Pearson Test of English, Academic: PTE(A) total 69 (at least 62 in each of the 'communicative skills' sections).
- Cambridge Proficiency (CPE) or Cambridge Advanced (CAE): total 185 overall (at least 176 in each module).
- TOEFL iBT: 100 overall with a minimum of 24 in writing and 23 in each of the other skills.
- Degrees taught and assessed in English must be no more than three years old at the beginning of the PG Cert programme. Language tests must be no more than two years old at the beginning of the degree programme.



Credit Accumulation & Transfer, and Accreditation of Prior Learning

The College's RPL Policy allows prospective students who do not meet the criteria for admission to demonstrate relevant prior experiential and certificated learning through the production of a portfolio of learning.

Programme Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to achieve and demonstrate the following learning and educational outcomes.

Knowledge and Understanding

By completion of this PG Certificate programme, a successful student should have demonstrated:

1. A nuanced understanding of New Testament Greek grammar.
2. A knowledge of vocabulary occurring 25 times or more in the New Testament.
3. A comprehension of selected texts from the New Testament in its original language.
4. A mature understanding of techniques for New Testament exegesis.

Subject-Specific and Intellectual Skills

By completion of this PG Certificate programme, a successful student should have demonstrated:

1. An ability to read, analyse and interpret selected texts from the New Testament in its original language.
2. An ability to translate the New Testament into English.
3. An ability to employ a range of advanced exegetical techniques and defend interpretive decisions.
4. An ability to employ a range of advanced exegetical techniques and defend interpretive decisions.
5. An ability to evaluate critically current research in the field.
6. An ability to develop original exegetical resources relevant to Christian ministry.

Generic Skills

By completion of this PG Certificate programme a successful student should have demonstrated:

1. Competence in IT skills at an appropriate level.



2. Ability to identify and analyse primary data.
3. Ability to work independently.
4. Self-directed learning.
5. Self-discipline.

Programme Structure and Module Requirements

A student will take a total of 60 CATS of modules as outlined below:

Greek Reading 1 (PTF111) (20 CATS)

- Video lectures
- Covers Greek cases, gender, first and second declensions, adjectives, article, prepositions, conjunctions, adverbs, verbal tense and aspect, active voice, indicative mood, person and number and εἰμι
- Translation and exegesis of the Gospel of John chapters 1-3
- 200 words of Greek vocabulary using Cerego
- Development of lexical analysis through word studies
- 5000-word written exegetical assignment
- Duration: 10 – 15 hours per week for 15 weeks

Greek reading 2 (PTF112) (20 CATS)

- Video lectures
- Covers pronouns, middle/passive voice, tense/aspect, mood, commands and prohibitions, contract verbs, participles
- Translation and exegesis of the Gospel of Matthew chapters 5-7
- 125 words of Greek vocabulary using Cerego
- Development of clausal analysis
- 5000-word written exegetical assignment
- Duration: 10-15 hours per week for 15 weeks

Greek reading 3 (PTF113) (20 CATS)

- Video lectures
- Covers stative verbs, perfect tense, advanced participles, liquid verbs, μι-verbs, conditional sentences, third declension, advanced cases, advanced pronouns, special uses of the article
- Translation and exegesis of 1 Thessalonians
- 125 words of Greek vocabulary using Cerego
- Development of textual criticism
- 5,000-word written exegetical assignment
- Duration: 10 – 15 hours per week for 15 weeks

The three modules must be completed in sequential order, and a pass mark (50%) must be achieved before progressing to the next module.



Vocational Opportunities

Employability

- The course is designed to provide a professional qualification in specialist vocational skills for ministers of religion.
- The course is also designed to prepare students for ongoing research in theology, especially, but not limited to, subjects within Biblical Studies.
- Enhanced skills of analytical thinking and the ability to express oneself clearly in writing are all highly sought after by a diverse range of employers.
- The nature of the course enhances a spectrum of digital capabilities.

Programme Awards

This programme conforms to the Union Theological College PGT Regulations.

Programme Teaching and Learning Strategies

The programme teaching and learning strategy aligns with the College's teaching and learning strategy 2025-30. It has been designed to enable students to fulfil the learning outcomes outlined above.

Knowledge and Understanding

Students will gain knowledge and understanding through the following:

- Online lectures provide students with focused and repeated explanation of grammatical concepts
- A range of interactive and multi-sensory web-based exercises enable students to master the grammar and syntax of the language
- Cerego helps students gain fluency and mastery of Greek vocabulary and quizzes are provided to aid in self-assessment
- Guided reading develops comprehension of key exegetical techniques

Subject-Specific and Intellectual Skills

Students develop skills through the following:

- A range of interactive and multi-sensory web-based exercises enable students to master the grammar and syntax of the language
- Cerego sets help students gain fluency and mastery of Greek vocabulary and quizzes are provided to aid in self-assessment
- Additional reading and learning resources teach exegetical skills, allow for critical interaction with techniques in the field, and demonstrate the move from exegesis to application in Christian ministry



Generic Skills

- Participation in the online distance programme will further develop IT competency.
- Since the coursework requires students to work to agreed deadlines, the students are enabled to become independent and self-directed learners within the overall structure of the PG Certificate.

Programme Assessment Strategy

The College's Assessment Policy includes principles which are fully aligned with the UK Quality Code. Assessment methods on the programme enable the student to demonstrate that they have achieved the learning outcomes outlined above. A wide variety of methods are used to enable the student to have every opportunity to demonstrate their competence. Assessment methods include the following:

Knowledge and Understanding

Student knowledge and understanding are assessed by a combination of the following assessment elements:

- Cerego sets assess the degree of mastery of Greek vocabulary
- Frequent grammar quizzes provide formative feedback for students and tutors
- Examinations provide summative assessment
- Written assignments provide formative and summative feedback on comprehension of exegetical techniques

Skills

- Cerego sets assess the degree of mastery of Greek vocabulary
- Frequent grammar quizzes provide formative feedback for students and tutors
- Examinations provide summative assessment
- Written assignments provide formative and summative feedback on the competency of exegetical skills, critical evaluation of recent research, and ability to develop exegetical resources relevant to Christian ministry

Student Support and Guidance

Each student is allocated a Personal Tutor who can assist with academic advice and support with personal issues. The College's Head of Academic Administration acts as Disability Officer for those who have a disability, Specific Learning Difficulty such as dyslexia, or a long-term medical condition which may impact their studies.