

Which kind of Greek is taught at Polis?

The dialect of Greek taught at our courses (levels 1 to 4) is the Koine Greek of the 1st Century AD, the one of Epictetus and Plutarch, the Greek of the New Testament and the Apostolic Fathers.

What is the difference between Koine and Attic?

The differences between Koine Greek and the Attic dialect are very few: for the first and second level taught at Polis they can be summarized in 3 or 4 pages. You will find a summary of the differences in *Polis – Speaking ancient Greek as a living language* (Level One, Teacher's volume).

Does a student with a BA in Classics that has learned Greek with traditional methods need to start the Polis method from level 1 or can he or she skip the first level?

As our classes are full immersion. The student learns to speak the language in order to be able to read ancient texts without translating. A student who starts level 2 should be able to introduce himself or herself in Koine Greek, to say what his or her hobbies are, to say what his or her studies are, to describe his or her family, to be able to make a purchase in ancient Greek, and more. According to our experience, students who already have a BA in Classics benefit greatly by starting from level 1, as this helps them finally to truly internalize the language. Once they have

completed the first level, they are generally able to read easy narrative Greek texts in a way that was impossible for them before.

On the other hand, we have had less ideal experiences with students who chose to skip level one on the grounds that they had already studied all the grammar of the ancient Greek language: in the end, they met with difficulty in level 2. Unless a student can already speak ancient Greek to some degree, we do recommend that students who have never attended a course of living ancient Greek to register for the first level.

Why focus on *speaking* ancient Greek if the goal is only to *read* ancient texts?

Our goal when we speak ancient Greek is certainly not to learn to speak an ancient language for the sake of it, but rather to be able to read ancient texts without translating. We do not believe it possible to reach that goal without speaking the language and that is why we have adopted this method. We consider it very unlikely that someone could manage to read any ancient Greek text directly and with speed without first learning to speak the language.

Which level will I reach after two years of study with the Polis method?

The experience with our students is that after completing level 2 they will be able to read simple narratives in Koine Greek without a dictionary, and that they will be

able to read many other texts with the help of a dictionary but with an ease that is impossible to get through traditional methods.

What is the unique character of the Greek courses at Polis?

Polis is one of very few institutions in the world that offers Koine Greek where one can internalize the morphology of the language from scratch in-person. There are some similar courses offered online by different institutions, but the advantage at Polis is that one can have regular conversations and participate in many activities (both in and outside of class) in Koine Greek. Without practicing the language with one's fellow students and with the instructor, it becomes very difficult to develop speaking skills.

What pronunciation is used?

You will find an answer to that question in the PDF.