Emne: GRE4101 Gresk grammatik III

Emneevaluering

Fall 2019, completed by Boris Maslov

The course is conceptualized as the third in a series of classes on Greek grammar, beginning with Gresk Grammatik I and Gresk Grammatik II that the students are expected to have taken as BA students. In fact, to the best of my knowledge, Gresk Grammatik III has always been taught as an equivalent of "Advanced Greek prose composition" (as such a class is called in other post-graduate programs). Given the almost exclusive emphasis on language acquisition in the BA program, entering MA students in Greek in general have a good grasp of Greek morphology and the basics of syntax.

As a graduate-level class, the course is expected to provide students with a deeper appreciation of a variety of Greek styles and of how "grammar" (particularly, syntax) is put to work by different authors. In Fall 2019, students learned to read and imitate – through translation of excerpts of prose in Norwegian and English -- the style of Lysias, Isocrates and Demosthenes. Based on the students' wishes, they also received basic instruction in verse composition in iambic trimeter, dactylic hexameter and elegiac distich.

The course description calls for revision, particularly since the name and the conception of the class cannot but be opaque to new students who had not done coursework in the BA program in Greek at UiO. It is recommended that the class be retitled to reflect its more advanced character (e.g. «Greek grammar and style» or «Advanced Greek prose composition»). This issue should be taken up in connection with a thourough reassessment of the entire BA program in Greek.

Infrastructural support for the course is adequate.

The exam form («mappeexamen») fits the aims of the course well; in Fall 2019, the students were given a week to complete a translation from English to Greek, as well as to write a stylistic commentary on the peroration of Agathon's speech in the Symposium.

Of the 2 students who took the couse in Fall 2019, both completed the course in a satisfactory fashion.