



AHIS1160

Coptic Egyptian A

Session 2, Special circumstance 2020

Department of Ancient History

Contents

General Information	2
Learning Outcomes	2
General Assessment Information	3
Assessment Tasks	3
Delivery and Resources	5
Unit Schedule	7
Policies and Procedures	7

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Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group learning activities on campus for the second half-year, while keeping an online version available for those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face and online activities for your unit, please go to [timetable viewer](#). To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Malcolm Choat

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit is an introduction to Coptic, the final stage of the Egyptian script and language. An understanding of Coptic is necessary for advanced study of late antique and Christian Egypt, and is of great benefit to those studying earlier phases of the Egyptian language. This unit focuses on the Sahidic ('Upper Egyptian') dialect, the first Coptic dialect into which biblical texts were translated in the third century. Sahidic became a pan-Egyptian written dialect in the fourth and following centuries, and boasts a rich literature, both original and translated.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Recognise and recall Coptic script and phonetic structure

ULO2: Identify and recall Coptic grammatical structures at elementary level

ULO3: Recognise and memorise foundational Coptic vocabulary

ULO4: Assess grammar, explore grammatical reference tools, and recognise and recall linguistic technical terms

ULO5: Integrate knowledge of grammar and vocabulary in reading and/or writing simple Coptic texts

ULO6: Explore the significance of Coptic for the study of relevant ancient cultures

General Assessment Information

Submission

Assessment tasks are compulsory and must be submitted on time. All assessment will be submitted via iLearn, including grammar tests, which will be completed on iLearn.

Extensions

As a general rule, extensions will not be granted without a valid and documented reason (e.g. medical certificate). All requests for extensions should go via ask.mq.edu.au and should be supported by appropriate documentation.

Late Submission Penalty

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, (a) a penalty for lateness will apply – two (2) marks out of 100* will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date – and (b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (incl. weekends) after the original submission deadline. No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments – e.g. quizzes, online tests.

*"100" is to be understood as 100% of the marks *for that task*, not the entire unit.

Satisfactory Completion of Unit

In order to complete this unit satisfactorily students must gain a mark of 50% or more, and undertake all assessment tasks.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>End of Session test</u>	30%	No	End of Session Exam period
<u>Grammar Quiz</u>	25%	No	Every two weeks from Week 4 to Week 12
<u>Assignments</u>	45%	No	Weeks 6, 9, & 12

End of Session test

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 21 hours

Due: **End of Session Exam period**

Weighting: **30%**

The end of session online test brings together everything studied in the course to demonstrate an understanding of Coptic vocabulary and grammar.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise and recall Coptic script and phonetic structure
- Identify and recall Coptic grammatical structures at elementary level
- Recognise and memorise foundational Coptic vocabulary
- Assess grammar, explore grammatical reference tools, and recognise and recall linguistic technical terms
- Integrate knowledge of grammar and vocabulary in reading and/or writing simple Coptic texts
- Explore the significance of Coptic for the study of relevant ancient cultures

Grammar Quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **Every two weeks from Week 4 to Week 12**

Weighting: **25%**

A fortnightly short-answer test of 10 points of grammar taken from the previous lessons.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise and recall Coptic script and phonetic structure
- Identify and recall Coptic grammatical structures at elementary level
- Recognise and memorise foundational Coptic vocabulary

Assignments

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Weeks 6, 9, & 12**

Weighting: **45%**

Three assignments which consolidate the grammar and vocabulary learned to the time when each assignment is set.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Recognise and recall Coptic script and phonetic structure
- Identify and recall Coptic grammatical structures at elementary level
- Recognise and memorise foundational Coptic vocabulary
- Assess grammar, explore grammatical reference tools, and recognise and recall linguistic technical terms
- Integrate knowledge of grammar and vocabulary in reading and/or writing simple Coptic texts

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Lectures

The course consists of a two-hour lecture and a one-hour tutorial each week. The tutorial will provide the opportunity to consolidate the information presented in the lecture and will comprise working through exercises from the textbook (see below) as a group. Students who do not participate in the tutorial cannot expect to perform well in the unit.

Technology used and required

The unit has an iLearn page which can be accessed at <https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/index.php>. PC and internet access are therefore required. Basic computer skills (e.g., internet browsing) and skills in word processing are also a requirement. Content, readings, and discussions for this unit will be delivered via the unit iLearn page. The lectures for this unit will be recorded and the audio recordings and accompanying notes will be available on the Echo 360 system. Any extra readings required will be made available on the unit iLearn page, as will the 3 assignments

Note: iLearn should be regularly consulted for updates, learning tools, and for participation in the discussion forum.

Coptic fonts

For the purposes of this course it is essential that you learn to type words in Coptic (or Greek). Most ancient language fonts – even if they are of the same language – have a different distribution of characters on the keyboard. So if members of the group use different fonts, this will lead to misunderstandings. We will use unicode fonts which (theoretically) display the same on all systems. I suggest therefore that you download the public domain Unicode font “New Athena Unicode”, which contains Coptic and Greek characters.

New Athena Unicode is available for both PC and Macintosh computers on the following website:

<http://apagreekkeys.org/NAUdownload.html>

(See the link to "DOWNLOAD New Athena Unicode version 5.007 in ttf format" under "Latest Version")

For Coptic Unicode input (that is, keyboard layout), follow the directions provided at:

<http://ucbclassics.dreamhosters.com/djm/coptic.html>

This contains instructions for installing the Keyboard layouts in Windows or Mac systems, and general guidance on entering Coptic on both systems.

If you have any problems using this font, please contact the lecturer.

Textbook and other reading

Textbook

The textbook we will use is Lambdin, T. O., *Introduction to Sahidic Coptic*, Macon 1983 (2nd edition 1992), a copy of which all students must purchase.

Grammars

As scholarly focus since the late 19th century has primarily been on Sahidic, there is a large body of teaching aids available for this dialect. The following list is not exhaustive, but lists the most important grammars. If students wish to purchase a comprehensive grammar, I recommend that of Layton, below, but this is not required.

Layton, B., *A Coptic Grammar*. Wiesbaden 2000 (2nd ed. Wiesbaden 2004).

Mallon, A., *Grammaire copte: bibliographie, chrestomathie et vocabulaire*, 4 éd. revue par Michel Malinine, Beyrouth 1956.

Plisch, U.-K., *Einführung in die koptische Sprache (sahidischer Dialekt)*. Wiesbaden 1999.

Polotsky, H. J., *Études de syntaxe copte*, Cairo 1944.

Reintges, C., *Coptic Egyptian (Sahidic Dialect). A Learner's Grammar*. Köln 2004.

Shisha-Halevy, A., *Coptic Grammatical Categories. Structural Studies in the Syntax of Shenoutean Sahidic*. Roma, 1986.

Stern, L., *Koptische Grammatik*, Leipzig 1880.

Till, W., *Koptische Grammatik*, Leipzig 1961.

Till, W., *Koptische Dialektgrammatik*, München 1961.

Torallas Tovar, S., *Gramática de Copto Sahidico*. Madrid 2001.

Dictionaries

At this point of learning Coptic it is not necessary to purchase one of the dictionaries listed below, although access to a dictionary will be necessary for the advanced study of Coptic. For the purposes of this unit, the dictionary given in Lambdin, *Introduction to Sahidic Coptic*, is quite sufficient. The most important dictionary of those listed below is Crum, W.E. *Coptic Dictionary*.

There is now a Coptic Dictionary online (edited by the Koptische/Coptic Electronic Language and Literature International Alliance [KELLIA]) online at <https://coptic-dictionary.org/> which contains both Coptic and Greek words. For guidance on using this dictionary see <https://coptic-dictionary.org/help.cgi>

Černý, J., *Coptic Etymological Dictionary*, Cambridge 1976.

Crum, W. E., *Coptic Dictionary*, Oxford 1939 (various reprints since, including Oxford 1999 and Wipf & Stock Publishers 2005).

Kasser, R., *Compléments au Dictionnaire copte de Crum*, Cairo 1964.

Smith, R., *A Concise Coptic-English Lexicon*, Grand Rapids 1983.

Westendorf, W., *Koptisches Handwörterbuch*, Heidelberg 1965-77.

Unit Schedule

Each week, there will be a 2-hour lecture, and a 1-hour tutorial. The course material will be presented in the lecture; the tutorial will consist of exercises that will reinforce the information learned in the lecture. Listening to the lecture and attending tutorials are compulsory for students who wish to learn the language properly and thus do well in the unit. For a week-by-week overview of the content we will cover, see the unit iLearn site.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.