



Application Guide

International Byzantine Greek Summer School

Online through Trinity College Dublin, July–August 2026

The Department of Classics at Trinity College Dublin is proud to host the International Byzantine Greek Summer School (IBGSS). This well-established course, directed by Dr Anthony Hirst, has been running at Trinity since 2016, after many years of success in Belfast (2002–11) and Birmingham (2012–15). The course teaches late antique and medieval Greek at Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced level and allows early learners to engage with original texts from the start. Courses run online in small groups led by experienced teachers. Each level comprises two weeks of study, with two two-hour teaching sessions daily, requiring a full-time commitment. All teaching is through English and a good knowledge of English is essential for a good learning experience. See further www.tcd.ie/classics/byzantine/.

Dates:

| Level 1 | Levels 2, 2.5 and 3 |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 20–31 July 2026 | 3–14 August 2026 |

Level 1 Beginners

The Level 1 course is for absolute beginners in Byzantine Greek. It starts with the Greek alphabet and takes students through the basic grammar of Greek to the point where they can read simple Greek texts with the aid of a dictionary.

Levels 2 and 2.5

Levels 2 and 2.5 complete the coverage of basic Greek grammar and introduce students to a variety of Greek texts of moderate difficulty. Each year a number of Level 1 students continue to Level 2 (Intermediate). Level 2.5 (Higher Intermediate) covers the same ground more rapidly with additional texts.

Level 3 Advanced Reading

Level 3 is for those who have a thorough grasp of Greek grammar and who wish to sharpen their reading skills on a variety of texts (partly chosen by them) with no limit on the difficulty.

Key Contacts

Course Administrator, ibgss.tcd@gmail.com. Please use this email address for all queries and your course application.

Dr Anthony Hirst, Course Director, anthony.hirst@btinternet.com

Dr Martine Cuypers, Trinity College Dublin Course Coordinator, cuyperism@tcd.ie

For further information about Levels and Staff see www.tcd.ie/classics/byzantine/



Fees

The course fee for two weeks (Level 1 or Level 2/2.5 or Level 3) is €375.

The course fee for all four weeks (Level 1 + Level 2/2.5) is €750.

[Reduced fee for Trinity College Dublin students: €325 for two weeks, €650 for four weeks.]

Applications

1. To apply to the course, please download and complete the Application Form available at www.tcd.ie/classics/byzantine/ and return it as an email attachment to the Course Administrator, ibgss.tcd@gmail.com, by **20 April 2026**. Late course applications will be considered if places are still available.
2. If your course application is accepted, you will receive a message that we have reserved a place for you. In May, we will ask you to confirm your participation by paying a €125 **deposit** (for each 2-week course) through the PayPal account of Trinity College Dublin using the link provided at www.tcd.ie/classics/byzantine/. This deposit is non-refundable.
3. You will receive a message confirming your deposit payment, your place on the course, and the balance of your tuition fee. You should pay this balance using the link provided at www.tcd.ie/classics/byzantine/ before the first day of the course.
4. If you require a bursary for this Summer School, please ask the Course Administrator, ibgss.tcd@gmail.com, to send you an application form **before** the application deadline of **20 April 2026**. Only bursary applications received by this date can be considered for funding.
5. For questions, please contact the Course Administrator at ibgss.tcd@gmail.com.

Time zones and teaching hours

1. On the basis of current interest in the course, we expect to be able to accommodate students in a wide range of time zones.
2. On the application form you will be asked to specify in which time zone you will participate in this course. We will use this information to schedule teaching in such a way that it is possible for all students in each course group to participate in classes and tutorials.
3. We aim to schedule live teaching events between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. local time for all students. Occasionally, the schedule may involve an 8 a.m. start or 9 p.m./10 p.m. finish, local time, for some students.
4. Students with particular scheduling restrictions due to family or work commitments should communicate these in their course application. We will do our best to consider the needs of individual students in scheduling teaching hours. Teaching schedules will be circulated when we invite applicants to pay their deposit.
5. Applicants to Levels 2/2.5 and 3 may be asked to complete a diagnostic test before the start of the course to establish which course level is most suitable for them.



Bursaries

1. If you have indicated on the application form that you are unable to enrol in the Summer School without financial support, please contact the Course Administrator (ibgss.tcd@gmail.com) to request a bursary application. The deadline for bursary applications is **20 April 2026**.
2. Because our funding for bursaries is limited, it is important that you apply for funding only if your participation is absolutely dependent on it, and that you apply only for the amount that you really need.
3. If you are a university student or a member of academic staff, you may be asked to show that you have investigated the possibility of obtaining funding from your own university before we can confirm the award of a bursary.
4. In awarding bursaries, priority will be given to applicants to Level 1, and then Level 2/2-5. Only exceptionally will bursaries be available to Level 3 applicants.
5. We cannot provide bursary funding for the course deposit of €125, so the maximum bursary for a Level is €250.
6. If you intend to participate in Level 1 *and* Level 2, we are generally only able to award you funding for Level 1.
7. If you have any questions about bursaries, please contact the Course Administrator at ibgss.tcd@gmail.com.