

# Dr. Shirley's Greek Courses

## Grammar

### Comparison of Adjectives and Adverbs

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Adjectives describe a Noun and "agree" with the noun (same gender, case, number). : "a **good** student."

Adverbs describe the action of a Verb. : "the student studied **well**."

There are three **Degrees of Comparison** of Adjectives and Adverbs :

1. **Positive or Simple** eg : good, quick, small
2. **Comparative** eg : better, quicker, smaller
3. **Superlative** eg : best, quickest, smallest

	<b>simple,</b>	<b>comparative,</b>	<b>superlative</b>
eg.	the quick cat, the cat ate quickly,	the quicker cat, the cat ate more quickly,	the quickest cat the cat ate most quickly

#### Adverbs are formed from Adjectives by changing the **-ος** to **-ων**

The Comparative is the same as the Neuter Nominative Singular of the Comparative of the Adjective

The Superlative is the same as the Neuter Nominative Plural of the Superlative of the Adjective

<b>Positive</b>	<b>-ος</b>	<b>δικαιος -η -ον</b> righteous	<b>δικαιως</b> righteously
<b>Comparative</b>	<b>-οτερος</b>	<b>δικαιοτερος -α -ον</b> more righteous	<b>δικαιοτερον</b> more righteously
<b>Superlative</b>	<b>-οτατος</b>	<b>δικαιοτατος -η -ον</b> most righteous	<b>δικαιοτατα</b> most righteously

When the syllable before the **-ος** is short, the **-ο-** often broadens to an **-ω-** :

**σοφος -η -ον** - wise, **σοφωτερος -α -ον** - wiser, **σοφωτατος -η -ον** - wisest

As in the case of English, there are some irregular comparisons. For many of these the Superlative is rarely encountered, and the Comparative is used when English would expect the Superlative.

<b>Positive</b>	<b>Comparative</b>	<b>Superlative</b>
<b>ἀγαθος -η -ον</b> good	<b>κρεισσων -ων -ον</b> better (adjective)	—
<b>εὖ</b> well	<b>κρεισσον</b> better (adverb)	—
<b>κακος -η -ον</b> bad	<b>χειρων -ων -ον</b> worse	—
<b>μεγας -αλη -α</b> great	<b>μειζων -ων -ον</b> greater	—
<b>πολυς πολλη πολυ</b> many	<b>πλειων -ων -ον</b> more	—
<b>μικρος -η -ον</b> small	<b>μικροτερος -η -ον</b> smaller	<b>ἐλαχιστος -η -ον</b> smallest
—	<b>μαλλον</b> more	<b>μαλιστα</b> most