

# So You Want To Learn Ancient Greek Or Latin?

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<https://youtu.be/pr1laRMrw64?si=fZa5d1Bj4CkXssMz>

Here's Luke Ranieri's Introduction to the Greek Alphabet using reconstructed Ancient Greek pronunciation all in Ancient Greek (part of the Ancient Greek in Action series of videos). This is in his Lucian pronunciation of around the 1st c. CE (based on how Lucian of Samosata would have \*maybe\* pronounced his Greek). Watch till the end to hear Ranieri sing an Alphabet Song in Ancient Greek 😊

Erasmian pronunciation is the default for many books teaching Ancient Greek; however, there are better methods now (i.e., more closely approximating Ancient Greek pronunciation). Erasmian - developed originally by Erasmus of Rotterdam - is an academic mishmash of convenient pronunciations in one's native language: English "Erasmian" is different from French "Erasmian" from German "Erasmian." It doesn't really try to approximate ancient Greek pronunciation nor does it attempt to be. The vowels especially are a mess, to my understanding. Long and short vowels are supposed to be distinguished by actual time or length of pronunciation, not different sounds. For example, eta Η η is held longer (let's say twice as long) than epsilon Ε ε. Short alpha Α α is held half as long as long alpha, and so on. All that's not to say Erasmian isn't alright to start with! But approximating the ancient pronunciation, to me, is just so much cooler LOL 😎

Here's one from the JACT Summer School, JACT is the publisher of the Reading Greek series of books:

<https://youtu.be/hr5eXakQw4o?si=Y8VcITQnSEcPBi1B>