Installing a Greek keyboard on your computer (so you can type in Unicode Greek)

The following notes are directions for installing your Windows Greek keyboard so that we can begin making your Greek composition assignments emailable and collatable.

You'll have to do this one time in order to install a Greek keyboard on your computer. It's quite a simple task, so please do not fret. The difficult part is getting a handle on how to type with the Greek keyboard. Do not fret about that either. You'll have PLENTY of practice typing in Greek this term.

1. Installation (instructions given for Windows 7; prior versions may attempt to follow the directions for Windows 7 (essentially the same) or access directions for Windows XP, 2000, and NT at
http://www.biblicalgreek.org/links/fonts/keyboard.html )
-- Access Control Panel from the Start menu
-- Control Panel --> Region and Language --> Keyboards and Languages --> Change keyboards ...
-- The "Change keyboards ... " button brings up the Text Services and Input Languages window
-- Select Add ...
-- Greek (Greece) --> Keyboard --> Greek Polytonic
-- Select checkbox; Apply
-- The Text Services and Input Languages menu will now display two keyboards installed on your computer. A square, blue icon labeled "EL" refers to your Greek keyboard; a square, blue icon labeled "EN" refers to your English keyboard.
-- The Language Bar tab on the Text Services window gives you options for locating the Language Bar. I suggest you choose "Docked in the taskbar" by selecting the radio button and Apply.

2. Type with your Greek keyboard (instructions given as though you took my advice and docked the language bar in your taskbar).
-- Open a software program you use to type (like your word processor).
-- Make sure you're using a standard font, like Arial, Times, Palatino, or something like that.
-- Access the language bar on your taskbar (it should say "EN")
-- Select the "EL" keyboard.
-- Type the following keystrokes: 1. 'ako;yomen ?oti 'adelf]ow u;elei piste;yein.
-- Check against the following text: 1. ἀκούομεν ὅτι ἀδελφὸς θέλει πιστεύειν.
-- You've just written a Greek sentence, that translates, "We are hearing that the brother wants to believe."  Wow.  The gift of tongues.  How Pentecostal.

Congratulations, you just typed in Greek with your Greek keyboard. You didn't change your font or anything. Your computer just typed in a regular font with a different alphabet.

You need to practice typing a bunch in order to memorize which letters on your keyboard are associated with which Greek letter. It will help you to get used as quickly as possible also to the idea that breathings and accents are typed prior to the vowel over which they appear in Greek, and are generally located at the positions of [];' on your computer's keyboard.

A full map published by Microsoft (with very few errors) is available for download at:
http://download.microsoft.com/download/2/5/4/2543a817-a8c4-4c63-a46a-
f04a82bf623e/The%20Greek%20Polytonic%20System.doc. The map is helpfully and colorfully laid out at several websites as well, including http://www.jcu.edu/language/llc/keyboard-setup-greek.htm. I would encourage you to keep a copy handy in case you can't figure out how to type an omega with a rough breathing, iota subscript, and a circumflex accent. Other than a few exceptions, regular practice will generally get you up to speed memorizing the keystrokes necessary for 95% of your Greek composition work!

Good luck as you begin typing Greek!