



OTHB 6300 Intermediate Hebrew Grammar

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Biblical Studies
Summer 2021 (Online)

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Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is Mission Focus: We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundation for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.

Curriculum Competencies

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competency addressed in this course is Biblical Exposition.

Course Description

Readings from all the different genres of the Hebrew Old Testament will provide the basis for solidifying and expanding students' grammatical knowledge and for introducing them to all the basic components required for advanced work in the Hebrew text. Foundational elements of the study will be limited grammar review and introductions to the standard critical editions of the Hebrew Bible, textual criticism, translation theory and method, and syntactical analysis. Guided practice in reading, textual criticism, grammatical and syntactical analysis, and translation will prepare students to achieve maximum benefit from subsequent advanced Hebrew exegesis courses.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. The student will be able to understand how to improve biblical exegesis by the means of Hebrew grammar and syntax.
2. The student will demonstrate how to apply the benefits of Hebrew word studies, syntax, literary analysis, genre nuances, or text critical issues in the proclamation of the Bible (Hebrew Bible).
3. The student will be able to communicate clearly the meaning of the original Hebrew text, especially as influenced by genre, lexicography, context, and literary structure.

Embedded Assignment

Exegetical Project:

1. Prepare an exegetical paper on 1 Samuel 8. The paper will address issues related to the Masoretic accents, ancient versions, textual criticism, syntax, grammar, context, and the literary structure of the passage. The paper should be 12-15 pages, double-spaced, using 12-point Times New Roman font. Research will include no less than 12 critical or technical sources. Text pages do not include title page, table of contents, or the bibliography.

2. Document and interact with key contributors in the field of study and demonstrate how the use of appropriate tools and resources can assist in the exegetical research process of 1 Samuel 8.
3. Communicate how exegesis of biblical texts impacts the faith and life of contemporary believers.

Rubric for the Exegetical Project

Three domains are assessed:

1. **UNDERSTANDING:** The student understands how to improve biblical exegesis by the means of Hebrew grammar and syntax.
2. **APPLICATION:** The student applies the benefits of Hebrew word studies, syntax, literary analysis, genre nuances, or text critical issues in the proclamation of the Hebrew Bible.
3. **COMMUNICATION:** The student communicates clearly the meaning of the original Hebrew-especially as influenced by genre, lexicography, context, and literary structure-for the life of contemporary believers.

ASSIGNMENT EVALUATION (0=Inadequate, 1=Basic, 2=Competent, 3=Good, 4=Excellent)

Textbooks

Ellis R. Brotzman and Eric J. Tully, *Old Testament Textual Criticism: A Practical Introduction*. Baker, 2016. [TC] ISBN 9780801097539

Robert B. Chisholm, Jr. *From Exegesis to Exposition: A Practical Guide to using Biblical Hebrew*. Baker, 1999. [EE] ISBN 0801021715

Page H. Kelley, et al., *The Masorah of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia: Introduction and Annotated Glossary* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998). ISBN 0802843638

The student should have the following texts from Introductory Hebrew Grammar:

Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia. ISBN 3438052180 or 3438052199

Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon. Hendrickson, 1996. ISBN 1565632060 (Other lexicons are permissible)

The following resource will be provided:

William R. Scott, *Simplified Guide to BHS: Critical apparatus, Masora, accents, unusual letters & other markings*, 3rd ed. (D & F Scott Publishing, 2007). ISBN 9780941037358

Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies: video lectures, textbook and article readings, weekly quizzes, and OT translations.

Course Requirements

The student will:

1. Complete weekly quizzes/worksheets on the lectures, reading assignments, and vocabulary assignments;
2. Translate assigned passages from the BHS;
3. Prepare an exegetical paper on an assigned passage (Embedded Assignment for Student Learning Outcomes assessment).

Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

1. Weekly Quizzes/Reading Guides	–	20%
2. Vocabulary Quizzes/Worksheets	–	20%
3. Translations	–	25%
4. Exegetical Project	–	35%
Total	–	100%

Grading Scale A: 93-100% B: 85-92% C: 77-84% D: 70-76% F: below 70%

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Policy on Late Assignments

Late work is not accepted.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Course Schedule

OTHB 6300 – Intermediate Hebrew Grammar			
<i>READINGS & ASSIGNMENTS SCHEDULE</i>			
Unit	Dates	<i>Lectures/Handouts</i>	Assignments
1	May 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting Started • Vocabulary – On the Making of New Words – Pt 1 • Masorah – Introduction • Masorah Minute – 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 1 • Textual Criticism – Introduction • Translation – 1 – Ruth 1 • Weekly Quiz/Reading Guide 1
2	June 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary – On the Making of New Words – Pt 2 • Vocabulary – 1 • Vocabulary – 2 • Masorah Minute – 2 • Masorah Minute – 3 – Masorah Parva • Masorah Minute – 4 – Masorah Gedolah • Masorah Minute – 5 - Sedarim 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 5, pgs. 57-64 • Textual Criticism – Ch. 1 • Vocabulary Quiz 1 • Weekly Quiz/Reading Guide 2 • Translation – 2 – Ruth 2
3	June 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary – 3 • Tools of the Trade – Hebrew Lexicon • Masorah – Accents – 1 • Masorah – Accents – 2 – Kings • Masorah – Accents – 3 Servants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 5, pgs. 64-78 • Textual Criticism – Ch. 2 • Weekly Quiz/Reading Guide 3 • Tools of the Trade – Lexicon Drills Worksheet • Vocabulary Quiz 2 • Translation – 3 – Ruth 3
4	June 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary - 4 • Accentuating the Accents -- 4 • Simplified Guide to the BHS, Latin Abbreviations • Textual Apparatus in BHS, Handout 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 5, pgs. 78-89 • Weekly Quiz/Reading Guide 4 • Vocabulary Quiz 3 • Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 5, pgs. 89-94 • Textual Criticism – Ch. 3 • Weekly Quiz/Reading Guide 5 • Textual Apparatus Worksheet • Translation – 4 – Ruth 4
5	June 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary – 5 • Masorah – Accents – 4 – Using the Accents – Part 1 • Masorah – Accents – 5 – Using the Accents – Part 2 • Masorah – Accents – 6 – Using the Accents – Part 3 • Masorah – Accents – 7 – Using the Accents – Part 4 • Using the Accents – Handout 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 5, pgs. 94-112 • Textual Criticism – Ch. 4 • Weekly Quiz/Reading Guide 6 • Translation 5 – Psalms 42 and 43 • Vocabulary Quiz 4
6	July 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exegetical Paper – An Explanation • • Masorah – Accents – 8 – Using the Accents – Part 5 • Masorah Minute – 6 – Textual Variants • Vocabulary – 6 – Verbs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 3 • Textual Criticism – Ch. 5 • Weekly Quiz/Reading Guide 7 • Vocabulary Quiz 5 • Translation 6 – Proverbs 1:1-33
7	July 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary – 7 – Nouns • Masorah Minute – 7 – Masorah Gedolah • The Exegetical Project – How To 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 4, pgs. 31-49 • Weekly Quiz/Reading Guide 8 • • Textual Criticism – Ch. 6 • Weekly Quiz/Reading Guide 9 • Vocabulary Quiz 6 • Translation 7 – Jeremiah 1: 1-19

8	July 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mastering the Masorah – Handout 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 6 Textual Criticism – Ch.7 Weekly Quiz/Reading Guide 10 Mastering the Masorah – Worksheet Exegetical Research & Paper
9	July 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exegetical Research & Paper 	Exegetical Research & Paper
		<i>Exegetical Paper due Monday July 26, 5 pm eastern!</i>	

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2018 Eric D. Raymond. *Intermediate Biblical Hebrew Grammar: A Student's Guide to Phonology and Morphology*. (Atlanta: SBL).
- 2017 William Fullilove. *Introduction to Hebrew: A Guide for Learning and Using Biblical Hebrew*. (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R).
- 2016 Isaac Nordheimer. *A Critical Grammar of the Hebrew Language*. 2 Vols. Reprint. (South Yarra, Australia: Leopold Publishing).
- 2015 Robert E. Longacre and Andrew C. Bowling. *Understanding Biblical Hebrew Verb Forms: Distributions and Functions across Genres*. (Dallas: SIL International).
- 2014 A. A. Macintosh and C. L. Engle. *The T&T Clark Hebrew Primer* (London: T&T Clark).
- 2013 John A. Cook and Robert D. Holmstedt, *Beginning Biblical Hebrew: A Grammar and Illustrated Reader* (Grand Rapids: Baker).
2012. Francis Anderson and Dean Forbes. *Biblical Hebrew Grammar Visualized* (American Oriental Society).
- Cynthia L. Miller-Naudé and Ziony Zevit. *Diachrony in Biblical Hebrew* (Eisenbrauns).
- 2010 Christopher A. Rollston. *Writing and Literacy in the World of Ancient Israel* (Atlanta: SBL).
- Andrew E. Steinmann. *Intermediate Biblical Hebrew: A Reference Grammar with Charts and Exercises* (St. Louis: Concordia).
2009. Brian L. Webster. *The Cambridge Introduction to Biblical Hebrew* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).
2007. William R. Scott. *A Simplified Guide to BHS: Critical Apparatus, Masora, Accents, Unusual Letters & Other Markings*, 4th ed. (North Richland Hills, TX: BIBAL Press).
2006. Robert B. Chisholm. *A Workbook for Intermediate Hebrew: Grammar, Exegesis, and Commentary on Jonah and Ruth* (Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications).
2006. Paul Jouon and T. Muraoka. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew* (Roma: Editrice Pontificio Istituto Biblio).
2006. Miles V. Van Pelt and Gary D. Pratico. *Graded Reader of Biblical Hebrew: A Guide to Reading the Hebrew Bible* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan).
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2004. Peter James Silzer and Thomas John Finley. *How Biblical Languages Work: A Student's Guide to Learning Hebrew & Greek* (Grand Rapids: Kregel).

2003. Miles V. Van Pelt and Gary D. Pratico, *The Vocabulary Guide to Biblical Hebrew* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan).
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1984. Larry Mitchel. *A Student's Vocabulary for Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan).
1959. Jacob Weingreen. *A Practical Grammar for Classical Hebrew* (New York: Oxford University Press).
1910. William Gesenius. *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar* (Oxford University Press).