



OTHB5300 Introductory Hebrew Grammar (Flex)
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Biblical Studies Division
Spring 2022; Tues/Thurs 12:30-1:50 pm

Dr. Jonathan Patterson
Instructor in Old Testament & Hebrew
HSC 236C
504-816-8171 (office); 251-259-8145 (cell)
jpatterson@nobts.edu

Mission Statement

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

Course Description

Students explore the foundations of Hebrew grammar and basic vocabulary so that they will be able to do basic translation and exegesis of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament. The course emphasizes basic grammatical constructions and rules of grammar as well as tools necessary for the student to work with the original language. The course includes basic readings from the Hebrew text.

Student Learning Outcomes

A. *Knowledge*

Students who complete this course should have:

- Learned basic grammatical forms and functions of biblical Hebrew
- Come to understand the basic syntax of Hebrew narrative texts
- Mastered a basic vocabulary of biblical Hebrew
- Acquired an adequate foundation for further study of biblical Hebrew

B. *Attitudes*

Students who complete this course successfully will have:

- Begun to see the value of reading from the "original" Hebrew for interpreting the Old Testament
- Achieved a growing appreciation for the richness of the Old Testament language
- Become motivated to embrace the discipline of Hebrew language study as a part of an ongoing commitment to excellence in ministry

C. *Skills*

Students who complete this course successfully should be able to:

- Read biblical Hebrew properly (using proper pronunciation)
- Translate from representative Hebrew narrative texts
- Implement basic grammatical and syntactical elements of basic Hebrew narrative texts
- Utilize a basic lexicon, an introductory grammar, and other selected resources as effective tools for translating and interpreting biblical Hebrew texts

Textbooks and Resources

A. Required

- Cook, John A. and Robert D. Holmstedt. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew: A Grammar and Illustrated Reader*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013. (BBH)
- Holladay, William L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Leiden: Brill, 1972. Reprinted Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 1988.
- Seow, C. L. *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Revised edition. Nashville: Abingdon, 1995.

B. Optional Resources

- Elliger, K. and W. Rudolph. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. New York: American Bible Society, 2001.
- Long, Gary V. *Grammatical Concepts 101 for Biblical Hebrew*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.
- Van Pelt, Miles and Gary Pratico. *Charts of Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.

Course Teaching Methodology

This course consists of a basic study of the fundamentals of biblical Hebrew using an inductive method and focusing on narrative literature. The course serves as a foundation for reading in the Hebrew Old Testament and for advanced study of Hebrew grammar and syntax.

Course Requirements

- Weekly Exercises (15%): Students will be required to submit weekly exercises from the *Beginning Biblical Hebrew* textbook. The required exercises for each week will be given in class and on Blackboard. Students will submit their exercises on Blackboard each week. Due dates for these assignments will be given on Blackboard.
- Hebrew Readings (15%): The *Beginning Biblical Hebrew* textbook contains thirteen (13) "Readings," starting from the back of the book and moving right to left and back to front—in true Hebrew fashion. Students will be required to complete selected portions of these readings, designed to be immersive, throughout the semester. Due dates for these assignments will be given on Blackboard.
- Parsing Exercises (10%): The second half of the semester contains four (4) parsing exercises designed to help students identify the various elements that make up Hebrew verbs and nouns. Students will be required to parse the given words and provide explanation for the parsing. The grade for these parsing exercises will be dependent on the correct parsing *and* adequate explanation. Due dates for these parsing exercises will be given on Blackboard.
- Vocabulary Quizzes (20%): Students will take a total of eight (8) vocabulary quizzes on Blackboard throughout the semester. The quizzes are to be taken without the aid of outside resources and must be completed by the end of the day specified in the course schedule section of the syllabus. Quizzes are made unavailable after 11:59 pm Central on the specified date and will not be reopened for individual students without prior approval.
- Sectional Exams (25%): Students will take two (2) sectional exams during the semester. The first will cover material from Lessons 1-14 and the second will cover Lessons 16-34. In order to accommodate Flex students in this course, the exams will be available until two (2) weeks after the class meetings covering Lessons 14 and 34 but students are encouraged to complete these exams as soon as possible in order to keep pace with the course content as it is covered in class. The exams will be taken on Blackboard and must be completed by 11:59 pm Central on the date specified in the course schedule

section of the syllabus. After this time, sectional exams will close and will not be reopened for individual students without prior approval.

- F. **Final Exam (15%):** Students will take a final exam for this course on Blackboard. The final exam must be taken by the end of the day **Monday, May 9**.
- G. **Extra Credit:** Students will be given the opportunity to earn up to **three (3)** points toward their final average by submitting the translation for one of the two remaining Hebrew Readings (ב׳ or ג׳) from *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*. You are only required to submit translation of the story; you do not have to complete all of the other questions in the Reading. The extra credit must be submitted by **Monday, May 9**.

Late Work: Assignments submitted after the due date noted in Blackboard will receive an automatic grade of 0. In order to accommodate Flex students taking this course, all due dates on Blackboard will be set nine days after the class meeting covering each lesson (i.e., assignments for lessons covered on Tuesday will be due on the *next* Thursday; assignments for lessons covered on Thursday will be due on the *next* Saturday). This will ensure that, even if a Flex student watches the lecture video at the last possible moment, he/she will still have at least two days to complete the required assignments. However, because of the fast-paced nature of this class and the necessarily intense workload required to cover all of Introductory Hebrew in a single semester, students are encouraged to try to keep pace with the class as best as possible and should work to complete their assignments in a timely manner.

Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Weekly Exercises	15%
Hebrew Readings	15%
Parsing Exercises	10%
Vocabulary Quizzes	20%
Sectional Exams (2 @ 12.5% each)	25%
Final Exam	15%

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.

Attendance and Classroom Etiquette

Students are expected to attend all class meetings; however, your professor recognizes that absences are sometimes necessary. NOBTS policy mandates that students may miss no more than nine hours of class meetings for a 3-hour class. Any student who misses more than six class periods will not receive credit for this course.

Students are also expected to be respectful of their classmates in online as well as in-class discussion and interaction. Any student who repeatedly demonstrates a lack of respect for classmates or the professor may be required to meet with the professor and the Dean of Students and could be subject to removal from the class.

NOLA2U Flex Students

If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Flex student, please note the following attendance policies:

1. You are required to be in class either through viewing the lectures live or viewing the recorded lectures on Blackboard. When you view the recorded lecture, you will be considered present for that class. Regardless of if you watch the class live or recorded, you are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in the graduate catalog. (See p. 184 in the graduate catalog: <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/academics/GraduateCatalog.pdf>)
2. You will be asked to certify that you have been present for the live session or have viewed the recorded session. This certification will be done through a brief discussion question after having watched the class live or viewing the recorded session.
3. All video lectures are available for seven (7) days after the video is posted. If you are unable to view the video within that time frame, you will be considered absent for that class session.
4. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a lecture.

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

Blackboard Unit	Class Date	Course Content	Assignments
Unit 1	1/18	BBH: Lessons 1-2 Hebrew Alphabet; Vowels	Hebrew Alphabet Exercise; Lesson 1 & 2 Exercises
	1/20	BBH: Lesson 3-4 The Sheva; The Dagesh	Lesson 3 & 4 Exercises
Unit 2	1/25	BBH: Lessons 5-6 Singular Subject Pronouns; Copular Clauses	Lesson 5 & 6 Exercises Vocabulary Quiz 1 (Feb 1)
	1/27	BBH: Lessons 7-8 Singular Nouns; The Definite Article & The Interrogative	Lesson 7 & 8 Exercises
Unit 3	2/1	BBH: Lessons 9-10 Lamed (ל) Possessive: Singular; Plural & Dual Nouns	Lesson 9 & 10 Exercises Hebrew Reading א
	2/3	BBH: Lessons 11-12 Plural Subject Pronouns; "There is/isn't" Particles	Lesson 11 & 12 Exercises Vocabulary Quiz 2 (Feb 10)
Unit 4	2/8	BBH: Lessons 13-14 Conjunction & Prepositions; Question Words	Lesson 13 & 14 Exercises Hebrew Reading ב Sectional Exam 1 (Feb 22)
	2/10	BBH: Lessons 15-16 Introduction to the Verb System; The Qal (קל) Perfect: Singular	Lesson 16 Exercises Vocabulary Quiz 3 (Feb 17)
Unit 5	2/15	BBH: Lessons 17-18 Lamed (ל) Possessive: Plural Hebrew Word Order	Lesson 17 & 18 Exercises Hebrew Reading ג
	2/17	BBH: Lesson 19 The Qal (קל) Perfect: Plural	Lesson 19 Exercises
Unit 6	2/22	BBH: Lessons 20-21 Bound ("Construct") Nouns; Irreal Use of the Perfect Verb	Lesson 20 & 21 Exercises
	2/24	BBH: Lesson 22 Singular Attached Pronouns	Lesson 22 Exercises Hebrew Reading ד Vocabulary Quiz 4 (Mar 3)
Unit 7	3/1	Mardi Gras; no class	
	3/3	BBH: Lesson 23 The Qal (קל) Imperfect: Singular	Lesson 23 Exercises
		BBH: Lessons 24-25	

Unit 8	3/8	The Infinitive; The Adverbial Infinitive	Lesson 24 & 25 Exercises
	3/10	BBH: Lesson 26 Objects	Lesson 26 Exercises Hebrew Reading ה Vocabulary Quiz 5 (Mar 17)
SPRING BREAK March 14-18			
Unit 9	3/20	BBH: Lessons 27-28 The Qal (קל) Imperfect: Plural; The Qal (קל) Imperfect of הָיָה	Lesson 27 & 28 Exercises
	3/22	BBH: Lesson 29 The Piel (פִּעַל) Verb Stem; The Hiphil (הִפְעִיל) Verb Stem	Lesson 29 Exercises
Unit 10	3/29	BBH: Lessons 30-31 Main & Subordinate Clauses; Plural Attached Pronouns	Lesson 30 & 31 Exercises Hebrew Reading ו Vocabulary Quiz 6 (Apr 5)
	3/31	BBH: Lessons 32-34 Adjectives; Demonstrative Pronouns; Segolate Nouns	Lesson 32-34 Exercises Hebrew Reading ו Sectional Exam 2 (Apr 14)
Unit 11	4/5	BBH: Lessons 35-36 The Past Narrative Conjugation; Past Narrative of הָיָה (וַיְהִי)	Lesson 35 & 36 Exercises Parsing Exercise 1
	4/7	BBH: Lesson 37 The Niphal (נִפְעַל) Stem; The Hitpael (הִתְפַּעֵל) Stem	Lesson 37 Exercises
Unit 12	4/12	BBH: Lessons 38-39 Dynamic & Stative Verbs; Jussives & Imperatives	Lesson 38 & 39 Exercises Hebrew Reading ה Vocabulary Quiz 7 (Apr 19)
	4/14	BBH: Lessons 40-41 Attached Pronouns w/ Verbs Word Order w/ Topic & Focus	Lesson 40 & 41 Exercises Parsing Exercise 2 Hebrew Reading ט
Unit 13	4/19	BBH: Lessons 42-44 Participles; Foreground & Background of Narrative; Verbal System Review	Lesson 42 Exercises Hebrew Reading י Vocabulary Quiz 8 (Apr 26)
	4/21	BBH: Lessons 45-46 Numerals; Topic	Lesson 45 Exercises Parsing Exercise 3 Hebrew Reading יא
	4/26	BBH: Lessons 47-48 Accents; Complements & Adjuncts	Hebrew Reading יב

Unit 14	4/28	BBH: Lessons 49-50 Case Relations; Lexical Semantics	Parsing Exercise 4 Hebrew Reading א
Unit 15	5/3	Wrap up and review	
	5/5	No Class	
FINAL EXAM due Monday, May 9			

All assignments must be submitted by Monday, May 9. Any late assignments submitted after May 9 will not be accepted.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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