



**OTHB6300 Intermediate Hebrew Grammar**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Biblical Studies Division**  
**Spring 2022 - Internet**

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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.

**Course Description**

Students broaden their ability in and familiarity with Hebrew grammar and basic vocabulary so that they will be able to do in-depth translation and analysis of the text of the Old Testament. The course emphasizes grammatical constructions and verb forms as well as introductions to textual criticism and Hebrew syntax. The course includes readings from the various literary genres of the Hebrew text. *Prerequisite: OTHB5300 Introductory Hebrew Grammar.*

**Student Learning Outcomes**

At the conclusion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Understand how to improve biblical exegesis by means of Hebrew grammar and syntax.
- Demonstrate how to apply the benefits of Hebrew word studies, syntax, literary analysis, genre nuances, or text-critical issues in the exegesis and proclamation of the Old Testament.
- Communicate clearly the meaning of the original Hebrew text, especially as influenced by genre, lexicography, context, and literary structure.

**Embedded Assignment**

This core course incorporates an embedded assignment for the purposes of assessing institutional effectiveness and for program evaluation. The embedded assignment is the Exegetical Project.

1. *Paper* - Write a polished, 12-15 page paper. The student should have gathered all the essential knowledge from the text and be ready to being the task of constructing a sound exegetical paper using the tools of Hebrew grammar, syntax, textual criticism, genre nuance, historical and literary contexts, and literary structure.
2. *Exegetical Principles* - Indicate the use of appropriate tools, methods, and resources in the application of sound exegetical principles.
3. *Contemporary Application* - Communicate the meaning of the text, keeping in mind the contemporary audience.
4. *Rubric* - The general grading rubric to be used in evaluating the embedded assignment performance of students in the class is outlined below.

Domain	Level	Inadequate (0 points)	Basic (1 point)	Competent (2 points)	Good (3 points)	Excellent (4 points)
<i>Understanding</i> The student:	Clearly demonstrated an understanding of the sound method for exegesis					
<i>Application</i> The student:	Demonstrated the used of appropriate tools, methods, and resources in the application of sound exegetical principles.					
<i>Communication</i> The student:	Communicated clearly the meaning of the text, keeping in mind the contemporary audience.					

### Required Texts

- Any modern Hebrew lexicon (Holladay, *HALOT*, etc.)
- Arnold, Bill T. and John H. Choi. *A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. 2d ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2018.
- *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia (BHS)*
- Brotzman, Ellis R. and Eric J. Tully. *Old Testament Textual Criticism*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2016.
- Kelley, Page H., Daniel S. Mynatt, and Timothy G. Crawford. *The Masorah of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia: Introduction and Annotated Glossary*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

### Course Teaching Methodology

This course builds on the fundamentals of Introductory Hebrew Grammar to develop translation skills in various genres of the Hebrew Bible. Students will also develop a greater understanding of how elements of grammar, syntax, and textual criticism are used in the analysis and translation of the Hebrew Bible.

### Course Requirements

- Weekly Translations (30%) - Students will submit weekly translations of various passages from the Hebrew Bible. As a part of the translation process, students will look at various aspects of grammar, syntax, and textual criticism to determine how best to translate the given verses. Students are expected to complete their own translation work using only their Hebrew language tools (lexicon, syntax books, etc.). Translations are due each week by the end of the day Sunday.
- Vocabulary Quizzes (20%) - Students will complete vocabulary quizzes throughout the semester covering words used in their weekly translation assignments. These quizzes should be completed without the aid of any external resources (lexicons, completed translations, etc.) and are due by the end of the day Sunday.
- Parsing Exercises (10%) - Students will complete a series of parsing exercises at the beginning of the semester on the various Hebrew verb stems and aspects. These parsing exercises are due by the end of the day Sunday.
- Book Review (15%) - Students will complete a critical book review of Brotzman and Tully, *Old Testament Textual Criticism*, 2nd edition. Reviews should be 6-8 pages, double-spaced, consisting of no more than 3-4 pages of summary and no less than 3-4 pages of critical interaction and review. The book review is due **Sunday, March 6**.
- Exegetical Project (25%) - Students will complete an exegetical project employing the translation and analysis skills developed in this course. Students will select a text from the Hebrew Bible *not* covered in this course, consisting of a minimum of 3 verses and a maximum of 8, and addressing the following: translation, text-critical issues (Masorah and critical apparatus), syntax, grammar, context (historical and literary), and literary structure. The paper should be 12-15 pages, double-spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman

font and employ a minimum of 15 critical and/or technical resources. The exegetical project is due **Thursday, May 5**. *This is the embedded assignment for this course.*

**Late Work:** Assignments submitted after the due date will incur a **five (5) point penalty each day** the assignment is not submitted, including weekends. Quizzes may not be made up after the due date unless prior approval has been granted by the professor and the exegetical project will not be accepted late.

### **Evaluation of Grade**

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Weekly Translations	30%
Vocabulary Quizzes	20%
Parsing Exercises	10%
Book Review	15%
Exegetical Project	25%

### **Technical Assistance**

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

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

### **Attendance and Classroom Etiquette**

While an online course does not have an "attendance policy" per se, students are expected to be active participants each week of the class. Students are expected to complete all assignments in a timely manner, including weekly assignments, quizzes, and exams.

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

### **Writing Style Guide**

A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Blackboard shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at:

<https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>

### **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**

<b>Blackboard Unit</b>	<b>Assignments due</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
<b>UNIT 1</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Jonah 1:1-3 Parsing Exercise; Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Jan 23</b>
<b>UNIT 2</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Jonah 1:4-9 Parsing Exercise; Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Jan 30</b>
<b>UNIT 3</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Jonah 1:10-16 Parsing Exercise; Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Feb 6</b>
<b>UNIT 4</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Jonah 2:1-11 Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Feb 13</b>
<b>UNIT 5</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Jonah 3:1-8 Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Feb 20</b>
<b>UNIT 6</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Jonah 3:9-4:4 Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Feb 27</b>
<b>UNIT 7</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Jonah 4:5-11 Vocabulary Quiz; <i>Book Review</i>	<b>Sunday, Mar 6</b>
<b>UNIT 8</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Ruth 1:1-22 Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Mar 13</b>
<b>SPRING BREAK March 14-18</b>		
<b>UNIT 9</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Ruth 2:1-23 Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Mar 27</b>
<b>UNIT 10</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Ruth 3:1-18 Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Apr 3</b>
<b>UNIT 11</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Ruth 4:1-22 Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Apr 10</b>
<b>UNIT 12</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Psalm 1:1-6 Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Apr 17</b>
<b>UNIT 13</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Proverbs 3:1-6 Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, Apr 24</b>
<b>UNIT 14</b>	<b>Translation:</b> Proverbs 3:7-12 Vocabulary Quiz	<b>Sunday, May 1</b>
<b>UNIT 15</b>	<i>Exegetical Project</i>	<b>Thursday, May 5</b>

*All assignments must be submitted by Thursday, May 5. Any late assignments submitted after May 5 will not be accepted.*

## **Additional Items**

**Attendance:** The term may seem strange for an Internet course, but you are expected to "show up" on a regular basis, participate consistently, and submit work as indicated in unit instructions. Failure to "show up" regularly may result in an administrative withdrawal from the course. If you have severe problems that are hindering your adequate participation, please contact the professor as soon as possible.

**Courtesy:** All members of the class are to follow the rules of common courtesy in all communications and interaction. Remember that real people are out there struggling at their keyboards just as you are. Timely and considerate response will be particularly important when students are interacting with other members of the class individually or corporately.

**Submission of Work:** The course is taught at present in something of an "open format," meaning that to some extent you may work at your own pace, within reason of course, but you should submit work on a regular basis. The problem, particularly in study of a language, is that if you get behind in the course, you will find it very difficult to catch up as you might in other types of courses. So approach the work in a disciplined manner, plan specific times to complete your work, and submit assignments regularly and systematically no later than the date given on the schedule above.

**NOTE:** Calling the course "open format" and allowing you to submit work at your own pace, within reason, does not mean that you can submit assignments in any order that you choose. The course is designed so that you make gradual progress in mastery of the language, and assignments that you are to submit are a part of that design. Consequently, assignments are to be submitted according to the order in which they are assigned and will be accepted for grading only in that order. If you are having problems with a particular assignment, that may be a sign that you need to do more study/work/review at that point. It may also be a signal that you need to consult with the professor on the matter.

**Marvels and Messes:** Computers are great tools, but they do not always work correctly all the time. You already know that, so make a practice of backing up your work. Because this is an online class, students are expected to have regular access to a working computer as well as an internet connection. While the professor recognizes that computers sometimes crash or are otherwise problematic, it is the student's responsibility to have a "back-up plan" in place should his/her computer malfunction. In addition, do not wait until the last day, hour, or minute to complete and/or submit your work. You may not be able to log on, the server may down (which does happen from time to time), and God alone knows what else might happen. So plan ahead. *Encountering these kinds of problems during last minute rushes does not constitute an excuse for failure to complete your work in a timely fashion.*

**Honesty and Education:** In a standard classroom educational environment, the time that all students are together with the professor is a very restricted time, so that great potential for dishonesty has always existed in that setting. With an Internet course, such a potential is certainly more real. While most components of the course will have built-in safeguards, some will not, by the very nature of the work. The challenge, then, for each of you, is to keep before you the goal of learning well the subject matter of this course. In your case, it is the Hebrew language, mastery of which will allow you to read the word of God written in one of its original languages. Such a privilege can hardly be overvalued. So determine to do the work, as it is assigned, so that you will have the best opportunity to succeed in the best sense.

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