

Covenant Baptist Theological Seminary
Elementary Hebrew I
Student Syllabus

Term: Fall 2024
Credit hours: 3
Dates: Mondays
Time: 6:00 am – 9:00 am (CST)
Instructor: Dr. Josh Wilson

Course Description

An elementary study of Hebrew grammar for the translation and interpretation of the Old Testament.

Course Objectives

1. To gain an introduction to the basic elements of Classical Hebrew
2. To learn word recognition through a study of Hebrew phonology and morphology
3. To gain proficiency in Hebrew vocabulary
4. To apply these learned skills to the translation and interpretation of the Hebrew Old Testament

Textbooks

Required

Fuller, Russell T. and Choi Kyoungwon. Invitation to Biblical Hebrew: a Beginning Grammar (text). Grand Rapids: Kregel, Academic & Professional, 2006.

_____. Invitation to Biblical Hebrew: a Beginning Grammar (workbook). Grand Rapids: Kregel, Academic & Professional, 2006.

Murphy, Todd, J. *Pocket Dictionary for the Study of Biblical Hebrew*. Downer Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2003.

Recommended

Alt, A. et al. Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia. Stuttgart: Deutsche Biblesellschaft, 1977.

Brown, F., S. R. Driver, and C. A. Briggs. *Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Oxford, 1907. Reprint, Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1996.

Holloday, William L. Briggs. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament: Based upon the Lexical Work of Ludwig Koehler and Walter Baumgartner*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1972.

Course Assignments

Reading Assignments: Each week, students will read the assigned chapters from the textbook. Each of these readings must be completed one week after they have been assigned. See the course schedule (below) for when each reading will be assigned. On the last day of class, students will submit a reading report indicating how much of the assigned readings were completed. (5 points per chapter: 105 total points)

Homework Assignments: Each week, students will be assigned homework (drills) from the textbook. Each homework assignment must be completed before the start of the next class. See the course schedule (below) for when the homework will be assigned. (15 points per assignment: 195 total points)

Grammar Quizzes: Each week, students will take an in-home parsing quiz. Each parsing quiz will be graded by the student using the provided quiz key. See the course schedule (below) for when the grammar quizzes will be assigned. On the last day of class, students will submit a quiz report indicating that each quiz was completed without any notes or helps. (15 points per completed quiz: 150 total points)

Vocabulary Quizzes: Each week, students be given a vocabulary quiz of 20 Hebrew words. The pool of words from which each quiz will draw will be taken from each new chapter in the textbook and all previous chapters. In other words, each vocabulary quiz will be cumulative. See the course schedule (below) for which chapter's vocabulary words will be covered in each vocabulary quiz. Students may earn up to ten points on each quiz. (10 points per vocabulary quiz: 130 total points)

Vocabulary Final: At the end of the semester, students will take a final exam over all the assigned vocabulary words. This will be the class final. (115 total points)

Attendance and Grading

Attendance: Because of the intensity of this subject, students may not miss more than two classes during semester. Students may also earn credit for their attendance. (2.5 points per class attended: 65 total points)

Grading Scale:

A	95-100	4.0	(≥ 760 points)
A-	91-94	3.7	(≥ 728 points)
B+	88-90	3.3	(≥ 704 points)

B	84-87	3.0	(≥ 672 points)
B-	81-83	2.7	(≥ 648 points)
C+	78-80	2.3	(≥ 624 points)
C	74-77	2.0	(≥ 592 points)
C-	71-73	1.7	(≥ 568 points)
D+	68-70	1.3	(≥ 544 points)
D	64-67	1.0	(≥ 512 points)
D-	61-63	0.7	(≥ 488 points)
F	0-60	0.00	(≤ 480 points)
I	Incomplete	0.00	
W	Withdrawn	0.00	
S (P)	Satisfactory (Pass)	0.00	

Course Schedule

- Week #1 **Phonological Principles: The Alphabet**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapter 1
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pg. 7 (Drills)
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapter 1 (alphabet)
- Week #2 **Phonological Principles: Yod/Vav & Shewa**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2 & 3
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pg. 16 (Drills)
Grammar Quiz: Fuller Workbook, pg. 7
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-3
- Week #3 **Phonological Principles: Dagesh & Qamets**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapters 4 & 5
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pgs. 23-24 (Drills)
Grammar Quiz: Fuller Workbook, pg. 12
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-5
- Week #4 **Morphological Principles: Article & Interrogative**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapters 6 & 7
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pgs. 33-34 (Drills)
Grammar Quiz: Fuller Workbook, pg. 17
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-7
- Week #5 **Morphological Principles: Prepositions & Conjunctions**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapters 8 & 9
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pgs. 44-46 (Drills)
Grammar Quiz: Fuller Workbook, pg. 22
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-9

- Week #6 **Morphological Principles: Nouns & Adjectives**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapters 10 & 11
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pgs. 68-69 (Drills)
Grammar Quiz: Fuller Workbook, pg. 27
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-11
- Week #7 **Morphological Principles: Pronominal Suffixes**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapter 12
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pgs. 74-75 (Drills)
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-12
- Week #8 **Morphological Principles: More Pronominal Suffixes**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapters 13 & 14
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pgs. 87-88 (Drills)
Grammar Quiz: Fuller Workbook, pg. 32
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-14
- Week #9 **Morphological Principles: Segolate Nouns**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapters 15 & 16
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pgs. 98-99 (Drills)
Grammar Quiz: Fuller Workbook, pg. 39
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-16
- Week #10 **Strong Verbs: The Perfect**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapter 17
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pgs. 106-107 (Drills)
Grammar Quiz: Fuller Workbook, pg. 46
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-17
- Week #11 **Strong Verbs: The Imperfect Tense and Volitives**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapter 18
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pgs. 112-114 (Drills)
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-18
- Week #12 **Strong Verbs: Participles & Infinitives**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapter 19
Homework Assignment: Fuller Grammar, pgs. 118-119 (Drills)
Grammar Quiz: Fuller Workbook, pgs. 51-52
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-19
- Week #13 **Finals Week**
Reading Assignment: Fuller Grammar, chapters 20 & 21
Vocabulary Quiz: Fuller Grammar, chapters 2-21

Selected Bibliography

Hebrew Vocabulary

- Landes, George M. *Building Your Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary: Learning Words by Frequency and Cognate*. Vol. 41 of Resources for Biblical Study. Atlanta, GA: Society of Biblical Literature, 2001.
- Mitchel, Larry A. *A Student's Vocabulary for Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic*. Updated Edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2017.
- Pleins, J. David. *Biblical Hebrew by Conceptual Categories*. With Jonathan Homrighausen. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2017.
- Van Pelt, Miles V. and Gary D. Pratico. *Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary in Context*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2019.
- _____. *The Vocabulary Guide to Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2003.

Introductory Hebrew Grammars

- Fuller, Russell T. and Choi Kyoungwon. *Invitation to Biblical Hebrew: A Beginning Grammar* (text). Grand Rapids: Kregel, Academic & Professional, 2006.
- Futato, Mark David. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2003.
- Garrett, Duane A. and Jason S. DeRouchie. *A Modern Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2009.
- Kelley, Page H. *Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1992.
- Kutz, Karl V., and Rebekah L. Josberger. *Learning Biblical Hebrew: Reading for Comprehension: An Introductory Grammar*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2018.
- Pratico, Gary D., and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2019.
- Ross, Allen P. *Introducing Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001.
- Seow, C. L. *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1995.
- Weingreen, J. *A Practical Grammar for Classical Hebrew*. Oxford, England: Clarendon Press, 1939.

Intermediate Hebrew Grammars

- Arnold, Bill T. and John H. Choi. *A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. 2nd ed. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2018.
- Fuller, Russell T. and Kyoungwon Choi. *Invitation to Biblical Hebrew Syntax: An Intermediate Grammar*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2017.
- Lambdin, T. *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*. Sheffield, England: Almond Press, c1987.
- Williams, Ronald J. *Williams' Hebrew Syntax*. 3rd ed. Revised and expanded by John C. Beckman. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2010.

Hebrew Reference Grammars

- Gesenius, Friedrich Wilhelm. *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar*. Edited by E. Kautzsch and Sir Arthur Ernest Cowley. 2d English ed. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1910.
- Joüon, Paul, and T. Muraoka. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. Roma: Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 2006.
- Van der Merwe, Christo H. J., Jacobus A. Naudé, and Jan H. Kroeze. *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar*. 2nd ed. London; Oxford; New York; New Delhi; Sydney: Bloomsbury; Bloomsbury T&T Clark: An Imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing Plc, 2017.
- Waltke, Bruce K., and Michael Patrick O'Connor. *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1990.

Hebrew Discourse Studies

- Heller, Roy L. *Narrative Structure and Discourse Constellations: An Analysis of Clause Function in Biblical Hebrew Prose*. Harvard Semitic Studies 55. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2004.
- Husser, Lydia. *Lexham Discourse Hebrew Bible: Dataset Documentation*. Bellingham, WA: Faithlife, 2016.
- Patton, Matthew H. and Frederic Clarke Putnam. *Basics of Hebrew Discourse: A Guide to Working with Hebrew Prose and Poetry*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2019.
- Rocine, B. M. *Learning Biblical Hebrew: A New Approach Using Discourse Analysis*. Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys Pub., 2000.

Hebrew Lexica and Dictionaries

- Botterweck, G. Johannes, and Helmer Ringgren, eds. *Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament*, 15 vols. Trans. by John T. Willis et al. Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2003.
- Brown, F., S. R. Driver, and C. A. Briggs. *Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Oxford, 1907. Reprint, Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1996.
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- Jenni, Ernst, and Claus Westermann, eds. *Theological Lexicon of the Old Testament*, 3 vols. Trans. by Mark E. Biddle. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1997.
- Harris, R. Laird, Gleason L. Archer, Jr., and Bruce K. Waltke, eds. *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*, 2 vols. Chicago: Moody Press, 1980.
- Holloday, William L. Briggs. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament: Based upon the Lexical Work of Ludwig Koehler and Walter Baumgartner*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing, 1972.
- Koehler, Ludwig, Walter Baumgartner, M. E. J. Richardson, and Johann Jakob Stamm. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Leiden: E.J. Brill, 1994–2000.
- VanGemeren, Willem A., ed. *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology & Exegesis*, 5 vols. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1997.

Helpful Hebrew Tools

- Armstrong, Terry A., Douglas Busby, and Cyril F. Carr. *A Reader's Hebrew-English Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1989.
- Barr, James. *The Semantics of Biblical Language*. Oxford, England: Oxford University Press, 1978.
- Beall, Todd S., William A. Banks, and Colin Smith. *Old Testament Parsing Guide*. Revised and Updated Edition. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 2000.
- Kelley, Page H., Daniel S. Mynatt, and Timothy G. Crawford. *The Masorah of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia: Introduction and Annotated Glossary*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1998.

- Mulder, Martin Jan. *Mikra: Text, Translation, Reading & Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible in Ancient Judaism & Early Christianity*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2004.
- Murphy, Todd, J. *Pocket Dictionary for the Study of Biblical Hebrew*. Downer Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2003.
- Price, James D. *The Syntax of Masoretic Accents in the Hebrew Bible*. Studies in the Bible and Early Christianity 27. Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen Press, 1990.
- Putnam, Frederic Clarke. *A Cumulative Index to the Grammar and Syntax of Biblical Hebrew*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1996.
- _____. *A Hebrew Bible Insert: A Student's Guide to the Syntax of Biblical Hebrew*. Quakertown, PA: Stylus Publishing, 1996.
- Sáenz-Badillos, Angel. *A History of the Hebrew Language*. Trans. by John Elwolde. Cambridge, England: University Press, 1996.
- Scott, William R. *A Simplified Guide to BHS: Critical Apparatus, Masora, Accents, Unusual Letters & Other Markings*. 3rd ed. Richland Hills, TX: BIBAL Press, 1995.
- Silva, Moisés. *Biblical Words and Their Meaning: An Introduction to Lexical Semantics*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1983.
- Silzer, Peter James, and Thomas John Finley. *How Biblical Languages Work: A Student's Guide to Learning Hebrew and Greek*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2004.