

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

OTHB 5300 Introductory Hebrew Grammar

Professor: Dr. Jeff Griffin
Office: Library
Phone: (504) 816-8018

Room: Bunyan 101
Time: T/TH 9:30-10:50
Email: jgriffin@nobts.edu

“At a time when 90% of Southern Baptist churches are plateaued or declining, NOBTS is a school focusing on training God-called men and women to grow healthy churches.”

—Dr. Chuck Kelley—

NOBTS Mission

To equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value

Our seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity as the Bible is believed to be the Word of God, inspired and inerrant. The specific core value celebrated this academic year is Mission Focus.

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.

Curriculum Competencies

1. **Biblical Exposition:** To interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
2. **Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.
3. **Worship Leadership:** To facilitate worship effectively.

Student Learning Outcomes

- By the end of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Describe the basics of biblical Hebrew grammar.
 2. Read and translate simple texts from the Hebrew Bible.
 3. Demonstrate knowledge of 300 vocabulary words.
 4. Parse strong and weak verbs.
 5. Demonstrate understanding of Hebrew language tools for use in biblical exegesis.
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Required Textbooks

The Holy Bible: Any modern version (preferably NASB, TNKH, HCSB, NIV)
 Allen P. Ross, *Introducing Biblical Hebrew* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001). 978-0801021473
Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2006).
Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1996).

Course Requirements:

1. The student will take daily quizzes.
2. The student will take a mid-term and final exam.
3. The student will participate in class discussion, remain attentive, and take good notes.

Assignments and Point-Values

* Six (6) absences are allowed for this course to receive credit.

Grading Scale

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

Classroom Etiquette

- ✓ Cell Phones – Please turn phone off or to silent.
- ✓ Laptop Computers – Surfing the Web, checking e-mail or playing video games are not appropriate use of classroom time.
- ✓ Dress Code (*NOBTS Student Handbook*)
 - A. Personal appearance and dress are a vital part of each individual's exemplary Christian witness. Modesty, neatness, cleanliness, and propriety in dress are expected.
 - B. Caps, casual shorts, and ragged shirts are considered to be inappropriate attire in the classroom. Individuals who are dressed in such attire may be asked to leave the premises at the discretion of a representative of the seminary.

<i>OTHB 5300 - INTRODUCTORY HEBREW GRAMMAR: LECTURES & ASSIGNMENTS SCHEDULE</i>			
Week	Dates	<i>Lectures</i>	<i>Textbook Readings & Assignments</i>
1	8/25 8/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Introduction • Why study Biblical Hebrew? • Basics of the Alphabet 	
2	9/1 9/3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alphabet review • Begad Kefat Letter • Vowels • Prepositions & Particles 	
3	9/8 9/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Hot Rod Principle</i> • How to read Biblical Hebrew • Introduction to Noun • Particles 	
4	9/15 9/17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Fat Albert Principle</i> • Introduction to the Strong Verb • <i>The Hezekiah Principle</i> 	
5	9/22 9/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accents • Basics of Hebrew Sentence • Nouns: Absolute & Construct States • The Power of the Pronoun 	
6	9/29 10/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The P.I. Principle</i> 	
7	10/6 10/8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Gomer Pyle Principle</i> 	
8	10/13 10/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-Term Exam • Review, Review, Review 	Review, review, review
9	10/20-22	Fall Break	
10	10/27 10/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Weak Verbs • The Jonah Principle 	
11	11/3 11/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translation 	
12	11/10 11/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translation 	
13	11/17 11/19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translation 	
14	11/24-26	Thanksgiving Break	

15	12/1 12/3	• Translation	
16	12/8	• Translation	
17	12/17	Final Exam: Dec. 17 9AM	

Selected Bibliography

- 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 Miles V. Van Pelt, *Biblical Hebrew: A Compact Guide* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan).
2010. Jo Ann Hackett, *A Basic Introduction to Biblical Hebrew* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson).
- Christopher A. Rollston, *Writing and Literacy in the World of Ancient Israel* (Atlanta: SBL).
2009. Brian L. Webster. *The Cambridge Introduction to Biblical Hebrew* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).
2007. Gary D. Pratico, Miles V. Van Pelt, *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan).
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).
2006. Russell T. Fuller and Kyoungwon Choi, *Invitation to Biblical Hebrew* (Grand Rapids: Kregel).
2005. Jennifer S. Green, *Handbook to a Grammar for Biblical Hebrew* (Nashville: Abingdon Press).
2005. Nava Bergman, *The Cambridge Biblical Hebrew Workbook: Introductory Level* (Cambridge University Press).

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).
2003. Donald R. Vance, *A Hebrew Reader for Ruth* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson).
2003. Mark D. Futato, *Beginning Biblical Hebrew* (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns).
2002. Duane A. Garrett, *A Modern Grammar for Biblical Hebrew* (B&H Publishing Group).
2002. Gary A. Long, *Grammatical Concepts 101 for Biblical Hebrew* (Grand Rapids: Hendrickson Publishers).
2000. Allen Ross, *Introducing Biblical Hebrew and Grammar* (Grand Rapids: Baker).
2000. Jessica W. Goldstein, *The First Hebrew Reader: Guided Selections from the Hebrew Bible* (Berkeley, CA: EKS Publishing).
1999. C.H.J. van der Merwe, et al., *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar* (New York: Continuum International).
1995. Leong Choon Seow, *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew* (Nashville: Abingdon).
1993. Bruce K. Waltke and M. O'Connor, *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax* (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns).
1992. Ethelyn Simon, et al., *The First Hebrew Primer: The Adult Beginner's Path to Biblical Hebrew* (Berkeley, CA: EKS Publishing).
1992. Page Kelley, *Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans).
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).