

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
BHE 531 HEBREW 1B**

Summer 2004

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The essentials of the Hebrew of the Old Testament with an emphasis on vocabulary, grammar, and syntax. At the end of the semester, the student should be able to read some easy passages from the Old Testament with the aid of reference works.

**OBJECTIVES**

By the end of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Read unpointed and pointed Hebrew narrative texts with minimal help from lexical tools.
2. Have a vocabulary of the 500 most frequently used words in the Hebrew Bible.
3. Be able to explain Hebrew grammar and syntax.
4. Gain an internal sense of the language that will enable further study in biblical Hebrew, post-biblical Hebrew, and Aramaic.

**TEXTBOOKS**

**Required:**

Buth, Randall, *Living Biblical Hebrew for Everyone* (2 vols.; Biblical Language Center: Jerusalem, 2003)

**BASIC OUTLINE**

The first couple of weeks will feature Total Physical Response (TPR) as the most efficient introduction to internalizing the language. Homework will entail immersion picture listening series.

The second phase of the course will mix dialogues, drills, reading, and some traditional grammar focusing primarily on the books of Jonah and Ruth.

**METHODOLOGY**

Class sessions will use a variety of language learning styles to help the student develop an internal sense of the Hebrew language that can be used without relying upon “crutches” (lexical tools, grammars, etc.). The first couple of weeks will utilize TPR as the most

efficient way to begin internalizing the language. At this stage, the student will be introduced to Hebrew through class interaction and homework picture listening series that will begin to place Hebrew inside of the student in Hebrew—not through an English medium.

The second stage of the class will consist of dialogues, drills, reading, and some traditional grammar focusing primarily on the books of Jonah and Ruth. Here the student will have daily quizzes over memorized dialogues that will serve as the foundation for drills building grammar, syntax, and vocabulary skills. These memorized dialogues will be acted out in class enabling the student to continue to internalize the language.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Class attendance is expected. The maximum number of absences is three (3) class periods. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor as to his or her absence from class.

1. Each day the student should be prepared to participate fully in the classroom activities, and prepared to take quizzes and exams when assigned.
2. Contribute to the overall positive learning environment of the classroom through participation and attitude.

Students need to have a heart to learn, with hearing in at least one ear, and sight in at least one eye.

### **LATE WORK**

Because of the unique learning environment created in the classroom sessions, it is almost impossible for students to make-up days they miss. Furthermore, no late or make-up work is accepted in the course.

### **GRADING PROCEDURE**

Class participation	30%
Memorized dialogues and class assignments	40%
Final Exam	30%

### **SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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Waltke, Bruce K., and M. O'Connor. *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 1990.

### **SPECIFIC DATA**

Prepared by Marc V. Turnage, March 2004