

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
BHE 531 Hebrew IB

Roger D. Cotton

Spring, 2002

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A continuation of Hebrew IA. Includes the translating of passages from the Hebrew text of the Old Testament and introduction to basic tools.

OBJECTIVES

Upon the successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Explain the basic grammatical and syntactical features of the Hebrew language and pronounce it on sight.
2. Identify the major vocabulary and verb forms.
3. Translate most non-poetic biblical passages using a lexicon.
4. Explain the major differences that knowing Hebrew makes in understanding any Old Testament passage.
5. Begin to do good exegesis of the Hebrew text using the best tools available.

TEXTBOOKS

Required:

Holladay, Wm. L. A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971.

Kelley, Page H. Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1992.

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Kelley, Page H., Terry L. Burden, and Timothy G. Crawford. A Handbook to Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994.

Recommended:

Williams, Ronald J. Hebrew Syntax: An Outline. 2d ed. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1976.

OR

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

BASIC OUTLINE

Class	Lessons in Kelley
1. Weds. Jan. 9	18
2. Fri. Jan 11	18
3. Weds. Jan. 16	Take-Home Quiz 1 over 18 due
4. Fri. Jan. 18	19
5. Weds. Jan. 23	Take-Home Quiz 2 over 19 due
6. Fri. Jan. 25	20
7. Weds. Jan. 30	Take-Home Quiz 3 over 20 due
8. Fri. Feb. 1	21
9. Weds. Feb. 6	Take-Home Quiz 4 over 21 due
10. Fri. Feb. 8	22-24
11. Weds. Feb 13	Take-Home Exercise 1 over 22-24 due
12. Fri. Feb 15	" " " 2 over 25-27 due
13. Weds. Feb 20	" " " 3 over 28-29 due
14. Fri. Feb 22	" " " 4 over 30-31 due
15. Weds. Feb. 27	Review for exam
16. Fri. Mar. 1	Take-Home Comprehensive Translation Exam over Hebrew I due
MARCH 4-8	SPRING BREAK

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For the second half of the semester there will be four take-home research assignments due on the following dates, increasing in depth of analysis expected in Hebrew syntax and word studies and weight in grading:

Friday, March 22	#1
Wednesday, April 3	#2
Wednesday, April 10	#3
Friday, April 19	#4 Final Research Assignment due

METHODOLOGY

Detailed, sequential coverage of the lessons in Kelley, from lesson 18 to the end with daily study of grammar and vocabulary checked orally and then by quizzes and exams. The second half of the semester will consist of assigned translations of selected passages from each genre of the Old Testament, with discussion of Hebrew syntax and exegesis and the use of various advanced Hebrew tools. Emphasis will be on the difference that knowing Hebrew can make in interpreting a passage.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class attendance is expected; maximum allowable absences are 3 class periods. Please talk to the professor about any absences.

1. Be prepared each day to answer questions orally on the lessons including pronouncing the Hebrew, and turn in any assignments as called for.
2. Write the quizzes, exams, and research assignments for the scheduled classes. The latter require the use of syntax books by Waltke/O'Connor and Williams, and a few word studies in NIDOTTE.

GRADING PROCEDURE

Quizzes and class participation	35%
Mid-term Exam	25%
Research Assignments	6%, 8%, 12%, 14%

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Barr, James. Comparative Philology and the Text of the Old Testament. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1968.

Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia. Edited by K. Elliger, and W. Rudolph. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelstiftung, 1977.

Bible Windows. Silver Mountain Software, Cedar Hill, TX.

Bible Works. Hermeneutika. Big Fork, MT.

Brotzman, Ellis R. Old Testament Textual Criticism: A Practical Introduction. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.

Chisholm, Robert B., Jr. From Exegesis to Exposition: A Practical Guide to Using Biblical Hebrew. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.

Clines, David J. A., ed. The Dictionary of Classical Hebrew. Vol. 1 (alef). Sheffield, England: Sheffield Academic Press, 1993.

Cotterell, Peter, and Max Turner. Linguistics and Biblical Interpretation. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity, 1989.

Einspahr, Bruce. Index to Brown Driver and Briggs Hebrew Lexicon. Chicago: Moody, 1977.

Even-Shoshan, Avraham, ed. A New Concordance of the Bible. Jerusalem: Kiryat Sepher, 1982.

Gesenius, William. A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament. Translated by Edward Robinson. Edited by Francis Brown, S. R. Driver, and Charles A. Briggs.

Harris, R. Laird, Gleason L. Archer, Jr., and Bruce K. Waltke, eds. Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament. 2 vols. Chicago: Moody Press, 1980.

Harrison, R. K. Biblical Hebrew. New York: Random House, 1987.

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Kautzsch, E., and E. E. Cowley, eds. Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar. 2d ed. Oxford: The Clarendon Press, 1910.

Klein, Ernest. A Comprehensive Etymological Dictionary of the Hebrew Language for Readers of English. New York: Macmillan, 1987.

Koehler, Ludwig, and Walter Baumgartner. The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament. 4 vols. Revised by Walter Baumgartner and Johann Jacob Stamm. Translated and ed. By M. E. J. Richardson. New York: E. J. Brill, 1994-99.

Lambdin, Thomas O. Introduction to Biblical Hebrew. New York Charles Scribner's Sons, 1971.

(New) Englishman's Hebrew and Chaldee Concordance.

Nida, Eugene A., and Charles R. Taber. The Theory and Practice of Translation. Leiden: E. S. Brill, 1974.

Owens, John Joseph. Analytical Key to the Old Testament. 4 vols. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1989-93.

Pratico, Gary D. and Miles V. Van Pelt. Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Grammar. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.

Scott, William R. A Simplified Guide to BHS. 2d ed. Berkeley, CA: Bibal Press, 1990.

Seow, C. L. A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew. Revised. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1995.

Silva, Moises. Biblical Words and Their Meaning: An Introduction to Lexical Semantics. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1983.

Van Gemeren, Willem A., ed. New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis. 5 vols. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997

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Watts, John D. List of Words Occurring Frequently in the Hebrew Bible: Seminary Edition. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1960.

Williams, Ronald J. Hebrew Syntax: An Outline. 2d ed. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1976.

Williamson, H. G. M. Annotated Key to Lambdin's Introduction to Biblical Hebrew. JSOT Manuals 3. Sheffield, England: JSOT Press, 1989.

Yates, Kyle M. The Essentials of Biblical Hebrew. Rev. ed. Edited by John Joseph Owens. New York: Harper & Row, 1954.

SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Roger D. Cotton, Th.D., December, 2001