

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
**BHE 531 Hebrew IB**

Roger D. Cotton

Summer II, 2003

**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.

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

\_\_\_\_\_. Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Workbook. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.

**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 BBH**

1. Mon.	June 2	18
2. Tues.	June 3	18
3. Wed.	June 4	Take-Home Quiz 1 over 18 due
4. Thurs.	June 5	20, 21
5. Fri.	June 6	Take-Home Quiz 2 over 20 due
6. Mon.	June 9	Take-Home Quiz 3 over 21 due
7. Tues.	June 10	Take-Home Quiz 4 over 22 due
8. Wed.	June 11	Take-Home Quiz 5 over 23 due
9. Thurs.	June 12	Take-Home Quiz 6 over 14 due
10. Fri.	June 13	Take Home Quiz 7 over 16 due
11. Mon.	June 16	Take Home Quiz 8 over 25, 27, 29 due
12. Tues.	June 17	Take home Quiz 9 over 31, 33, 35 due
13. Wed.	June 18	Begin translation, exegesis study
14. Thurs.	June 19	Take Home MID-TERM EXAM due
15. Fri.	June 20	Sample passages
16. Mon.	June 22	Research Assignment 1 due
17. Tues.	June 24	Research Assignment 2 due
18. Wed.	June 25	Research Assignment 3 due
19. Thurs.	June 26	Sample passages
20. Fri.	June 27	Final Research Assignment due

### **METHODOLOGY**

Detailed coverage of the lessons in *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar* by Pratico and Van Pelt, from lesson 18 to the end with daily study of grammar and vocabulary checked orally and then by take-home quizzes and a take-home translation exam. The second half of the semester will consist of discussion of Hebrew exegesis and advanced syntax with four take-home translation and research assignments on selected passages from different genres of the Old Testament, with use of the major advanced Hebrew tools. The 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.

**BHE 531 Hebrew IB**

**Roger D. Cotton**

**Page 4**

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. (incomplete). 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 Workbook of the Old Testament. 2 vols. Chicago: Moody Press, 1980.

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

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

Hunter, A. Vanlier. Biblical Hebrew Workbook: An Inductive Study for Beginners. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1988.

Joüon, Paul. A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew. Roma : Editrice Pontificio Istituto Biblio, 1993.

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

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

**BHE 531 Hebrew IB**

**Roger D. Cotton**

**Page 5**

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

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. (5 vols.) Revised by Walter Baumgartner and Johann Jacob Stamm. Translated and ed. By M. E. J. Richardson. New York: E. J. Brill, 1994-00.

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

Long, Gary A. Grammatical Concepts 101 for Biblical Hebrew. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2002.

(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.

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.

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

Watts, J. Wash. A Survey of Syntax in the Hebrew Old Testament. Rev. ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1964.

**BHE 531 Hebrew IB**

**Roger D. Cotton**

**Page 6**

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., May, 2003