

Term Information

Effective Term Autumn 2015

General Information

Course Bulletin Listing/Subject Area Hebrew
Fiscal Unit/Academic Org Near Eastern Languages/Culture - D0554
College/Academic Group Arts and Sciences
Level/Career Graduate, Undergraduate
Course Number/Catalog 5100
Course Title Biblical Hebrew
Transcript Abbreviation Biblical Hebrew
Course Description Introduction of main elements of Biblical Hebrew grammar and syntax, for study of ancient and late antique Mediterranean religion and History, for students in Classics, History, NELC, etc.
Semester Credit Hours/Units Fixed: 3

Offering Information

Length Of Course 14 Week, 12 Week (May + Summer)
Flexibly Scheduled Course Never
Does any section of this course have a distance education component? No
Grading Basis Letter Grade
Repeatable No
Course Components Lecture
Grade Roster Component Lecture
Credit Available by Exam No
Admission Condition Course No
Off Campus Never
Campus of Offering Columbus

Prerequisites and Exclusions

Prerequisites/Corequisites permission of instructor
Exclusions

Cross-Listings

Cross-Listings

Subject/CIP Code

Subject/CIP Code 16.1102
Subsidy Level Doctoral Course
Intended Rank Junior, Senior, Masters, Doctoral

Requirement/Elective Designation

The course is an elective (for this or other units) or is a service course for other units

Course Details

Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes

- A moderate vocabulary of Biblical Hebrew words
- The ability to accurately translate Hebrew biblical prose
- The ability to parse the grammatical features of individual words
- A beginning ability to translate from English into Biblical Hebrew

Content Topic List

- Biblical Hebrew vocabulary
- Biblical Hebrew grammar
- Biblical Hebrew syntax

Attachments

- Hebrew 5100 Biblical Hebrew syllabus [DRAFT].docx

(Syllabus. Owner: Acome,Justin)

Comments

Workflow Information

Status	User(s)	Date/Time	Step
Submitted	Acome,Justin	01/16/2015 12:25 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Acome,Justin	01/16/2015 12:25 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Heysel,Garett Robert	01/22/2015 09:06 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Nolen,Dawn Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal Hanlin,Deborah Kay Jenkins,Mary Ellen Bigler Hogle,Danielle Nicole	01/22/2015 09:06 PM	ASCCAO Approval



**Hebrew 5194 Introduction to Biblical Hebrew
SYLLABUS**

TERM: Spring 2015

CREDIT HOURS: 3

LEVEL: [Undergraduate and/or
Graduate]

CLASS TIME: MW 12.45-2.05pm

LOCATION: [building & room]

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Lynn Kaye

OFFICE: Hagerty 631

OFFICE EMAIL: kaye.73@osu.edu

OFFICE PHONE: (614) 688-1552

OFFICE HOURS: MW 11am-12pm

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course introduces the main elements of Biblical Hebrew grammar and syntax. Hebrew is the primary language of the Old Testament. An ability to read Hebrew biblical texts unlocks the beauty and subtlety of Biblical poetry and prose. Command of Biblical Hebrew is advantageous for the study of religion and history in the ancient and late antique Mediterranean. The course assumes no prior experience with the Hebrew language but asks students to familiarize themselves with the Hebrew alphabet before the beginning of the course. By the end of the semester students will be familiar Biblical Hebrew, able to translate sentences and recognize grammatical features. Prerequisite: Graduate standing or permission of the instructor.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: At the successful completion of the course, students will demonstrate:

- A moderate vocabulary of Biblical Hebrew words
- The ability to accurately translate Hebrew biblical prose
- The ability to parse the grammatical features of individual words
- A beginning ability to translate from English into Biblical Hebrew

TEACHING METHOD: Class will be a combination of lecture, discussion, translation and oral grammatical exercises.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Both are available on Amazon, I also recommend looking for used copies. Prices provided are new from Amazon

- Thomas O. Lambdin, *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*, London: Scribner, 1998 (14th ed.) (\$40)
- H.G.M. Williamson, *Annotated Key to Lambdin's Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*, Sheffield: T&T Clark Biblical Languages/Sheffield Academic Press, 2002 (\$31-\$35)
 - You may share an *Annotated Key* with a fellow student

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

1) Dictionary of Biblical Hebrew such as:

- William L. Holladay, *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament: Based Upon the Lexical Work of Ludwig Koehler and Walter Baumgartner*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1972.
- Francis Brown, S. R. Driver and Charles A. Briggs, *The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon: With an Appendix Containing the Biblical Aramaic With an Appendix Containing the Biblical Aramaic*. Reprint, 1906. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1996

Both available on Amazon.com for around \$20 each.

2) A Critical Text of the Hebrew Bible

- Karl Elliger and Willhelm Rudolf, eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*, Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1998
- Online: <http://www.academic-bible.com/en/online-bibles/biblia-hebraica-stuttgartensia-bhs/read-the-bible-text/>

ASSIGNMENTS:

Reading

Complete assigned readings in advance of the date they are listed on the syllabus.

Written

There will be written assignments to be completed twice a week. These will be exercises supporting the previous lecture. Written exercises are due at the beginning of the *following* class. Exercises should be completed on your own and then you should consult the *Annotated*

Key and correct your mistakes in another color ink. *Note: There are some intentional wrong answer provided in the Annotated Key so be on the lookout for them, and write any questions about such possible wrong answers on your papers.* Hand in the corrected exercises to me.

This means that each day you will complete exercises practicing what we have discussed in class that day, as well as read chapters about new material that we will discuss in the following class.

Quizzes

There will be in-class vocabulary quizzes based on the assigned vocabulary in Lambdin's textbook. All vocabulary lists from each lesson assigned should be learned but only selected written exercises from each lesson are to be completed.

Oral

Students are expected to read Hebrew in class, complete oral exercises, translate and parse words during the course of each class.

Final Exam

~12 items/1 page Biblical Hebrew sentence diagramming; ~300 words/1 page translation English to Biblical Hebrew, ~1000 words/3 pages translation Biblical Hebrew to English

GRADING: Grading statement followed by breakdown:

Written assignments.....	20%
In-class reading, translating and parsing	20%
Quizzes.....	10%
Final Exam	50%
Total	100%

ATTENDANCE: Attendance of this course is mandatory. It is an accelerated language course, covering a year's worth of material in a semester. Repeated absence is likely to result in a student falling behind. More than two unexcused absences will result in the loss of a full-grade from the student's final grade. Students who are absent are responsible for catching up on class material and completing any in-class assignments.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term "academic misconduct" includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed; illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all

instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487). For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct (<http://studentlife.osu.edu/csc/>)

FOR YOUR SAFETY, the OSU Student Safety/Escort Service is available after 7 p.m. by dialing 292-3322.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Readings and exercises should be completed prior to class meeting

University calendar: <http://registrar.osu.edu/staff/bigcalsem.asp>

Week 1: Students must come to class having learned the Hebrew alphabet (xxii-xxiii)

Date Hebrew and Semitic Languages; Sounds and Spelling
Reading pp.xiii-xviii (Read over, we will return to parts of that section throughout the semester)

Date Lessons 1-3 The Noun (Gender and Plurals); Definite Article; Adjectives
Reading pp.3-16

Week 2:

Date Lessons 4-6 The Active Participle; The Object Marker; Prepositions
Reading pp.17-29

Date Lessons 7-9 Predication of Existence, Prepositions, Demonstrative Pronouns, The Perfect Verb
Reading: pp. 30-42

Week 3:

Date Lessons 10-12 Perfect Verbs with Guttural and Irregular Root Consonants
Reading: pp.43-54

Date Lessons 13-15 The Verb "To Be," Perfect of Common Hollow Verbs and Final Geminates
Reading: pp.55-66

Week 4:

Date Lesson 16-18 Construct Chain and Construct forms of Nouns
Reading: pp.67-81

Date Lessons 19-21 Independent Personal Pronoun, Interrogative Pronouns, Noun with Pronominal Suffixes, Stative Verbs
Reading: 82-98

Week 5:

Date Lessons 22-24 The Imperfect, Narrative Sequences
Reading: pp.99-112

Date Lessons 25-27 The Imperative, Jussive and Cohortative, Temporal Clauses
Reading: pp.113-126

Week 6:

Date Lessons 28-30 The Infinitive Construct, Irregular Initial-Letter Root verbs
Reading pp.127-142

Date Lessons 31-33 Final Heh, Hollow, Final Geminate Verbs in Multiple
Conjugations
Reading: pp.143-156

Week 7:

Date Lessons 34-36 Passive Participle, Infinitive Absolute, Numbers, *Waw*-
clauses, *Hinneh* ("Behold!")
Reading: pp.157-174

Date Lessons 37-39 Derived Verbs: Niphal
Reading: pp.175-192

Week 8:

Date Lessons 40-42 Piel and Pual Verbs
Reading: pp.193-210

Date Lessons 43-45 Hiphil Verbs and Higher Numbers
Reading: pp. 211-226

Week 9:

Date Lessons 46-49 Hiphil continued and Hophal Verbs
Reading: pp.227-247

Date Lessons 50-51 Hithpael Verb, Qal Passive, Other Less Common Verb Types
Reading: pp.248-259

Week 10:

Date Lessons 52-54 Perfect Verb with Object Suffixes
Reading: pp.260-275

Date Lesson 55 Conditional Sentences
Reading: pp.276-284

Week 11:

Date Challenges in Translating Biblical Hebrew Prose
Reading: BHS Genesis 1 (in Hebrew); Robert Alter, *The Five Books of Moses*,
Genesis 1, Everett Fox, "Robert Alter and the Art of Bible Translation"
Expositions: Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities 2:2 (2008) 231-238
Date Presentations and Discussion of Independent Translations of Genesis 2:1-14
No Reading

Week 12:

Date Translating Biblical Poetry 1
Reading: Benjamin Hrushovski, "Prosody, Hebrew," *Encyclopedia Judaica*, 13, col. 1200-1203

Date Translating Biblical Poetry 2
Reading: Exodus 15 (Translate at least 4 verses)

Week 13:

Date Translating Hebrew Wisdom Literature
Reading: Proverbs 7:4-23 and 31 (Translate at least 5 verses into English);
Optional: Robert Alter, *The Art of Biblical Poetry*, New York: Basic Books, 1987, 163-184

Date Composing Hebrew Wisdom Literature
Reading: Sirach (or Ecclesiasticus) chapters 25-26 (in English). Translate four verses into Hebrew.
Optional: James G. Williams, "Wisdom as a Way of Looking at the World" in Frank Kermode and Robert Alter, eds., *The Literary Guide to the Bible*, Belknap Press, 1990, pp. 263-267.

Week 14:

Date Biblical Prophecy 1 – Being Called
Reading: Isaiah 1 (Translate at least three verses)
Optional: Robert Alter, *The Art of Biblical Poetry*, New York: Basic Books, 1987, 137-162

Date Biblical Prophecy 2 – Prophet Intercessor
Reading: Jeremiah 18-1-23 (Translate at least four verses)
Optional: Yochanan Muffs, *Love and Joy: Law, Language and Religion in Ancient Israel*, New York: JTS/Harvard, 1995, 9-48

Week 15:

Date Biblical Prophecy 3 – Lament
Deuteronomy 32 (Translate at least three verses)
Optional: Harold Fisch, *Poetry with a Purpose*, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1988, 55-79

Date Biblical Prophecy 4 – Consolation
Reading: Isaiah 51:12-52:12 (Translate at least three verses)

Final Exam:

Date Details