

## 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 Introduction to Biblical Hebrew  
Transcript Abbreviation Intro Bib 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. Requires no previous study of Hebrew language but assumes moderate experience with studying another/non-native language.  
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 third-semester level [1103] in any other modern or classical language, or 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)*
- Hebrew BA curriculum map 2.11.15.docx: curriculum map  
*(Other Supporting Documentation. Owner: Acome,Justin)*
- Hebrew 5100 Biblical Hebrew syllabus [DRAFT] 2.11.15.docx: updated syllabus  
*(Syllabus. Owner: Acome,Justin)*

## Comments

- Sent back to Dept at their request. *(by Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal on 02/11/2015 01:15 PM)*

## 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
Revision Requested	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	02/09/2015 05:02 PM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Acome,Justin	02/11/2015 10:55 AM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Acome,Justin	02/11/2015 10:55 AM	Unit Approval
Approved	Heysel,Garett Robert	02/11/2015 11:19 AM	College Approval
Revision Requested	Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal	02/11/2015 01:15 PM	ASCCAO Approval
Submitted	Acome,Justin	02/11/2015 01:20 PM	Submitted for Approval
Approved	Acome,Justin	02/11/2015 01:20 PM	Unit Approval
Approved	Heysel,Garett Robert	03/20/2015 07:49 PM	College Approval
Pending Approval	Nolen,Dawn Vankeerbergen,Bernadette Chantal Hanlin,Deborah Kay Jenkins,Mary Ellen Bigler Hogle,Danielle Nicole	03/20/2015 07:49 PM	ASCCAO Approval



Hebrew 5100 *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*  
SYLLABUS

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**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 361

**OFFICE EMAIL:** kaye.73@osu.edu

**OFFICE PHONE:** (614) 688-1552

**OFFICE HOURS:** MW 11am-12pm

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**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/>.

**PRE-REQUISITES:** third-semester level [1103] in any other modern or classical language, or permission of the instructor

**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 expects students will have at least moderate experience with learning *some* other language, whether modern or classical, and 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.

**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 (14<sup>th</sup> 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 Wilhelm 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%
<u>Final Exam .....</u>	<u>50%</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

**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, <i>Waw</i> - clauses, <i>Hinneh</i> ("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, <i>The Five Books of Moses</i> , Genesis 1, Everett Fox, "Robert Alter and the Art of Bible Translation" <i>Expositions: Interdisciplinary Studies in the Humanities</i> 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



Hebrew Major Curriculum Map [updated 2/11/15]

Course:	Students Acquire Language Proficiency (Reading, Speaking, Writing).	Students Acquire Analytical Skills (Understanding of Grammatical Structures).	Students Acquire Appreciation of how Language is used in a Variety of Cultural Contexts, both Performative and Quotidian—Folk, Popular, Institutional.	Students Learn Literary Theory (Appreciation of Linguistic Subtleties and Aesthetic Possibilities in Various Genres of Literature Past and Present, Religious and Secular, Spoken or Read).
<b>Prerequisites</b>				
Hebrew 1101	Beg.	Beg.	Beg.	
Hebrew 1102	Beg.	Beg.	Beg.	
Hebrew 1103	Beg.	Beg.	Beg.	
Hebrew 2216: The Medieval Jewish Experience	Beg.	Beg.	Beg.	Beg.
Hebrew 2241: Culture of Contemporary Israel	Beg.	Beg.	Int.	Beg.
Hebrew 2245: Israeli Film and Society	Beg.	Beg.	Int.	Beg.
<b>Language Requirements</b>				
Hebrew 2105: Modern Hebrew Grammar, Conversation, and Composition	Beg/Int.	Beg/Int.	Beg./Int.	Beg.
Hebrew 4101: Review of Grammar and Composition	Int.	Adv.	Int.	Int.
Hebrew 4102: Hebrew and the Media	Int.	Int.	Int.	Int.
Hebrew 4601: Modern Hebrew Short Story	Adv.	Int.	Adv.	Adv.
Hebrew 4602 Modern Hebrew Poetry	Adv.	Int.	Adv.	Adv.

<b>Translated Hebrew Literature</b>				
Hebrew 2700: Biblical and Post-Biblical Hebrew Literature in Translation	Beg.	Beg.	Beg.	Beg.
Hebrew 2701: Medieval Hebrew Literature in Translation	Beg.	Beg.	Beg.	Beg.
Hebrew 2702: Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation	Beg.	Beg.	Beg.	Beg.
<b>Electives</b>				
NELC 4601: Israeli & Palestinian Literature	Beg.	Int.	Int.	Adv.
Adv.4605 Readings in the Mishnah	Adv.	Int.	Adv.	Adv.
<u>5100 Introduction to Biblical Hebrew</u>	<u>Int.</u>	<u>Int.</u>	<u>Int.</u>	<u>Int.</u>
5101: Biblical Hebrew Grammar	Int.	Adv.	Int.	Int.
Hebrew 5105: History of the Hebrew Language	Int.	Int.	Int.	Int.
Hebrew 5601: Introduction to Hebrew Literary and Cultural Texts	Adv.	Adv.	Adv.	Adv.
Hebrew 5602: The Bible as Literature: Selected Readings	Beg.	Int.	Int.	Int.
Hebrew 5603: Readings in Rabbinic Literature	Int.	Int.	Adv.	Adv.
Hebrew 5802: The Problem of Evil in Biblical and Post-Biblical Literature	Beg.	Adv.	Adv.	Int.
Hebrew 5806: Studies in Biblical Law	Beg.	Adv.	Adv.	Int.

**Independent Studies courses.**

Up to three credits, to be approved by the adviser, of independent studies (4998, 4998H, 5193), workshop (5192), or group studies (5194) may count toward the major. Thesis hours (4999, 4999H) do not count toward the major.

4998: Undergraduate Research	Adv.	Adv.	Adv.	Adv.
4998H: Undergraduate Honors Research	Adv.	Adv.	Adv.	Adv.
4999H: Undergraduate Thesis	Adv.	Adv.	Adv.	Adv.
4999H: Undergraduate Honors Thesis	Adv.	Adv.	Adv.	Adv.
5192: Workshop	Int.	Int.	Int.	Int.
5193: Individual Studies	Int.	Int.	Int.	Int.
5194: Group Studies	Int.	Int.	Int.	Int.