How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!
Through your precepts I gain understanding; therefore I hate every false way.
Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Ps 119:103-105

Course Instructor & Contact Information:

Dr. Catherine McDowell
email: cmcdowell@gordonconwell.edu
office: #213
☎(704) 527-9909 x5838 (email is the best way to reach Dr. McDowell)

OL 502 Class Meeting Times

Weekend I:
Fri Jan 30 from 6:20 pm – 9:30 pm (chapel 6:20 pm – 7:00 pm)
Sat Jan 31 from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (lunch from 12:00 pm – 1:15 pm)

Weekend II:
Fri Feb 27 from 6:20 pm – 9:30 pm (chapel 6:20 pm – 7:00 pm)
Sat Feb 28 from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (lunch from 12:00 pm – 1:15 pm)

Weekend III:
Fri Mar 27 from 6:20 pm – 9:30 pm (chapel 6:20 pm – 7:00 pm)
Sat Mar 28 from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm (lunch from 12:00 pm – 1:15 pm)

*Note that although we meet in person on three weekends during the semester, weekly work online is required. Be sure you have a reliable computer and a good internet connection. If you have any trouble accessing your gordonconwell.edu email or Sakai contact IT right away at helpdesk-cha@gordonconwell.edu. Be sure to check your gcts email at least 2-3 a week during the semester.
Optional Breakfast Fellowship on Sat Jan 31, Feb 28, Mar 28 @ Cracker Barrel 295 Carowinds Blvd, Fort Mill @ 7:30 – 8:30 am

Optional Lunch Fellowship on Sat Jan 31, Feb 28, Mar 28 @ Just Fresh 14136 Rivergate Pkwy #400

Course Description

At Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary we are committed “to encourage students to become knowledgeable in God’s inerrant Word and competent in its interpretation, proclamation and application in the contemporary world.” (Gordon Conwell-Charlotte Missions Statement, Article 1). Further, “Because the teaching of God’s Word is indispensable to the well-being and vitality of God’s people, the seminary has a fundamental responsibility to encourage in students a love for Scripture. It is to teach exegetical skills by which they will be enabled to interpret the Word and inculcate understanding by which they will be able to apply it effectively.” (Gordon Conwell-Charlotte Missions Statement, Article 1). Our first step in accomplishing the tasks of exegeting, interpreting, proclaiming, and living out the gospel in the Old Testament is to learn biblical Hebrew.

This course employs the “flipped classroom” approach, as described in this one minute video (please watch): http://vimeo.com/70893101. The core content is introduced through online videos while classroom time is spent on exercises, improving comprehension and translation skills, and interacting with classmates and the professor in activities. OL 502 builds on OL 501, with an emphasis on Hebrew verbs, grammar, syntax, and translation.

Course Objectives and Expected Outcomes

The student who successfully completes this course will

✓ be able to identify, analyze, and translate Hebrew nouns, pronouns, adjectives, prepositions, and the strong and weak forms of the seven major verbal stems.
✓ learn all Hebrew words that occur in the OT 70x more
✓ continue to gain proficiency in translation from Hebrew to English.
✓ continue to gain proficiency in the reading and pronunciation of Biblical Hebrew.

Course Textbooks and Other Materials

Required:
(published by Brill).
4. a scanner (see the syllabus in Sakai for OL 501 CA Fall 2014 or email Dr. McDowell to request a copy of that syllabus)
5. a reliable computer and a good internet connection

*PDFs of additional reading posted in Sakai under “Resources”

**Recommended:** (for more information on each of these resources go to zondervan.com)

**Weekly Work**

Each week there are several tasks to do – reading, studying, listening, viewing, writing, and taking a short quiz. A language is not something you can learn on weekends only, so I have divided the various tasks up into smaller units and spread them out during the week to help you manage the work and retain what you are learning. The weekly schedule for the duration of the course, from Jan 19 – May 9, is listed below and in the course calendar under the “Schedule” tab. To maximize your learning, please do the assignments in the order in which they are listed. You may, however, choose to move all of the assignments a day or two earlier, which gives you flexibility in terms of getting the work done and having some time off from Hebrew each week. Please plan accordingly and work ahead if you are making trips during the semester rather than asking for extensions. Extensions are reserved for emergencies, illness, etc. We will be working at a steady clip for 16 weeks, but note that all work, including the final exam, will be completed by May 9 so that you can have a break before the summer term begins.

**Homework**

To turn in your workbook exercises from BBHW (after you have checked your answers against the answer key and corrected any mistakes) scan it as a PDF doc (it must be one PDF for each homework assignment, not one PDF per page in the workbook) and upload it into Sakai before the deadline. This means you will need access to a scanner (see the information on scanners in the syllabus in Sakai for OL 501 CA Fall 2014).

**RSVP (Reading, Studying, Viewing, & Practice) log**

Each week (typically on Thursday evenings but for the weeks we have class the due date for the RSVP log is Friday at 6 pm) you will submit an honest and accurate percentage of the required reading, viewing, and practice work you have completed by the deadline. Do not include your BBHW homework in this log.

For “Vocabulary building” you can use memrise, the BBH vocabulary app, and/or hard copy flashcards.
Choose the method that works best for you.

**Course Requirements and Grading**

Homework – one point will be deducted from your final course grade for homework assignments in BBHW that are 1. turned in but not corrected and/or 2. not turned in.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RSVP log</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test #1</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test #2</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test #3</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Participation* during the weekend class is required and is designed to reinforce concepts learned outside of class. Lack of participation will result in a grade penalty. Class attendance is required. Please arrive on time and turn off all cell phones, pagers, etc. Please do not use the internet during class unless instructed to do so by the professor. You may check voicemail, email, social media sites, etc. during the regularly scheduled break times.

**Grading Scale**

- **A** 95-100
- **A-** 92-94
- **B+** 89-91
- **B** 86-88
- **B-** 83-85
- **C+** 80-82
- **C** 77-79
- **C-** 74-76
- **D** 70-73
- **F** 69 and below

**Course Administration**

Due Dates and Late work: All due dates are listed on the full syllabus in Sakai and in the course calendar in Sakai under “Schedule”. Please make yourself aware of them. Late work is not accepted except in the case of illness or emergency. If you have been ill, or if someone in your care (ie spouse, child, parent) has been ill to the point that it has taken a serious toll on your study time, you’ve had a death in the family, or are facing an emergency, and you need an extension, then please ask for one. I am very understanding when there are legitimate reasons for an extension. If you are unsure if your situation warrants an extension, by all means ask me. If, however, you are not experiencing one of the situations described above please do not ask for an extension. The following are not reasons for an extension: forgetting or confusing due dates, leaving your assignments at home, missions trips, attending a conference, vacation, weddings, etc. If you need an official course extension contact the registration office.

Please do not be bashful about asking for help. Contact me via email and we can set up a
Due dates and other important information are highlighted in **yellow**. Quizzes and Tests are highlighted in **green**.

**Tips for Success**

1. Clear your schedule as much as possible. Do not ignore the LORD, your family & friends, nor your job, but this is *not* the time to volunteer for anything extra. Guard your study time!
2. Be well organized. Read through the entire syllabus, making sure you are aware of all due dates.
3. Generally avoid “marathon studying” and instead work diligently throughout the semester for shorter periods of time (1½ - 2 hour study sessions 5-6x a week is far more effective than 10 hrs on a Saturday). “Slow and steady wins the race.”
4. Plan to spend at least 10-12 hours per week (not including class time) on Hebrew.
5. Find a study and support partner in the class. If you don’t live near each other, use Skype, Facetime, Google hangout, Lync, etc. Ask friends and family to pray regularly for your study of Hebrew.
6. Take a 24 hr break from Hebrew each week to be with the people you love and to do something fun together.

*The detailed weekly schedule will be available on Jan 1 under “OL 502 CA > Syllabus” in Sakai.*