I. Course Description and Objectives

1. This course is a continuation of OL 501. The goal of this semester is to cover the rest of the grammar in a pace that will facilitate adequate exposure to the Hebrew Bible by the end of the year. Our goal is sustained time READING whole chapters of Biblical Hebrew. We will READ two (maybe three!) chapters of Hebrew narrative before semester’s end. In general, more exposure to the text will give you a feel for the flow of Biblical Hebrew as we deal with grammatical issues inductively. More specifically, time in the text will also help prepare you for future exegesis courses.

2. Acquisition of vocabulary and pronunciation will still be emphasized in class as we review homework. Should you come to this challenge with due diligence the results will be rewarding! You will be able to READ your Hebrew Bible with the aid of a dictionary (lexicon). You can also access the website for extra help (basicsofbiblicalhebrew.com). This is highly recommended.

3. Creative and helpful mnemonics are offered so that the student might readily retain aspects of Hebrew grammar.

II. Required Textbooks


III. Approved Study Helps (based on our textbook)

The first item is by Miles Van Pelt, one of the authors of our textbook. He has a video series to accompany the textbook, *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Video Lectures: A Complete Course for the Beginner*. The second item is a website developed by John Beckman, a former GCTS student. Visit www.hebrewsyntax.org/bbh2 (user name and password both bbh2) for additional online help. The third item is the current Semlink materials developed by Gary Pratico, *Biblical Hebrew* Semlink CD-ROM ($20). Order from Semlink office. Semlink.office@gcts.edu or 1-877-736-5465 toll free.

IV. Course Requirements

1. **Weekly quizzes (45%)**. Quizzes will be offered weekly. On occasion there will be a week or two where you will have two quizzes in a given week. The library staff possesses the necessary documents. When you give them your name and associate yourself with my section of Hebrew (for better or worse!), they will bless you with the expected quiz! Upon completion you will return it to the librarian. I will then collect and grade the quizzes in a timely fashion. Please note these are not take home quizzes.

   Should you miss a quiz you will be required to write a make-up but at the END of the semester. One make-up quiz will be given at the end of each term just prior to the final exam. Rather than covering small sound bites of material, the make-up quiz will entail more. It is to your advantage not to miss the quiz. No exceptions. This includes sickness or adverse weather.

2. **Final examination (45%)**. This will be a three-hour exam written during exam week in April/May. **ATTENTION**: in order to pass Hebrew II and continue with an exegesis class you must earn a grade of C- (70% or higher) in the class. Please keep this in mind as you configure your course load for the semester.

3. **In-class recitations**: Each student will be called upon to interact with homework assignments previously prepared. Accountability on a weekly basis with assignments is the foundation for a long-term mastery of the language. For this reason your homework and in-class responses will be noted with a basic grading system of a check mark, check plus, or a minus. Failure to do all the homework will award you an automatic minus. If you receive three or more of these little marks consequences will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Therefore, PLEASE come to class prepared. If you are not prepared, however, **DO NOT STAY HOME**! It is far better to come to class unprepared so that you can benefit from hearing in-class discussions (auditory learning).
4. **Required Reading:** *Exegetical Insights through Chapters 23- 35 (10%).* There is a “Table of Insights” (p. xii) that will convince you to stay the course with the language! Read these weekly as part of your devotions. I will give you a reading accountability sheet at the end of the course.

5. **Regular class attendance is required.** I will keep a record of your attendance. Should you fail to attend class regularly your grade will reflect this choice.

6. **Arriving on time.** I tend to give devotions and instructions regarding quizzes and assignments at the beginning of class times. It is to your benefit to be present for these matters when we first meet. My commitment to you is as follows: I will begin classes precisely as scheduled, with or without you! And I will never keep you beyond 11:00 a.m. so as not to be late for our exciting chapel services!

- A Suggestion: Perhaps you might want to form study groups. If anyone would like the assistance of a personal tutor, upon request, I will supply you with names and contact information.

---

**Assignment Expectations**

**Basics of Biblical Hebrew Workbook**

**Assignment Mechanics:**

- Read each chapter's summary **FIRST**

- Review any class notes or handouts posted on Sakai **SECOND**. At present there is no *HHH* document for Hebrew II.

- Read the entire chapter in the grammar **THIRD**

- **FOURTH.** IF necessary, desired, or as time permits, listen to Sakai lectures/sound bites on a given chapter.

- Do workbook exercises **LAST.** Remember that the exercises in the workbook include new vocabulary from the chapter. In an ideal world it is best to get mastery over the vocabulary before beginning the exercises. However, if this is not possible you will have to apply the hunt and search method in order to
complete your exercises. If you have to resort to the latter method (memorizing vocab after doing the exercises) at least be certain you comprehend the chapter’s grammar.

- In summation you are required to complete the workbook exercises, get comfortable with the chapter’s main grammatical content, and memorize the vocabulary of each chapter BEFORE we meet.

Please note the important order outlined above for the mechanics of working through each week’s assignments. You will find your groove in the course of the semester. However, please try to follow my suggestions as closely as possible in order to get the most out of this course.

The CD-ROM accompanying the textbook gives answers to all workbook exercises. Visit www.hebrewsyntax.org/bbh2 (user name and password both bbh2), a website developed by Dr. John Beckman, for additional online help. With these resources your language learning will be reinforced utilizing several learning strategies.

**Assigned Vocabulary:**

- Vocabulary is from Hebrew to English except for the reproduction of lexical forms in Hebrew. Keeping up with the vocabulary on a weekly basis is crucial. All the formal vocabulary sections in each chapter of BBH are required on the day and date that the chapter’s grammar content and exercises are due. **NOTE:** When we move to translating biblical texts we will no longer use the formal vocabulary sections of the grammar, instead, the text will be the source of obtaining new vocabulary.

- Review old words first, make flashcards for new words (or use pre-made vocab cards – not the best option, however) commence memorization of new words for the chapter(s). Review the whole batch and start process all over again. Flashworks and other on-line vocabulary aides are readily available and recommended.

- **Daily NOT** weekly review is the key to long-term mastery of vocabulary. Small sound bites work best rather than massive review sessions. The latter is appropriate but only after establishing a daily routine.

- Write and recite for great delight! Let this be your motto for Hebrew vocabulary. In terms of writing, I am convinced that pre-made vocab cards short circuit the learning process because the tactile side of learning is
neglected. In terms of reciting vocab words, both auditory and visual learning is taking place. Three of the five senses are, therefore, utilized! Indeed, you should write and recite for great delight!

**Assignment Basics:**

- Transliteration **NOT** required **regardless** of what the textbook says.
- Advanced Information sections **NOT** required unless otherwise noted. Please look for instructions on this weekly.
**Happy New Year** vocabulary Quiz (chapters 3-22)! To be written in library, as usual, before our first class on Wed., Jan 29. th

** Practice paradigms for your second quiz of the new year!**

Week One

*Wednesday, Jan 29*
Introduction to Hebrew II
Chapter 23
Exercises in 23: (Bible translations 1-10).
**Quiz**: vocabulary: chapters 3-22 (To be written in library before class)!
Lecture: No new materials/Qal review

*Friday, Jan 31*
Exercises in 23: (Bible translations 11-17). No new materials/Qal review
Use of lexicon: demonstration
**Quiz**: All Qal material + vocab chapters 1-23 (anytime after Friday’s class but before Wed’s class)

Week Two

*Wednesday, Feb 5*
Lecture: Chapter 24 (Niphal strong)

*Friday, Feb 7*
Chapter 24 (Niphal Strong/Sections 24.1-24.16)
Exercises in 24: Parsing 1-20 (pp. 191-192); trans. 1-12 (pp. 193-194); Bible Trans. 8, 10 (p. 195)
Lecture: Chapter 25 (Niphal weak)

Week three

*Wednesday, Feb 12*
Chapter 25 (Niphal Weak/Sections 25.1-25.14)
Exercises in 25a: Parsing 1-13 (pp. 197-198); trans. 1-4, 8-13 (pp. 198-199)
Bible trans. 1, 3, 14 (pp. 200-203)
Exercises in 25b: Parsing 1-10 (pp. 205-206)
Lecture: Chapter 26 (Piel strong)
**Quiz:** Qal - Niphal Diagnostics (strong and weak), vocab through 25 & trans (after Wed’s class but BEFORE Friday’s class).

*Friday, Feb 14*
Chapter 26 (Piel Strong/Sections 26.1-26.14)
Exercises in 26: Parsing 1-20 (pp. 211-212); trans. 6-15 (p. 213); Bible trans. 9, 12, 13 (p. 216).
Lecture: Chapter 27 (Piel weak)
**Quiz:** Vocabulary (3-26), trans. All diagnostics to date (after Friday’s class but by WED, FEB. 19th in library)

**READING WEEK (February 17-21)**
Quiz
Chapter 27

**Week Four**
*Wednesday, Feb. 26*
Chapter 27 (Piel Weak/Sections 27.1-27.13)
Exercises in 27a: Parsing 9-25 (pp. 217-218); Bible trans. 5 (p. 219)
Exercises in 27b: Parsing 1-20 (pp. 221-222); Bible trans. 3, 4, 5 (p. 223)
Lecture: Chapters 28 & 29 (Pual weak and strong)
**Quiz:** Qal – Piel Diagnostics (strong and weak) vocab through 27 & trans (after Wed’s class but BEFORE Friday’s class).

*Friday, Feb. 28*
Chapter 28 (Pual Strong/Sections 28.1-28.10)
Exercises in 28: Parsing 1-15 (pp. 227-228); trans. 1-4 (p. 228)
Chapter 29 (Pual Weak/Sections 29.1-29.11)
Exercises in 29a: Parsing 1-20 (pp. 231-232); Bible trans. 1, 2, 3
Exercises in 29b: Parsing 1-12 (pp. 235-237); Bible trans. 1
Lecture: Chapters 30 & 31 (Hiphil strong and weak)

**Week Five**
*Wednesday, Mar 5*
Exercises in 30: Parsing 1-23 (pp. 239-240); trans. 1-10 (pp. 241-242); Bible trans. 3, 8 (pp. 243-244)
Exercises in 31: Parsing 1-17 (p. 248); Bible trans. 1, 6, 11, 12 (pp. 251-252)
Lecture: Chapters 32 & 33 (Hophal strong and weak)
**Quiz:** Qal – Hiphil Diagnostics (strong and weak), vocab through chapter 31, trans (after Wed’s class but BEFORE Friday’s class).
Friday, Mar 7
Exercises in 32: Parsing 1-18 (pp. 255-256); Bible trans. 1 p. 257
Lecture: Chapters 34 & 35 (Hithpael strong and weak)

Week Six

Wednesday, Mar 12
Exercises in 34: Parsing 1-15 (pp.267-268); Bible trans. 3 on p. 269
Exercises in 35: Parsing 1-15 (pp.273-274)
Derived stem summary
Quiz: Qal – Hithpael diagnostics strong and weak, vocab through 35 & trans (after Wed’s class but BEFORE Friday’s class).

Friday, Mar 14
Introduction to Hebrew Bible
How to read Genesis

Week Seven
READING WEEK (Mar 17-21)
Translating Genesis 22

Week Eight

Wednesday, Mar 26
Parsing and Reading Genesis 22:1-14

Friday, Mar 28
Parsing and Reading Genesis 22:15-24
Quiz: Genesis 22 & Diagnostics (after Friday’s class but BEFORE Wed’s class).

Week Nine
Wednesday, April 2
How to read Samuel
Parsing and reading II Samuel

Friday, Apr 4
Parsing and reading II Samuel 11:1-9
Week Ten
*Wednesday, Apr 9*
Parsing and reading II Samuel 11:10-15
**Quiz:** II Samuel 11:1-15 & Diagnostics (after Wed’s class but BEFORE Friday’s class).

*Friday, Apr 11*
Parsing and reading II Samuel 11:16-21

Week Eleven
*Wednesday, Apr 16*
Parsing and reading II Samuel 11:22-27
**Quiz:** final diagnostic quiz, II Sam 11:16-27 (after Wed’s quiz but BEFORE Wed’s class).

*Friday, Apr 18 (Good Friday NO CLASS)*

Week Twelve

*Wednesday, Apr 23*
Review

*Friday, Apr 25*
Review

Week Thirteen

Final Exam Period: April 30-May 2