Syllabus for Hebrew I (OL 501)
Fall 2009
T/Th 6:30-8:00 pm
Prof. Cathy Beckerleg
cbeckerleg@fas.harvard.edu
(978) 494-2065

The instruction of Yahweh is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of Yahweh is sure, making wise the simple. Ps 19:8

Course (OL 501 and OL 502) Objectives
• to equip students with a knowledge of basic Biblical Hebrew grammar and vocabulary
• to convince students that knowing and using Biblical Hebrew is essential to effective preaching and teaching of the Old Testament

Required Course Materials
• G. Pratico and M. Van Pelt, Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Workbook
• M. Van Pelt and G. Pratico, Biblical Hebrew Survival Kit (includes summary sheets, vocabulary cards, and Basics of Biblical Hebrew Audio CD)

Hebrew Help
• Teaching Assistants: Andrew Walton (awalton@gcts.edu), Michael Bellofatto (bellofatto@gmail.com) and Zach Gibson (zakkmccormick@gmail.com)
• http://www.hebrewsyntax.org/bbh2.html (username and password bbh2, developed by GCTS graduate John Beckman for additional online help)
• FlashWorks (software vocabulary program, FREE at www.basicsofbiblicalhebrew.com)

Hebrew Bible online:
http://www.tanach.us/Tanach.xml#Home

Course Requirements
• Class attendance is required. I realize there may an occasion where the student misses a class but this should be rare.
• Please be on time. Class will begin promptly at 6:30 pm and end at 8:00 pm.
• Please TURN OFF or silence (no “vibrate mode”) all cell phones, pagers, etc. If you would like for friends or family to be able to reach you in class in case of an emergency, have them call campus police, who will deliver the message to our classroom.
• Do all of the assigned homework thoughtfully and carefully. As a general rule expect to spend at least 10 hrs per week on Hebrew. Come to class prepared. You are expected to participate and will be called on regularly.
Assignments, Quiz and Exam Schedule

• 8 Quizzes: 60%

There will be eight quizzes during the semester plus one final make-up quiz. The make-up quiz is for those who missed a quiz during the regular semester and for anyone who would like to improve their quiz average (the make-up quiz grade will replace your lowest quiz grade from the semester, but only if it will improve your quiz average). **Only one make-up quiz will be given. Please do not ask for any exceptions to this quiz policy.**

• Midterm Exam: 20%
• Final Exam: 20%

BBH, Chpts. 1–9 on October 27
Chpts. 1–17, date and time TBA

Grading Scale

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<th>Grade</th>
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<td>A</td>
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<td>below 60*</td>
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**PLEASE NOTE:** In order to pass Hebrew 501 (and 502) you must earn a grade of C- (70%) or above on each of the final exams. A score lower than 70% on the final exam in Hebrew 501 will result in failure of the course and will prevent you from registering for Hebrew 502. A score lower than 70% on the final exam in Hebrew 502 will result in failure of the course.
Hebrew I (501) Daily Assignments
GCTS Fall 2009
T/Th 6:30–8:00 pm
Prof. Cathy Beckerleg
cbeck@fas.harvard.edu

BBHG = Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar
BBHW = Basics of Biblical Hebrew Workbook
HW = Homework

Sept 15(T) Welcome to Biblical Hebrew!
BBHG 1: the Hebrew “aleph-bet”

Handouts: Hebrew alphabet charts, How to Write the Hebrew Alphabet
HW:
- Memorize aleph-kaf (first 11 letters) and be able to write them in order from memory
- Listen to alphabet on BBH audio CD

Sept 17(Th) BBHG, 1.1–1.10 (Alphabet, cont.) and BBHG 2 (Hebrew Vowels)

HW:
- BBHG read p. 6, #1.11
- BBHW p. 1–4 (all), memorize all of Hebrew alphabet and be able to write and recite it in order from memory
- Listen to alphabet on BBH audio CD

Sept 22(T) BBHG 2.1–2.12 (Hebrew vowels, cont.) and BBHG 3 (Syllabification)

HW:
- BBHG read p. 16, #2.15
- BBHW p. 7–8 (do only #1–15 of 3rd exercise on bottom of p. 8–top of p. 9)
- Memorize vowels (their name, value, how to write them)
- Listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 2

Sept 24 (Th) QUIZ #1: on consonant and vowel identification; identification of dagesh (lene and forte) and Shewa (silent and vocal); beginning syllabification

BBHG 3.1–3.14 (Syllabification, Pronunciation); BBHG 4 (Hebrew nouns)

HW:
- BBHG read p. 25–26 #3.13
- BBHW p. 11–13 (all)
- Listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 3

Sept 29 (T) BBHG 4.1–4.10, 12 (Hebrew nouns, cont.), BBHG 5 (Definite Article)

HW:
- BBHG read p. 36–38, #4.11
- BBHW all exercises including the advanced exercises (except #s 15, 17 in Advanced Exercise, Part 1)
- Listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 4
Oct 1 (Th) **QUIZ #2**: syllabification; identification of dagesh and shewa; vocabulary of BBHG Chpts. 3–4.

**BBHG 5.1–5.9, 11 (Definite Article), BBHG 6 (Prepositions)**

**HW:**
- BBHG read p. 47–48, #5.10
- BBHW p. 21–23 (all)
- listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 5

Oct 6 (T) **BBHG 6.1 – 6.11 (Prepositions), BBHG 7 (Adjectives)**

**HW:**
- BBHG read p. 57–58, #6.10
- BBHW p. 25–28 (all except composition exercise)
- listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 6

Oct 8 (Th) **QUIZ #3**: noun pluralization, prepositions and vocabulary BBHG Chpts. 3–6

**BBHG 7.1–7.10 (Adjectives), BBHG 8 (Pronouns)**

**HW:**
- BBHG read p. 66–67, #7.9
- BBHW 7: parsing (1–20); translation (1–15); Inflecting (1–3, 7–9); Bible translations 1–8
- listen to BBH audio CD Lessons 7–8

Oct 13 (T) Reading Week-no class. Review BBHG and BBHW Chpts 1–8, prepare for QUIZ #4.

Oct 15 (Th) Reading Week-no class. Review BBHG and BBHW Chpts 1–8, prepare for QUIZ #4.

Oct 20 (T) **QUIZ #4**: noun pluralization and inflection, use and translation of adjectives, vocabulary BBHG Chpts. 3–8

**BBHG 8.1–8.12 (pronouns), BBHG 9 (prepositions)**

**HW:**
- BBHG read p. 78–79, #8.13
- BBHW 8: translation. Part 1, #s 5–10, Part 2, #s 1–10; Part 3, #s 1–5; Bible translations 1–7
- listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 9

Oct 22 (Th) **BBHG 9.1 – 9.19 (pronominal suffixes), BBHG 10 (construct chain)**

**HW:**
- BBHG read p. 91–92, #9.18
- BBHW 9, Part 1 (1–15); Part 2 (evens only); Part 3 (evens only); Bible translations (3, 5)

Oct 27 (T) **MIDTERM EXAM** on Chpts 1–9:
syllabification
identification of dagesh and shewa
noun pluralization
translation of prepositions
inflection and use of adjectives
suffixes on nouns, prepositions and the object marker
independent personal pronouns
demonstrative adjectives and pronouns
vocabulary Chpts 3-9
brief questions based on assigned readings
handwriting

Oct 29 (Th) BBHG 10.1–10.7 (construct chain), 11 (numbers), 12 (verbs)

HW:
• BBHG read p.105 – 111, #10.8 and p. 119–121, #11.9
• BBHW 10: translation (1–25), Bible translations (1–12), construct nouns, Part 1 (evens)
• listen to BBH audio CD Lessons 10–11

Nov 3 (T) QUIZ #5: forming construct nouns and translating construct chains; vocabulary BBHG Chpts. 3–10

BBHG: 12.1–12.18; 13 (Qal Perfect strong verb)

HW:
• BBHG read p. 135 – 137, #12.19
• BBHW: translation (1 – 12) and 12b (read p. 63–66)
• listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 12

Nov 5 (Th) BBHG: 13.1–13.15 (Qal Perfect strong verb); 14 (Qal Perfect weak verbs)

HW:
• BBHG read p.149–150, #13.16
• BBHW 13: parsing (1–10); translation (1–10); Bible translations (1–2, 4, 6); Inflecting (1–10)
• listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 13

Nov 10 (T) Reading Week-no class. Review BBHG & BBHW 1–13, prepare for QUIZ #6.

Nov 12(Th) Reading Week-no class. Review BBHG & BBHW 1–13, prepare for QUIZ #6.

Nov 17 (T) QUIZ #6: reproduce the Qal Perfect strong verb paradigm, vocabulary BBH Chpts. 3–13

BBHG 14.1–14.16 (Qal Perfect weak verbs); 15 (Qal Imperfect strong verb)

HW:
• BBHG read p. 162–163, #14.17
• BBHW 14a: parsing (1 – 20); translation (odds only); Bible translations 1, 3, 4; 14b: parsing (1 – 15); Bible translations (1, 4)
• listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 14

Nov 19 (Th) NO CLASS (Prof. Beckerleg out of town). Prepare for Quiz #7.
Nov 24 (T) **QUIZ #7**: inflecting, identifying and translating Qal Perfect verbs (strong and weak), vocabulary BBHG Chpts. 3–14.

**BBHG 15.1–15.11 (Imperfect Strong verbs); 16 (Qal Imperfect weak verbs)**

**HW:**
- BBHG read p. 173–175, #15.12
- BBHW 15: parsing (1–15); translation (odds only); Bible translations (1–3, 9); inflecting (1–15)
- listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 15

Nov 26 (Th) Thanksgiving holiday-no class.

Dec 1 (T) **BBHG 16.1–16.11 (Imperfect weak verbs); 16 (Qal Imperfect weak verbs, cont.)**

**HW:**
- BBHG read p. 192–193, #16.25
- BBHW: 16a: parsing (1–10); translation (1–10); Bible translations (8–10); 16b: parsing (1–10); Translation (1–5); Bible translations (7, 10)
- listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 16

Dec 3 **BBHG 16.12–16.24 (Qal Imperfect weak verbs); BBHG 17 (waw consecutive)**

**HW:**
- BBHW: 16c: parsing (1–15); Bible translations (1, 3. 4); 16d: Bible translations (2, 5); 16e: Bible translations (1–3); 16f: parsing (1–14)
- listen to BBH audio CD Lesson 17

Dec 8 **QUIZ #8**: inflecting, identifying and translating Qal Perfect verbs (strong and weak) and Imperfect verbs (strong and weak); vocabulary BBHG Chpts. 3–16

**BBHG 17.1 – 17.10**

**HW:**
- BBHG read p. 206–207, #17.11
- BBHW: parsing (p.125. #s 1 – 10), Bible translations (p.126 – 128, #s 1 – 3, 10, 11, 13); parsing (p. 130, #s 1 – 10); Bible translations (p. 131 – 132, #s 2, 3)

Dec 10 Review session BBHG 1–17 and/or Catch-up day

The **FINAL EXAM** will be scheduled during the regular exam week. See exam schedule for time and location.