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 (chapters 18-35) 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 (Genesis 22; 2 Sam 11). 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).

3. Creative and helpful mnemonics are offered so that the student might readily retain aspects of Hebrew grammar. You can also access the website for extra help (basicsofbiblicalhebrew.com). This is highly recommended, as are other websites. Please ask.

II. Required Textbooks


4. Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia (BHS) This is optional and can be purchased when the student takes a 600-level exegesis course.

III. Course Dates

**Weekend One:**
Class: Fri./Sat., January 16-17

**Weekend Two**
Class: Fri/Sat, February 6-7
Weekend Three
Class: Fri./Sat., March 6-7

Weekend Four
Class: Fri./Sat., April 10-11th

IV. Grading & Course Requirements

1. Weekly Quizzes (a total of 10)

All quizzes will be proctored. All quizzes should be taken no later than midnight on the due
date given unless otherwise noted.
General quiz content is indicated in brackets on the schedule below.
All quizzes are cumulative regardless of the general content highlighted in brackets.
Weekend one and two will have a Saturday quiz/test.
Ten quizzes are given. An average will be taken. You may drop the lowest quiz score
Total score = 1/3 of final grade

2. Tests (a total of 2)

All tests will be proctored unless otherwise noted.
All tests should be taken no later than midnight on the due date given unless otherwise
noted.
General cumulative test content is indicated in brackets on the schedule below.
Two term tests are given. An average will be taken
Total score = 1/3 of final grade

3. A Final exam

The final exam = 1/3 of final grade
This will be proctored.
A review sheet will be provided.
This will be a three-hour exam written during exam week in April.

ATTENTION: in order to pass Hebrew II 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.

4. Required readings

There is a “Table of Insights” (p.xii) that will convince you to stay the course with the
language! Please the insights for the remaining chapters in the grammar. Read these as
part of your devotions during the semester. I will give you a reading accountability sheet at
the end of the course. Extra credit possible!

5. Class attendance and participation

For each weekend session attendance is REQUIRED. Due to the nature of the class
absences will not be excused and a grade penalty will prevail (some exceptions).

Participation is crucial to language learning. Students will be called upon to interact with
homework assignments previously prepared when we meet. Accountability with
assignments through participation is the foundation for a long-term mastery of the language. For this reason your in-class responses will be noted with a basic grading system of a check mark, check plus, or a minus. Failure to do homework assignments will award you an automatic minus. If you receive two 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 the classroom dynamic.

**Assignment Expectations**

**Assignment Mechanics:**

- Read each chapter’s summary **FIRST**
- Read my introductory comments handout (Hebrew Helps Handout on Sakai) **SECOND.** The latter document outlines the irreducible minimum elements in the chapter that you must master. It puts a zoom lens on where you should spend most of your time and energy relative to that chapter’s material. Too often students spin their wheels wondering what is most important in a given chapter and lose valuable time trying to figure it all out. While it is true that all of it is important, the document I created alleviates this guesswork and allows you to focus and be efficient in language learning.
- 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.

Keep in mind that each chapter has a corresponding lecture/sound bite on Sakai featuring Dr. Petter. Likewise, each chapter has a corresponding lecture on SemLink featuring Dr. Pratico. The CD-ROM accompanying the textbook gives answers to all workbook exercises. With these resources your language learning will be reinforced utilizing several learning strategies.

Please also 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.

*Please note that on select chapters a video class may be required at the discretion of the professor. TBA

**Assigned Vocabulary:**

- Vocabulary is mainly from Hebrew to English. English to Hebrew is required for lexical forms of verbs or items otherwise noted by the professor. Full expectations for each chapter’s vocabulary are given on the accompanying Hebrew Helps Handout (HHH). 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 weekend/date that the chapter’s grammar content and exercises are due.

However, when we commence translating the biblical text, we will abandon the formal vocabulary sections in the grammar and derive new vocabulary from the texts we are translating.

- 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 for pronunciation purposes.

- **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.

**Spring Assignment Schedule: See separate document**