

Introduction to Biblical Hebrew 2
Austin Graduate School of Theology
HEB 6311—Course Syllabus
Spring 2020

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Office Hours: Mon. 11:00–12:00 AM; Tues. 10:00–12:00 AM; Wed., Thurs. 1:00–3:00 PM.

Course Goals:

The goals of this course are to 1) cultivate the ability to read and interpret the Old Testament in the Hebrew language ; 2) to relate these translational and interpretive skills to understanding of the whole Bible and the life of discipleship; and 3) through the lens of grammatical and theological interpretation, to demonstrate the connection between these texts and the practice of ministry.

Course Objectives and Requirements:

There are three objectives to this course: first, to gain facility in reading and translating the Hebrew Scriptures; second, to gain a basic understanding of the grammar and syntax of Classical Hebrew; and third, to become familiar with the task of exegesis and the tools of exegesis (concordances, dictionaries, grammars, etc.).

By the end of the semester, the student should be able to translate narrative texts from the Hebrew Bible with the use of a dictionary and be able to make exegetical and textual observations about select passages from the Hebrew Bible.

Regular attendance at all class meetings and timely submission of all class assignments is a requirement.

All students are expected to prepare a notebook, with all your relevant translation homework and other notes that I may provide from time to time. The notebook will include all assigned portions from Pratico as well as selected readings and exegetical notes. This notebook will be due the last day of class. There will also be quizzes on grammar, vocabulary, and translation.

Grading:

Homework and notebook:	25%
Exegesis:	25%
Sermon:	25%

Textbooks:

Pratico, Gary and Miles van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew*. Second Edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.

Pratico, Gary and Miles van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Workbook*. Second Edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.

Chisholm, Robert. *A Workbook for Intermediate Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2006.

Bible search software: either *Accordance 13*, *Logos 8*, Olive Tree with BHS Parsed Bible and BDB dictionary, or StepBible (online).

Recommended Textbooks:

Brown, F., Driver, S., and Briggs, C. *The New Brown, Driver, and Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1906.

Elliger, K. and Rudolph, W., Eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1977.

Schedule:

January 23: Review and the Imperfect tense: strong and weak verbs.

Pratico chaps. 15–16.

January 30: Qal Waw Consecutive.

Pratico chap. 17.

Jonah translation.

February 6: Qal Volitives.

Pratico chap. 18.

Quiz #1.

Jonah translation.

February 13: Pronoun suffixes on verbs.

Pratico chap. 19.

Jonah translation.

February 20: Qal Infinitive Construct and Absolute.

Pratico chaps. 20–21.

Jonah translation.

February 27:

No class; I am traveling to Orlando FL.

March 5: Qal Participles.

Pratico chap. 22.

Quiz #2.

Jonah translation.

March 12: Sentence syntax and Niphal strong verbs.

Pratico chap. 23–24.

Jonah translation.

March 19:

Spring Break, no class.

March 26: Niphal: weak verbs.

Pratico chap. 25.

Jonah translation.

April 2: Piel : strong and weak verbs.

Pratico chaps. 26–27.

Ruth translation.

April 9: Pual: strong and weak verbs.

Quiz #3.

Pratico chaps. 28–29.

Ruth translation.

April 16: Hiphil: strong and weak verbs.

Pratico chaps. 30–31.

Ruth translation.

April 23: Hophal: strong and weak verbs.

Pratico chaps. 32–33.

Quiz #4.

Ruth translation.

April 30: Hithpael: strong and weak verbs.

Pratico chaps. 34–35.

Ruth translation.

May 07: Introduction to the Hebrew Bible.

Ruth translation (or alternative).

May 14: Final Exam.

The final exam will be an exegesis from a passage in Jonah or Ruth. It is due by the end of finals week. The sermon, based on the same text, is also due at this time.