

● **Introduction to Biblical Hebrew**
 Austin Graduate School of Theology
 HEB 6310—Course Syllabus
 Fall 2011

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- **Office Hours:**
 - Monday, 9:00-noon; Tues., 1:00-3:00; Wed., 9:00-noon; Thurs.: 9:00-noon.
- **MATS Course Goal:**
 - The student will interpret passages of the Old Testament in light of its literary, historical, and theological contexts.
- **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 have a basic grasp of the grammar and syntax of simple Hebrew sentences and be able to translate simple narrative texts from the Hebrew Bible with the use of a dictionary.
 - 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 be several 20 point quizzes on vocabulary and grammatical points. There will also be three exams on grammar, vocabulary, and translation.
- **Grading:**
 - Homework and notebooks: 20%
 - 5 20 point Quizzes (vocabulary, paradigms): 20%
 - 3 Exams over grammar: 60%
- **Textbooks:**
 - *Required Texts:*
 - Pratico, Gary D. and van Pelt, Miles V. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew*. 2nd edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.
 - Pratico, Gary D. and van Pelt, Miles V. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Workbook*. 2nd edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.

- Brown, F., Driver, S., and Briggs, C. *The New Brown, Driver, and Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1906.
- *Recommended Resources:*
 - Pratico, Gary D. and van Pelt, Miles V. *The Vocabulary Guide to Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.
 - Pratico, Gary D. and van Pelt, Miles V. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary Audio CD*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.
- **Software and Internet Resources:**
 - Students should begin to become familiar with computer resources for biblical study of Hebrew, especially Bible search/concordance engines. The following is a sampling of some of the better computer/web resources:
 - *Macintosh search engines:*
 - *Accordance* for the Macintosh (concordance and Bible search engine (Hebrew, Greek, English, etc.). There is no better Bible search resource.
 - *Libronix* (Logos Software). PC or Mac. The best set of irrelevant old texts, commentaries, etc. available.
 - *OnLine Bible* (Ken Hamel). PC or Mac; downloadable for free on various web sites. You do have to pay for the Hebrew module, but it is nominal. Fairly easy, *cheap*, but the graphic interface is not much to look at.
 - *PC search engines:*
 - *BibleWorks for Windows* (Hermeneutika Software). Hard learning curve, but fully featured.
 - *Gramcord for Windows* (Gramcord Institute). Hard learning curve, but fully featured.
 - *Bibloi* (Silver Mountain Software). Easy, but vanilla. Has the only interlinear view I know of.
 - *CDs and web sites:*
 - *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Interactive Grammar CD*, v. 1.0 (go through the grammar interactively via the CD provided with the grammar).
 - www.basicsofbiblicalhebrew.com (online helps and flash cards for the grammar and vocabulary).
 - www.olivetree.com (free web Bible search engine; only this web site and Unbound Bible below actually search the Hebrew Old Testament; you will need to download fonts).
 - www.unbound.biola.edu (free web search engine; ditto for the above).
- **Schedule:**
 - *August 30: The Hebrew alphabet.*
 - Pratico chap. 1.
 - *September 6: Vowels. Quiz #1 (Alphabet).*

- Pratico chap. 2.
- *September 13: Syllables and Pronunciation; Quiz #2 (Vowels).*
 - Pratico chap. 3.
- *September 20: Hebrew Nouns.*
 - Pratico chap. 4.
- *September 27: Definite article and conjunction; Exam #1.*
 - Pratico chap. 5.
- *October 4: Hebrew prepositions. Quiz #3 (Vocabulary).*
 - Pratico chap. 6.
- *October 11: Hebrew adjectives and pronouns;*
 - Pratico chaps 7-8.
- *October 18 Hebrew pronoun suffixes. Quiz #4 (Vocabulary).*
 - Pratico chap. 9.
- *October 25: Hebrew construct chain and numbers.*
 - Pratico chaps. 10-11.
- *November 1: Intro. to Hebrew verbs; Exam #2.*
 - Pratico chap. 12.
- *November 8 Qal perfect—strong verbs.*
 - Pratico chaps. 13.
- *November 15: Qal perfect—weak verbs; Quiz #5 (Vocabulary or grammar).*
 - Pratico chaps. 14.
- *November 22: No class—SBL and Thanksgiving.*
- *November 29: Qal imperfect—strong and weak verbs.*
 - Pratico chaps. 15-16.
- *December 6:*
 - **Exam #3 (Final Exam).**