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Introduction to Biblical Hebrew
Austin Graduate School of Theology
HEB 6310—Course Syllabus
Fall 2016

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▼ **Office Hours:**

- Tues. and Wed., 9:00-12:00 AM; Thurs., 1:00–3:00 PM; Fri., 9:00-11:00 AM.

▼ **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 and Bible Search Software:**

▼ *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. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary Audio CD*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.
- Van Pelt, Miles. *Biblical Hebrew: A Compact Guide*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.
- Williams, Michael. *The Biblical Hebrew Companion for Bible Software Users*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015.

▼ *Bible Search Software:*

- I will be using *Accordance* version 11 in this course. *Accordance* is a powerful Bible concordance and search engine, for the Mac or PC. If you do not already own Logos, BibleWorks, Olive Tree, or a previous version of *Accordance*, the purchase and download of *Accordance* onto your computer is required.

▼ **Schedule:**

▼ *August 29: The Hebrew alphabet.*

- Pratico chap. 1.

▼ *September 12: Vowels. **Quiz #1** (Alphabet).*

- Pratico chap. 2.

- ▼ *September 19: Syllables and Pronunciation; **Quiz #2** (Vowels).*
 - Pratico chap. 3.

- ▼ *September 26: Hebrew Nouns.*
 - Pratico chap. 4.

- ▼ *October 3: Definite article and conjunction; **Exam #1**.*
 - Pratico chap. 5.

- ▼ *October 10: Hebrew prepositions. **Quiz #3** (Vocabulary).*
 - Pratico chap. 6.

- ▼ *October 17: Hebrew adjectives and pronouns;*
 - Pratico chaps 7-8.

- ▼ *October 24: Hebrew pronoun suffixes. **Quiz #4** (Vocabulary).*
 - Pratico chap. 9.

- ▼ *October 31: Hebrew construct chain and numbers.*
 - Pratico chaps. 10-11.

- ▼ *November 7: Intro. to Hebrew verbs; **Exam #2**.*
 - Pratico chap. 12.

- ▼ *November 14 Qal perfect—strong verbs.*
 - Pratico chaps. 13.

- *November 21: No class; Thanksgiving week.*

- ▼ *November 28 Qal imperfect—weak verbs; **Quiz #5** (Vocabulary or grammar).*

- Pratico chap. 14.
- *December 5: **Exam #3 (Final Exam)**.*