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OT101-102 OL Elements of Hebrew (3 cr.)  
Term: Current  
Time: Asynchronous  
Location: Anywhere

## ELEMENTS OF HEBREW

### I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

OT101 An introduction to basic principles of Hebrew phonology and morphology [3 hours].

OT102 The study of Hebrew morphology and syntax as well as an introduction to text criticism and to the basic tools and methods of lexical analysis. Includes translation of the book of Jonah, with lexical analysis of key words and syntactical analysis of selected forms, phrases, and clauses [3 hours].

By equipping you to read Old Testament in Hebrew, you are being prepared to exegete the Old Testament in order to communicate God's word to others and to interact knowledgeably with commentaries and other scholarly publications.

### II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The goal of this portion of the course is to assist students in acquiring a working knowledge of basic principles of Hebrew grammar. Knowledge of Hebrew grammar provides a foundation for biblical exegesis and theology, which in turn provide grounds for credible exposition of God's Word.

The cognitive objectives are for the student to:

- Learn the vocabulary used in the Hebrew Bible 100 or more times [101-102].
- Identify and describe Hebrew morphology [101-102].
- Compare examples of syntax between passages and with examples in published lists [102].
- Read the text critical apparatus in *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia* [102].
- Evaluate the internal and external evidence for different readings of the text [102].
- Evaluate the meanings of words in context based on semantic components and domains and on syntactical and other contextual constraints [102].
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The affective objectives are for the student to:

- Value the dramatic element of Hebrew narrative [101-102].
- Grow in spiritual maturity through exposure to the Hebrew Scriptures with the encouragement of other individuals who are engaged in the same efforts [101-102].

The behavioral objectives are for the student to:

- Read aloud the Hebrew text [101-102].
- Translate Hebrew OT texts [101-102], which requires the following skills:
  - recognize and describe grammatical forms, -identify specific uses of words in contexts,
  - recognize and describe syntactical uses of grammatical items, -use a Hebrew dictionary.
- Divide the Jonah narrative into plot segments based on Hebrew structure [102].
- Observe and describe narrative and theme developments from the Hebrew text of Jonah [102].

### III. COURSE TEXTBOOKS

#### A. Required.

Webster, Brian L., *Reading Biblical Hebrew: Introduction to Grammar*. Belmont, MI: DigiScroll Press, 2017. ISBN paperback 978-1-946936-00-4.

Webster, Brian L., *Reading Biblical Hebrew: Grammar Workbook*. Belmont, MI: DigiScroll Press, 2017. ISBN paperback 978-1-946936-01-1.

**B. Recommended.**

Elliger, Karl and Walter, Rudolph. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1984. \*(BHS) Available in print and electronic formats. Included with LOGOS. Also available bound with the Nestle-Aland 27th NT Greek text. Other Hebrew Bibles lack the text-critical apparatus. **Required in OT102-104.**

Koehler, Ludwig, Walter Baumgartner, and Johann Jakob Stamm. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Translated by M. E. J. Richardson. 2 vol. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 2002. \*(HALOT). Included in your LOGOS package. **Required in OT102-104.**

Brotzman, Ellis R. *Old Testament Textual Criticism: A Practical Introduction*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1994. **Required in OT103.**

Chisholm, Robert B., Jr. *From Exegesis to Exposition: A Practical Guide to Using Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1998. **Required in OT102-103.**

**C. Suggested.**

*Syntax Guides. You may want to consider an additional syntax guide for 102 or after.*

Arnold, Bill and Choi, John. *A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003.

Williams, Ronald J. and Beckman, John C. *William's Hebrew Syntax: Third Edition*. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2007). \*Brief deductive presentation of syntactical categories with examples. This has the least narrative but the best organization of the three introductory syntax guides.

*Reference Grammars.*

*Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar*. Edited by E. Kautzsch, translated by A. E. Cowley. 2nd English edition, based on the 28th German edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1910 (16th impression, 1982).

Jouon, Paul S.J. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. Translated and revised by T. Muraoka. 2 volumes. Subsidia Biblica 14. Rome: Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 1991.

van der Merwe, Christo H. J., Jackie A Naudé, and Jan H. Kroeze. *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar*. Biblical Languages: Hebrew 3. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic, 2002.

Waltke, Bruce K., & M. O'Connor. *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1990.

*Dictionaries. You may want to consider an additional dictionary for 102 or after.*

Botterweck, Johannes, and Ringgren, Helmer, eds. *Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament*. 15 vols. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1974-2006. (TDOT) This has thorough articles with theological interpretive angles.

Brown, Francis, S. R. Driver, Charles A. Briggs. *The New Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Original publication, Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1907; reprint and revised edition. Peabody, MA: Hendricksen, 2nd printing 1996. \*(BDB) Most Hebrew tools are keyed to it, but it is somewhat outdated. A revision is in progress.

Clines, David J.A., ed. et al. *The Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*. 10 volumes. Sheffield: Sheffield University Press, 1993-2001. (DCH) This is a very nice, detailed classical Hebrew lexicon, but very expensive. See also *The Concise Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*.

Jenni, Ernst, and Westermann, Claus, eds *Theological Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Translated by Mark E. Biddle. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1997. (TLOT) This dictionary is complete in 3 vols and thorough but selective in what it includes.

Willem A. VanGemeren, ed., *The New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997). (NIDOTTE) This dictionary is complete in 5 vols and includes introductory linguistic article and indices, including one of semantic domains.

#### IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS *(subject to change)*

##### A. Reading Assignments

RBH. The textbook is integrated with TekScroll.com and video clips. Sometimes "preview" clips signal what to look for when reading the book. Often Grammar Illustrations in TekScroll supplement reading the textbook.

In 102 some selections from the syntax guides may be assigned. But you should take the initiative to read and familiarize yourself with the syntax guide(s) you have chosen.

##### B. Written Assignments

Workbook.

RBH Workbook.

You are responsible to do the workbook, check the answer key, ask questions in the discussion forum, and make corrections on your workbook. For some workbook items there are FAQ videos.

You will need to upload your work to the website. For most people this will mean scanning their handwritten workbook pages first. If you do not have access to a scanner, there is a free program called "FastScanner" that turns your phone's camera into a scanner and saves the files as PDFs. Please make sure that the lighting is good and that the final image is not turned sideways (it lets you rotate the image). Submissions must be made as a pdf that functions as a document (not, for example, a single photo of multiple pages that has been formatted with .pdf at the end of the file – that treats it as a single page of document with dimensions that do not fit the website).

Jonah. There are several worksheets and exegetical assignments on Jonah in the second half of OT 102. Your notes on these assignments constitute 20% of the grade for those assignments. Note-taking should include affirmations, corrections, and methodological insights.

##### C. Non-Written Assignments

TekScroll.

A certain amount of practice in TekScroll is assigned for each chapter. You will report the amount that you completed on time. (TekScroll Practice Readings are also a good way to review vocabulary.)

##### D. Quizzes and Exams

Quizzes.

Most modules begin with a quiz over the vocabulary list from the chapter of RBH covered in the previous module plus a review of other chapters

Most modules end with a quiz verifying that you have met the objectives of the module. These quizzes may include vocabulary, paradigms and parsing, grammatical items from the current module, and translation. Students are encouraged to use the practice quizzes and exams.

Exams.

Two exams in each OT101 and OT102.

Exams generally have four sections: vocabulary, morphology (paradigm writing and parsing), grammar questions, and translation. Parsing and grammar questions may be tied to the translation passages.

The final exam in OT102 includes the entire book of Jonah and at least one sight reading passage.

**E. Tutoring labs.**

*Tutoring is available for all students. Group or personal tutoring (one hour per week) is required whenever you have a test score below 85% or your current quiz average is below 85%. At the beginning of OT102, the tutoring requirement is based on your final exam in OT101.*

Tutoring is available for online students through the conference or chat tools with either the professor or the grader. If you are taking the course online but live in the Dallas area, you may also come to campus for personal tutoring like the students in the on-campus classes receive. You will then have access to a larger number of tutors and their schedules. Tutoring is provided by the OT department to help see all of our students succeed.

The tutoring requirement must be met in order to take the exams in the class.

**V. COURSE POLICIES****A. Letter/Numerical Grade Scale**

<b>A+</b>	<b>99-100</b>	<b>B+</b>	<b>91-93</b>	<b>C+</b>	<b>83-85</b>	<b>D+</b>	<b>75-77</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>0-69</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>96-98</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>88-90</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>80-82</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>72-74</b>		
<b>A-</b>	<b>94-95</b>	<b>B-</b>	<b>86-87</b>	<b>C-</b>	<b>78-79</b>	<b>D-</b>	<b>70-71</b>		

**B. Weighing of Course Requirements for Grading** *(subject to change)*

- 10% TekScroll Practice (via Reporting quizzes in Canvas).
- 16% RBH Workbook & Jonah assignments.
- 18% Vocabulary and Grammar Quizzes.
- 18% Mid-term Exam.
- 40% Final Exam.

**C. Class Participation**

Please remember that learning is a process of trial, correction and trying again. You will be reading a foreign language in this class- you will make mistakes or stumble in reading and so will everyone else. Don't sweat it; come to learn; ask questions. Your classmates will benefit if you post questions in discussion forums so that all can see the answers.

**D. Late Assignments and failure to cite sources of words or ideas.**

All work is due according to the schedule in each module. Discussing Hebrew assignments in forums is encouraged. But merely copying another's work or *merely copying the answer key is considered cheating*. Plagiarizing work will result in failure.

**E. Absences**

If illness or a family emergency causes you to miss all or most of a module, communicate with me about a schedule to make up the work.

## VI. COURSE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

A language class constantly builds on what has already been covered. Review daily, even when it is going smoothly so that new material doesn't pile up and 'bury' you. It takes far more time to get out of such a hole than it does to stay on top of things. Be especially mindful of the Dangers of Holiday Breaks and Reading Week, and large assignments in other classes that tempt you to set aside daily review of Hebrew. I encourage you to make use of the discussion forum and share tips that work for you with your classmates.

By all means communicate with me if you are struggling. I will try to help you formulate a study plan for you to implement. Tutoring is also available. See IV. E. above.

DTS does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the operation of any of its programs and activities. To avoid discrimination the student is responsible for informing the Coordinator of Services for Students with Disabilities and the course instructor of any disabling condition that will require modifications.

Graduating students must finish final assignments and the final exam in time for the professor to submit final grades according to the registrar's timeline for submitting grades for graduating students.

## VII. COURSE SCHEDULES *for OT102 (subject to change)*

Schedule for Spring and Fall.

		OT101 OL		OT102 OL
Week	Module	Topic. <i>See Canvas for dates.</i>	Module	Topic. <i>See Canvas for dates.</i>
1	1	RBH 1; Alphabet	1	RBH 16; Derived Stem Ptc. and Inf.
2	2	RBH 2; Syllables	2	RBH 17; I-Class Imperfects, strong verb
3	3-4	RBH 3-4; Nouns Endings Pts 1&2	3	RBH 18; I-Class Imperfects, weak pt. 1.
4	5	RBH 5; Prepositions	4	RBH 19; I-Class Imperfects, weak pt. 2.
5	6	RBH 6; Pronouns and suffixes	5	RBH 20; A-Class Imperfects
6	7	RBH 7; Adjectives	6	RBH 21; Derived stem perfects
7	8	RBH 8; Qal Participles and Inf. cs.	7	RBH 22; Derived stem perfects, weak verbs <b>Midterm Exam</b>
8	9	RBH 9; Misc Terms <b>Midterm Exam</b>	8	Jonah 1; Introduction to Narrative
9	10	RBH 10; Qal perfect strong verbs	9	Word Studies; Intro to Textual Criticism
10	11	RBH 11; Qal perfect weak verbs	10	Jonah 2 and Poetry
11	12	RBH 12; Qal imperfect strong verbs	11	Jonah 3
12	13	RBH 13; Qal perfect weak verbs	12	Word Studies and Textual Criticism
13	14	RBH 14; Volitional verbs	13	Jonah 4
14	15	RBH 15; Pronominal suffixes on verbs	14	Poetry Part 2
		<b>Final Exam</b>		<b>Final Exam</b>

## Schedule for Summer.

		<b>OT101 OL</b>		<b>OT102 OL</b>
Week	Module	Topic. <i>See Canvas for dates.</i>	Module	Topic. <i>See Canvas for dates.</i>
1	1	RBH 1; Alphabet	1	RBH 16; Derived Stem Ptc. and Inf.
2	2	RBH 2; Syllables	2	RBH 17; I-Class Imperfects, strong verb
3	3-4	RBH 3-4; Nouns Endings Pts 1&2	3	RBH 18; I-Class Imperfects, weak pt. 1.
4	5	RBH 5; Prepositions	4	RBH 19; I-Class Imperfects, weak pt. 2.
5	6	RBH 6; Pronouns and suffixes	5	RBH 20; A-Class Imperfects
6	7	RBH 7; Adjectives	6	RBH 21; Derived stem perfects
7	8	RBH 8-9; Qal Participles and Inf. cs.; Misc Terms	7	RBH 22; Derived stem perfects, weak verbs <b>Midterm Exam</b>
8	9	<b>Midterm Exam</b> RBH 10; Qal perfect strong verbs	8	Jonah 1; Introduction to Narrative
9	10	RBH 11; Qal perfect weak verbs	9	Word Studies; Intro to Textual Criticism
10	11	RBH 12; Qal imperfect strong verbs	10	Jonah 2 and Poetry
11	12	RBH 13; Qal perfect weak verbs	11	Jonah 3
12	13	RBH 14; Volitional verbs	12	Word Studies and Textual Criticism
13	14	RBH 15; Pronominal suffixes on verbs; <b>Final Exam</b>	13	Jonah 4; Poetry Part 2; <b>Final Exam</b>