Florida International University
Biblical Hebrew II
RLG 5233

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DM 303
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Spring 2018
TR 9:30-10:45
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DM 164

Course Description: This course continues the basics of Biblical Hebrew from the fall semester. We will resume studying the various stems, noun forms, and participles and infinitives. We will also continue developing a solid vocabulary of the most commonly used words in the Old Testament or Hebrew Bible. Plenty of time will be devoted to translating actual sentences and later whole passages from Hebrew into English. Along with this, we will also discuss the best techniques of translating Hebrew into English and explore how knowledge of Hebrew gives new insight into the reading of the Bible.

Syllabus


Week 6 [February 13, 15] Lesson 27. Hollow verbs.

Week 7 [February 20, 22] Lessons 28-29. Hif`il affix. Hif`il of hollow verbs.

Week 8 [February 27, March 1] Lessons 30-31. Hif`il imperative. Hif`il of peh”yod verbs. Pi`el participles.
Midterm Examination handed out Friday

Week 9 [March 6, 8] Lessons 32-33. Hif`il prefix. Hif`il prefix of peh”yod verbs.
Midterm examination due Tuesday at beginning of class
Spring Break March 12-17

Week 10 [March 20, 22] Lessons 34-35. Hif’il prefix of hollow verbs. Qal affix of hollow verbs. Constructions with the infinitive.

Week 11 [March 27, 29] Lessons 36-37. Pi’el verbs with middle guttural. Independent pronouns. ’Et as a preposition.


Final examination handed out Thursday

April 26
Final Examination due

Textbooks


N.B.: Copy of the Hebrew Bible is necessary—any one will do. But if you don’t already have one, I suggest getting Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia from the American Bible Society.

Grading. The grading for this course will be as follows:

- Midterm Exam 20%
- Final Exam 20%
- Vocabulary Quizzes 20%
- Attendance and Participation 40%

Midterm and Final Examinations: The midterm and final exams will be take home examinations consisting of sentences in Hebrew that are to be translated into English. They are not open book examinations, though I will allow you to use a dictionary for vocabulary. If you don’t have separate dictionary you can use the section at the back of your book, but you cannot look at the lessons in the book.
Quizzes: Each week class will begin with a vocabulary exam with ten words being chosen from the vocabulary list in the back of the book. The list gives over four hundred of the most common words used in the Bible. Starting with week 2, you will study these in groups of fifteen and be tested on them. Your three lowest scores from the semester will be dropped. At the end of the semester, the scores from the ten best tests will be added and the grading scale will be as follows:

- A 90-100
- B 80-89
- C 70-79
- D 60-69
- F below 60

Attendance and Participation: Attendance and participation is very important in this class and the grade is weighted accordingly. You must come to class and come prepared. In each session we will have some time for discussion, but a large part of our time will be devoted to translating the sentences from each lesson. This we will do by each student taking a turn. No one will be perfect in being able to translate every sentence, but you must try.

Student Conduct: Florida International University is a community dedicated to generating and imparting knowledge through excellent teaching and research, the rigorous and respectiful exchange of ideas, and community service. All students should respect the right of others to have an equitable opportunity to learn and honestly to demonstrate the quality of their learning. Therefore, all students are expected to adhere to a standard of academic conduct, which demonstrates respect for themselves, their fellow students, and the educational mission of the University. All students are deemed by the University to understand that if they are found responsible for academic misconduct, they will be subject to the Academic Misconduct procedures and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Handbook.

Books for Further Study
Grammars

Williams, Ronald and John Beckman, Williams’ Hebrew Syntax 3rd ed. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2007).


Lexicons


N.B. A new critical edition of the Hebrew Bible called *Biblia Hebraica Quinta* is being published by the Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft. Individual fascicles for each Biblical book are appearing regularly, and when complete they will no doubt be collected into one volume.