

Florida International University
Biblical Hebrew II
RLG 5233

Professor Erik Larson
DM 303
Office Hours: TR 12:30-1:45
Email: larsone@fiu.edu

Spring 2020
TR 9:30-10:45
(305) 348-3518
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 1 [January 7, 9] Lessons 16-17. Peh"nun and Peh"yod verbs.

Week 2 [January 14, 16] Lessons 18-19. Qal singular imperative. Vocative. Numbers. Pi`el imperative. Second person singular pronominal suffix.

Week 3 [January 21, 23] Lesson 20-21. Second person plural imperatives. Definite Article before Guttural Letters. Demonstrative Plural Adjectives.

Week 4 [January 28, 30] Lessons 22-23. Feminine Plural Nouns. Relative Clauses. Second person plural pronominal suffix. Resolution of vav and yod in vav-conversive forms.

Week 5 [February 4, 6] Lesson 24-25. Feminine participles. Infinitives of weak verbs. Infinitive construct. Dual nouns.

Week 6 [February 11, 13] Lesson 26. 2nd person pronouns. Lamed"heh roots.

Week 7 [February 18, 20] Lessons 27-28. Hollow verbs. Hif`il affix.

Spring Break February 24-29

Week 8 [March 3, 5] Lessons 29-30. Hif`il of hollow verbs. Hif`il imperative. Hif`il of peh"yod verbs.

Midterm Examination handed out Friday

Week 9 [March 10, 12] Lessons 31-32. Pi`el participles. Hif`il prefix.

Midterm examination due Tuesday at beginning of class

Week 10 [March 17, 20] Lessons 33-34. Hif'il prefix of peh"yod verbs. Hif'il prefix of hollow verbs. Qal affix of hollow verbs.

Week 11 [March 24, 26] Lessons 35-36. Constructions with the infinitive. Pi`el verbs with middle guttural. Independent pronouns.

Week 12 [March 31, April 2] Lessons 37-38. 'Et as a preposition. Demonstrative adjectives. Verb suffixes.

Week 13 [April 7, 9] Lessons 39-40. Negative imperatives. Infinitive Absolute.

Week 14 [April 14, 16] Lessons 41-42. Cohortative. Use of numbers. Jussive forms. Passive participles.

Final examination handed out Thursday

April 23

Final Examination due

Textbooks

Bonnie Kittel, Vicki Hoffer, and Rebecca Abts Wright, *Biblical Hebrew* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005, 2nd edition). ISBN 978-0300098626.

Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia, eds. K. Elliger and W. Rudolph (New York: American Bible Society; 1997, 5th edition). ISBN 978-3438052223.

William Holladay, *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1972). ISBN 978-0802834133

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 respectful 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

Waltke, Bruce, and M. O'Connor, *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax* (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1990).

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

Merwe, Christo H. van der, and Jacobus A. Naudé, *Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar* 2nd ed. (Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 2017)

Jouön, Paul, and Takamitsu Muraoka, *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*, 2nd ed. (Rome: Gregorian and Biblical Press, 2011)

Lexicons

Koehler, Ludwig, Walter Baumgartner et alii, *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*, 5 vols. (Leiden: E J. Brill, 1996-2001).

Clines, David J.A., *The Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*, 9 vols. (Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 1993-2016).

Botterweck, G. Johannes, Helmer Ringgren and Heinz-Josef Fabry, *Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament*, 12 vols. (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003).

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.