

**OT 511A Biblical Hebrew 2 (online)**  
**Spring 2019**  
**January 7 – April 5, 2019**

Last revised: 10/3/18

### **PROFESSOR**

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### **MISSIO'S MISSION**

To prepare missional leaders who incarnate the story of Jesus with humility and authenticity and who communicate the story with fidelity to Scripture, appreciation of the Christian tradition, and sensitivity to the needs and aspirations of postmodern culture.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Step back in time and listen to God's story in the original language of the Old Testament. Appreciate the linguistic link to different eras and cultures and the God who spoke in and through them. Learn the sights, sounds, and syntax of biblical Hebrew (Hebrew 1) and explore the structure and significance of Old Testament narrative by translating chapters of Genesis (Hebrew 2).

The course is delivered entirely online and is designed so that students' progress through the course on a weekly basis as a cohort. An asynchronous discussion component is built into each week of the course. Synchronous sessions, such as virtual office hours and virtual lecture hall, will be scheduled by the professor for most weeks of the course, but attendance is optional. Three hours.

### **PERSONAL NOTE FROM THE PROFESSOR**

You've made it through Hebrew 1 – congratulations! Hebrew 2 provides an exciting opportunity to spend time in the Old Testament Hebrew text. I look forward to our time together as we discuss the text and grow more in our understanding of the Hebrew language and the God who communicated through it to ancient Israel.

### **GOAL OF THE COURSE**

In Hebrew 1-2 our goal is to immerse you in the linguistic world of the Old Testament. The second term provides an opportunity to continue expanding your knowledge of Hebrew by studying the weak verbs, vocabulary, and the discourse features of biblical narrative as we begin reading the Abraham story. We will also learn the basic features of the Masoretic text as reproduced in the standard Hebrew text, *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Learning Hebrew and reading the Hebrew Bible will provide you with an opportunity to listen "from inside" a particular linguistic culture, a culture in which our incarnational God revealed himself and his mission to his covenant people. Hence, this course is designed to coincide with your other seminary classes in developing your skills to exegete both the Bible and culture.

Studying Hebrew also provides you with an opportunity to develop self-discipline and patience with regard to an investment that does not pay immediate dividends. Students often find difficulty in motivating themselves to learn a subject that does not show immediate relevance to their life and ministry. Hebrew 1-2 promise long-term benefits if you persevere, and in the process will provide exercise in the fruits of patience and self-control which are needed for various situations you will undoubtedly face as a servant of God.

## PROGRAM GOALS AND COURSE OBJECTIVES

PROGRAM GOALS	COURSE OBJECTIVES
<p><b>Goal 3:</b> Students will <i>cultivate</i> knowledge of the Bible and ability to humbly interpret &amp; apply it in light of history, culture &amp; genre.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To appreciate God’s revelation to ancient Israel in its original linguistic context.</li> <li>2. To be able to navigate through the weak verbal system and the basic discourse characteristics of biblical Hebrew narrative.</li> <li>3. To understand the basic features of the Masoretic text as reflected in BHS.</li> <li>4. To continue to memorize and recognize in context the vocabulary occurring fifty times and up in the Hebrew Bible.</li> <li>5. To practice reading Hebrew regularly as a spiritual discipline.</li> </ol>

## COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENTS

ASSIGNMENT OR ASSESSMENT	RELATED OBJECTIVES	PERCENT OF GRADE	ESTIMATED TIME IN HOURS
1. Vocab quizzes	2, 4, 5	25%	25
2. Reading & homework	all	25%	85
3. Two exams	all	50%	8
TOTAL ESTIMATED TIME OUTSIDE OF CLASS			118
<p><b>Note:</b> All assignments must be submitted by the due date listed in the syllabus and no later than the final due date for the course listed in this syllabus by permission of the instructor. After the final due date, faculty cannot grant students permission to submit late work. See “Completion of Course Work” below.</p>			

## REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

[Putnam, F. C. \(2010\). \*A New Grammar of Biblical Hebrew\*. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press.](#)  
[\(1997\). \*Card-Guide to Biblical Hebrew\*. Quakertown, PA: Stylus, 1996; rev. ed.](#)

[Elliger, K. & W. Rudolph, eds. \*Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia\*. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1967; corrected ed. 1983. You may use the large, small, or paperback edition.](#)

**One of the following:**

[Brown, Driver, & Briggs. 1907. \*Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament\*. Oxford: Oxford U. \(You may choose to purchase the reprinted version by Hendrickson.\)](#)

OR

[Koehler, Ludwig, and Walter Baumgartner. 2002. \*The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament\*. 2 Vol. Leiden: Brill.](#)

OR

[Holladay, William L. 1971. \*A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament Based upon the Lexical World of Ludwig Koehler & Walter Baumgartner\*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.](#)

## RECOMMENDED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Baker, David and Elaine A. Heath. 1998. *More Light on the Path*. Grand Rapids: Baker. Daily devotional readings in Hebrew and Greek.

Brown, A. P. & B. W. Smith. *A Reader’s Hebrew Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008. Great tool for reading Hebrew. Includes vocabulary helps for any word occurring 100 times and below on the bottom of each page of text.

- Long, G. A. 2002. Grammatical Concepts 101 for Biblical Hebrew. Peabody: Hendrickson.  
Highly recommended for students whose first language is not English or who simply feel weak in English grammar. The relevant sections can be read long with the topics in the schedule below.
- Parsons Technology. 1995. Hebrew Tutor [CD-ROM]. Hiawatha, IA.  
Tools to review grammar and vocab on your PC.
- Putnam F. 1996. Hebrew Bible Insert: A Student's Guide to the Syntax of Biblical Hebrew. Quakertown: Stylus.
- Silzer, P. J. and T. J. Finley. 2004. How Biblical Languages Work. Grand Rapids: Kregel.  
A nice introduction to learning Hebrew and Greek; the final chapter includes some practical tips for learning the languages.

**WEBSITES:**

<http://ulrikp.dk/bp/>

Paradigm quizzes for Hebrew verbs.

<http://www.animatedhebrew.com/lectures/index.html>

View "white board" lectures on topics we will cover this year. Included other resources as well.

<http://www.bible101.org/hebrew/home.html>

Summary notes on first year Hebrew (based on Page Kelley's grammar), including vocab quizzes and exercises (incomplete).

<http://www.bible-researcher.com/links08.html>

Includes many links relating to the Hebrew Bible.

<http://www.mechon-mamre.org/p/pt/ptmp3prq.htm>

Hear someone read the entire Hebrew Bible out loud! You can select the book and chapter.

**COURSE SCHEDULE WITH TOPIC (SEE WEEKLY COURSE OUTLINE ON E-CAMPUS)**

**WEEK 1: 1/7:** Guttural Verbs; Genesis 11:27-32

**WEEK 2: 1/15:** Basic Tools; Genesis 12

**WEEK 3: 1/22:** Introduction to Weak Verbs; III-H Verbs

**WEEK 4: 1/29:** Pre-reading Biblical Hebrew Narrative I; Genesis 13

**WEEK 5: 2/5:** I-Nun Verbs

**WEEK 6: 2/12:** Pre-reading Biblical Hebrew Narrative II; Genesis 14

**WEEK 7: 2/19:** Hollow Verbs

**WEEK 8: 2/26:** The Masora; Genesis 15

**WEEK 9: 3/5:** I-Yod/Waw Verbs

**WEEK 10: 3/12:** Kinds of Information in Discourse; Exam; Genesis 16

**WEEK 11: 3/19:** Textual Criticism Overview; Genesis 17; Geminate Verbs

**WEEK 12: 3/26:** Genesis 18; Maintaining Hebrew Skills

**WEEK 13: 4/2:** Final

## **CLASS PROCEDURES**

The Weekly Outlines contain the information you will need for each week's readings, lectures, activities, and assignments. You will find the weekly outlines on the online course site for that week.

Our weeks generally run from Tuesday and ends on Monday night at Midnight, PST. No work will be assigned or due on Sunday, and you are encouraged to take a sabbath rest. All posts and assignments will be due as noted, PST, on the day indicated. As a general rule, homework is due on Mondays and Thursdays by 11:59 p.m. PST.

## **DISCUSSION FORUMS**

Interaction with classmates is a challenge for students in an online course. To encourage this, you are required to post at least one question for each assignment. You are encouraged to post and discuss more, so this is a bare minimum. You may receive extra credit (added to one of your exams) for answering any fellow students' questions (correctly) regarding the exercises before those exercises are due. This use of the discussion forum is not to have others "get you the right answers," but to raise issues that you don't understand as you work through the homework. Your questions should be specific, e.g., how does this verb function with this noun in #7? Or how do I know which word this adjective modifies in # 3? You will also discuss your fasting project with your group on three occasions. You must respond to the question posted for the day, and interact with at least one other group member. Please take this exercise seriously and encourage one another.

Prayer is an important part of our walk of faith as Christians. You are encouraged to join the class in prayer for our work together, for each other, the Church, and for the world.

Please note: the discussion forum is not optional. It is a graded part of your online learning experience. Interacting with the instructor and fellow students is integral to your learning experience, so please take full advantage of the discussion forum.

## **ASKING QUESTIONS DURING THE COURSE**

As mentioned above, you should ask questions about the exercises (or lessons) through the online discussion forum. Though I encourage students to answer these as much as possible, I will chime in as often as the situation warrants. I would prefer to answer questions via the discussion forum so all students can see the interaction, rather than by private email.

If you do need to contact me privately, please use the email link on the online course site. In general, I will check my email from the class several times per week at random times. My goal is to respond to your email within 24 hours. Saturdays and Sundays are days when I do not check email regularly, so plan accordingly.

## **CLASS PARTICIPATION STANDARDS**

Attendance and presence are required for this class. You are expected to contribute to the required discussion forums, and you should make it your goal to participate several “chat sessions” over the course as they are available. In the required online forums you are expected to post a substantive contribution to the discussion at that time.

Assignments will be posted in the Weekly Outline. Be aware of deadlines for posts and for assignments that are turned into the instructor.

## **DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Vocab Quizzes and Exams**

Vocab quizzes must be taken online twice each week by the assigned due dates. Each quiz will generally consist of 10 Hebrew words to be glossed (translated) into English, and a question associated with the week’s assignments (e.g., parsing a verb, learning a paradigm, etc.). Quizzes will concentrate on one new list, the previous list, and one review list (see the Weekly Outlines). Because these quizzes are “on your honor”, the last question on each quiz will ask if you have cheated in any way.

Quizzes not completed by the due date will be marked down 10% for each day late (down 50% after four days), but your two lowest quiz grades will be dropped at the end of the course. Therefore you have two “freebies”. NOTE: Online quizzes are mostly short answer. After you are finished you may review the quiz to see what answers you missed, but it is possible that you may have a correct answer that will show up as “incorrect” since the program evaluates automatically. I will check your quizzes and give you credit for any correct answer that may show up as incorrect in the online evaluation. Your quiz grades will be posted in the online course gradebook.

Exams are cumulative, and may consist of grammar, translation, parsing, and paradigms. You will designate a proctor for your midterm and final (not a family member; a pastor or church worker is recommended) and email her/his name and email address to me by the end of the second week of class. Your proctor must be present at your exam, and will sign off and fax or scan/email it.

### **Homework**

Homework is essential for learning the concepts and material discussed in class and in the text. Please read the assigned pages in the text and view the narrated PowerPoints before working through the exercises. It is a good idea to read through the text once, view the PowerPoint, and then read the text again. Please read the enrichment sections at the end of each lesson.

For the exercises, I will not be looking for perfect answers, but rather for completeness and effort. Homework will be graded on the following scale, per assignment:

On time and complete: 100%

Incomplete: percentage completed

Late: minus 10% per day, up to the 4th day. After this it will remain 50% (if fully completed) unless it is not turned in at all – so please do your homework even if it is not on time.

I will drop your lowest homework grade.

Because of this, it completely defeats the purpose of the course to copy from an English translation. Do the work as best you can and work towards understanding, not towards perfect translations. I do not mind if you check a translation after you have completed your work, but please show clearly on your homework what was your original work and what was your “corrected” work.

If you have questions, make use of the online forum to query your classmates. Chances are that others will have the same questions as you, and some will be able to provide explanations (as you may be able to do in other circumstances). Also save questions for our virtual classroom hours, and plan to participate.

**TURNING IN HOMEWORK:** Homework should be submitted on the assignment link in the e-campus. You may transliterate Hebrew using the transliteration guide posted online, or use a Hebrew font (e.g., download BWHEB from <http://www.bibleworks.com/fonts.html>; you may use other Hebrew fonts, but be sure to embed them in your documents).

**CHECKING HOMEWORK:** I will check your homework for completeness, but you should check your homework for accuracy against the key that will be available on the online course site after the assignment is due. It is very important that you go over your homework with the key and make sure that you understand any mistakes you may have made. If there is something you still don't understand, post your question in the online discussion forum or wait for the next virtual office hours.

You should set aside at least 8-10 hours per week for your study of Hebrew. It is best to distribute this time as equally as possible over the week.

### **AudioBible**

You are required to listen to biblical passages on the AudioBible on a number of times. It is important to both hear and pronounce Hebrew. Hearing the sounds of a language help to learn a language, even if our goal is to communicate in Hebrew to one another. Please make sure you complete these assignments.

### **Optional Exercises/Further study**

There are a number of tools you may take advantage of as you learn each lesson. Animated Hebrew gives detailed lectures on the material. Other exercises from several websites are available to help you learn various forms and grammatical principles. If you complete the requirements for the week and are still fuzzy on the concepts, please make use of these tools.

## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY AND ACADEMIC POLICIES**

Academic Policies: Students are fully responsible to know and follow all seminary rules, regulations, and deadlines published in Missio Seminary's academic catalog, and all requirements concerning their degree programs. The catalog is found on Missio's e-campus homepage.

Course Syllabus: Students are fully responsible to know and fulfill the requirements stated in the course syllabus. Students should speak with the professor about issues related to course work and deadlines during the course. See "Completion of Course Work" below for policies on course extensions.

E-campus Course Site: Students are fully responsible for course content and materials that are posted on the course site. Students are encouraged to check the course site frequently during the course. Student usage of the course site is tracked by the software and monitored by the professor of the course. Students who experience difficulty accessing or using the E-campus should email [helpdesk@biblical.edu](mailto:helpdesk@biblical.edu) and include their student ID# in their correspondence.

Student PC Security Statement: Missio Seminary recognizes the need for computer use throughout the entire educational process today. Computers equipped with Internet access and applications that help deliver information and knowledge are vital. Students are encouraged to bring their electronic computing devices to campus to facilitate their course work and supplemental activities. Given the current climate of online dangers such as viruses, malware, phishing scams, and other related risks it is critical to secure all such devices regardless if they're being used on campus or not. Please take the appropriate steps to safeguard the security of your own electronic devices to protect the integrity of the student network on campus and provide a safe computing environment for everyone to use.

## COMPLETION OF COURSE WORK – VARIANCE FORMS

All course work is to be completed by the last day of classes for the term or by the date posted in the course syllabus. Extensions to this time limit will be made only by the academic administration committee. The individual faculty member does not have the authority to grant any extensions of time beyond the last class of the term. Requests for extensions must be made in writing to the committee at least one week prior to the last day of classes. Variance forms for this purpose are available in the academic office or on the e-campus homepage. All requests should specify the reasons for the extension and the length of the extension desired. Requests are not automatically granted.

## GRADING SYSTEM

To remain in good academic standing, a student must maintain the grade point average designated for his or her program (see the Academic Catalog for details).

MISSIO SEMINARY GRADING SYSTEM			
A	4.00	93.0 – 100	Superior
A-	3.67	90.0 – 92.9	
B+	3.33	87.0 – 89.9	
B	3.00	83.0 – 86.9	Good
B-	2.67	80.0 – 82.9	
C+	2.33	77.0 – 79.9	
C	2.00	73.0 – 76.9	Fair
C-	1.70	70.0 – 72.9	
D+	1.30	67.0 – 69.9	Poor
D	1.00	63.0 – 66.9	
D-	.70	60.0 – 62.9	
F	0.00	0 – 59.9	Failing