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OT 501 Survey of Biblical Hebrew

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Overview
An introduction to OT Hebrew and tools for its study with a view towards increased competence in reading the OT.

Learning Goals
1. Phonology: Students will know the Hebrew alphabet and vowel points. Students will be able to syllabify, transliterate and pronounce any Hebrew word.
2. Morphology: Students will be familiar with basic Hebrew noun, adjective and verb forms.
3. Lexicography: Students will understand how to use the BDB Hebrew-English lexicon. Students will know selected common Hebrew vocabulary words.
4. Syntax: Students will understand how words fit together to form Hebrew phrases, clauses, sentences and paragraphs.
5. Semantics:
   a) Students will understand how morphology, lexicography and syntax merge together into semantics. In other words, students will understand how Hebrew word forms, the meaning of individual words and interrelationships between words combine to yield meaning in Hebrew sentences and paragraphs.
   b) Furthermore, students will be aware of the possible interpretative significance of syntactic and semantic analysis. Students will be aware of ways to incorporate these interpretative insights into preaching and teaching specifically and Christian discipleship more broadly. Students will be confident enough in their Hebrew skills to actually use them in interpretation, preaching, teaching and Christian discipleship.

Required Texts

Recommended Texts
*BibleWorks 5.0*. Hermenuetika, Big Fork, MT.


**EVALUATION**

Grades will be calculated using the following factors: Worksheets, Exercises & Participation, 15%; Quizzes, 25%; Examinations, 60%.

Grades will be assigned according to the following scale (*ATS Catalog 2000-1*, p. 28):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100-95 %</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>Exceptional work: surpassing achievement of course objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95-90 %</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-87 %</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87-83 %</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Good work: substantial achievement of course objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-80 %</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-77 %</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77-73 %</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>Acceptable work: essential achievement of course objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73-70 %</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.70</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-67 %</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>67-63 %</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>Marginal work: inadequate achievement of course objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63-60 %</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-0 %</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>Unacceptable work: failure of course objectives</td>
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</table>

**WORKSHEETS AND EXERCISES**

Students will submit a copy of each homework assignment on the due date at the beginning of class. Students will retain a second copy for use in class. The copy submitted to the instructor must be legible to receive credit. Each homework assignment will have A, B and C level portions. Students completing only C level portions will be eligible for a maximum grade of 75 on that assignment. Students completing C and B level portions will be eligible for a maximum grade of 85 on that assignment. Students completing C, B and A level portions will be eligible for a maximum grade of 95 on that assignment. Students completing C, B and A level portions with notable "extra mile" effort will be eligible for a maximum grade of 100 on that assignment.

**ATTENDANCE**

- Attendance is expected at each and every class session.
- Students will indicate attendance at the beginning of each class on an attendance sheet.
- Students will be permitted three absences for any reason.
- Students with more than three absences may submit to the instructor a written explanation for each absence.
  - If such a student submits a written explanation, each unexcused absence will result in a final grade deduction of one grade increment (e.g., B to B-). Excused absences include contagious or serious illness on the part of the student or a death in the family or pastoral charge. Unexcused absences include discretionary or optional trips and events.
  - If such a student does not submit a written explanation, each absence over three will result in a final grade deduction of one grade increment.
- Students with six absences will not be eligible for a passing grade.
FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES IN HEBREW
1. OT501 Concise Hebrew is the prerequisite for OT502 Comprehensive II Hebrew. OT502 provides students with an even stronger foundation in Hebrew. OT502 is the prerequisite for any Hebrew exegesis course or any other Semitic language (e.g., Biblical Aramaic).
2. OT501 is a prerequisite for 700 level OT IBS courses.
3. Asbury Seminary has a Hebrew Honor Society, Eta Beta Rho. Students who earn a 3.0 or higher average in OT501 and 502 and intend to complete either a Hebrew exegesis or 700 level OT IBS course are eligible for membership.
4. Hebrew reading groups meet regularly during the fall, spring and sometimes summer terms. All skill levels are welcome.
5. Anyone completing this course may read daily from the Hebrew Scriptures.
### Spring 2001 OT501 Schedule

- **R** = Reading due, **H** = Homework due, **L** = Lecture, **Q** = Quizzes, **E** = Examination
- **BHS** = Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia, **SGB** = Simplified Guide to the BHS
- **GBH** = Grammar of Biblical Hebrew, **GfP** = Guide for the Perplexed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>2-12 L Syllabus, Orientation to Hebrew</td>
<td>2-14 L Alphabet</td>
<td>2-15 R&amp;H Alphabet; L Vowels</td>
<td>2-19 Q Alphabet; H Orientation to Hebrew Worksheet; R&amp;H Vowel; L Syllables &amp; Accents</td>
<td>2-21 R&amp;H Syllables &amp; Accents; L Dagesh</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2-22 Q Vowels, R&amp;H Dagesh; L Shewa</td>
<td>2-26 R&amp;H Shewa; L Qamets vs. Qamets Hatuf</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>2-28 R&amp;H Qamets vs. Qamets Hatuf; L Review Phonology; R <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson III</td>
<td>3-1 L Nouns; E Receive #1</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>3-5 E #1 Due; L BHS Introduction (Bring to class!)</td>
<td>3-7 H <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson III; R <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson IV; L Root Types, Word Patterns &amp; Weak Consonants</td>
<td>3-8 Q Vocab up to <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson III; R <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson V; L More Nouns</td>
<td>3-12 H <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson IV-V; R <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson VI; L Conjunction</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3-14 Q Vocab up to <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson VII, L Adjectives</td>
<td>3-19 H <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson VI-VII; R <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson VIII; L Participle</td>
<td>3-15 R <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson VII; L Adjectives</td>
<td>3-21 Q Vocab up to <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson VIII VII, Conjunction, Article, Preposition &amp; Adjective; L Participle</td>
<td>3-22 R <strong>GBH</strong> Excursus C; L Stem</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>3-26 H <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson VIII &amp; Stem Worksheet; R <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson IX; L Personal Pronouns</td>
<td></td>
<td>3-29 L Review; E Receive #2</td>
<td>4-9 E #2 Due; R <strong>GfP</strong> 23-26; L Piel, Pual &amp; Hithpael Stems, Holladay Lexicon (Bring to class!)</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>4-11 H <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson IX, Qal &amp; Niphal Worksheets; R <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson X; L Other Pronouns &amp;Particles</td>
<td>4-12 Q Vocab up to Lesson IX, Personal Pronouns; L Other Pronouns &amp;Particles</td>
<td>4-16 H Other Pronouns &amp; Particles, Piel Worksheet; R <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson XI; L Construct</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>4-18 Q Vocab up to <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson X, Other Prons &amp; Particles, &amp; Piel; R <strong>GBH</strong> Excursus D; L Construct</td>
<td>4-19 R <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson XII, <strong>GfP</strong> 26-29; L Suffixed Nouns, Hiphil &amp; Hophal Stems</td>
<td>4-23 H <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson XI-XII, Hiphil Worksheet; L BWs Introduction</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>4-25 Q Vocab up to <strong>GBH</strong> L XI, Construct, Suffixed Nouns &amp; Hiphil; R <strong>GBH</strong> L XIII; L Qal Perfect</td>
<td>4-26 R <strong>GBH</strong> Excursus E, <strong>GfP</strong> 29-30; L Perfect Aspect</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td>5-2 Q Vocab up to <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson XII, Qal Perfect; R <strong>GBH</strong> Excursus F, <strong>SGB</strong> 1-36 (read), 37-87 (skim)</td>
<td>5-3 R <strong>GfP</strong> 36-41; L BHS Introduction #2 (Bring to class!), Infinitives</td>
<td>5-7 H <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson XIV, Infinitive Worksheet</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td>5-9 Q Vocab up to <strong>GBH</strong> L XIII, Qal Perf Weak, Infinitive; R <strong>GBH</strong> L XVIII; L Qal Imperfect</td>
<td>5-10 R <strong>GfP</strong> 30-35; L Imperfect Aspect</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td>5-14 H <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson XVIII, Imperfect Worksheet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td>5-16 Q Qal Imperfect, Imperfect Aspect; R <strong>GBH</strong> Lesson XX; L Narrative Discourse</td>
<td>5-17 L <strong>GfP</strong> Synopsis (Bring to class!), Review</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
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<td>5-23 E Final 8-10AM</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
ESSENTIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY


Hebrew Text

Hebrew-English Lexicons

Hebrew Concordances

Bible Software
BibleWorks 5.0. Big Fork, MT: Hermenuetika.

Beginning Hebrew Grammars

Advanced Hebrew Grammars


**Hebrew Exegesis**


**Hebrew Theological Wordbooks**


**Vocabulary Aids**

*Hebrew Tutor*. Hiawatha, IA: Parsons Technology.


**Translation Aids**


**Parsing Aids**

