



HEB 100

Introduction to Hebrew

Number of credits: 3

Prerequisite: N/A

Semester: Fall, 2014
 Days: Wed/Fri 2:30-3:45pm
 Room: A2141
 Lab – day: N/A
 Lab–Room: N/A

Instructor: Dr. Colin Toffelmire
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 Office: L2074
 Office hours: By appointment

Course Description:

An introduction to the grammar, syntax, and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

Expected Learning Outcomes include the following:

1. Students will learn the fundamentals of the phonology, morphology, and syntax of biblical Hebrew.
2. Students will develop a basic vocabulary for biblical Hebrew.
3. At the conclusion of the course students will have developed rudimentary reading skills in biblical Hebrew, and will be able to begin reading biblical texts in Hebrew.
4. At the conclusion of the course students will have developed an appreciation for the importance of original language scholarship, and an understanding of some of the hermeneutical questions involved with the translation of the biblical text.

Important Dates:

First day of classes: September 3, 2014
 Registration revision period: September 14, 2014
 Last day to request revised examination: October 27, 2014
 Last day to withdraw from course: November 12, 2014
 Last day to apply for time extension for coursework: November 24, 2014
 Last day of classes: December 9, 2014

Final Exam: Dec 15/2014
Time: 9:00am
Room: A2133

Outline:

Date	Content/Topics	Reading/Assignments
Sep 3/5	Sep 3 – Introduction/Welcome Sep 5 – Introduction cont. / Alphabet and Pronunciation	Sep 3 – N/A Sep 5 – Ch. 1
Sep 10/12	Sep 10 – Vowels Sep 12 – Syllabification	Sep 10 – Ch. 2 Sep 12 – Ch. 3; Quiz #1
Sep 17/19	Sep 17 – Nouns Sep 19 – Article & waw	Sep 17 – Ch. 4 Sep 19 – Ch. 5
Sep 24/26	Sep 24 – NO CLASS Sep 25 – Prepositions	Sep 24 – NO CLASS Sep 26 – Ch. 6
Oct 1/3	Oct 1 – Adjectives Oct 3 – Pronouns	Oct 1 – Ch. 7; Quiz #2 Oct 3 – Chs. 8&9
Oct 8/10	Oct 8 – Construct Chain (& Numbers) Oct 10 – Introduction to Lexicons and BHS	Oct 8 – Chs. 10&11 Oct 10 – Quiz #3
Oct 15/17	Oct 15 – Review for mid-term Oct 17 – Mid-term exam	Oct 15 – Ch. 13 Oct 17 – Mid-term exam
Oct 22/24	Oct 22 – Verbal System – Intro / Qal “perfective” (verbal aspect) Oct 24 – Verbal System – Qal “imperfective”	Oct 22 – Chs. 12 & 13 Oct 24 – Ch. 15
Oct 29/31	Oct 29 – Introduction to Binyammim - Niphal Oct 31 – Piel stem	Oct 29 – Ch. 24 Oct 31 – Ch. 26; Quiz #4
Nov 5/7	Nov 5 – Hiphil Stem Nov 7 – Verbal System – “wayyiqtol”	Nov 5 – Ch. 30 Nov 7 – Ch. 17
Nov 12/14	Nov 12 – Verbal System – Volatives Nov 14 – Verbal System – Qal Weak	Nov 12 – Ch. 18 Nov 14 – Ch. 14; Quiz #5
Nov 19/21	Nov 19 – Verbal System – Qal “imperfective” Weak / Pronominal Suffixes and Verbs Nov 21 – NO CLASS	Nov 19 – Ch. 16 Nov 21 – NO CLASS
Nov 26/28	Nov 26 – Verbal System – Qal Inf. Construct and Qal Inf. Absolute Nov 28 – Verbal System – Participle / translation theory	Nov 26 – Chs. 20 & 21 Nov 28 – Chs. 22; Quiz #6
Dec 3/5	Dec 3 – Syntactical Issues in Hebrew	Dec 3 – Ch. 23 Dec 5 –

Course Textbook:

Pratico, Gary and Miles Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.

Pratico, Gary and Miles Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar Workbook*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.

Requirements:

Outside of the classroom sessions, learning experiences have been designed in order to integrate and apply the content discussed during class and in the assigned readings.

1. Workbook

At the beginning of each Wednesday class session, students will submit pages from the course workbook. Before submitting each package from the workbook, each student will check his/her answers against the answer key (provided on the accompanying CD-ROM). Where the student has made an error, she/he will correct the error using a different coloured pen/pencil (e.g., red), and provide a brief notation explaining the error. The purpose of this exercise is a) to ensure that students are practicing their skills on a regular basis, b) to provide a regular feedback mechanism in order to ensure that students are learning and incorporating lessons effectively, and c) to help students identify points of difficulty or confusion during the learning process, and thus correct them before they become habits. Failure to submit workbook material on time (beginning of each Wednesday class session), or failure to complete any element of the assigned material, will result in forfeiture of that week's grade. **Due: Weekly, as assigned. Value: 28% (2%/workbook package).**

2. Quizzes

Regular, scheduled, in-class quizzes will be an important part of the learning experience. These quizzes will be associated with specific chapters from the course text, and will include questions related to phonology/morphology, syntax, and vocabulary. **Due: Sept 12; Oct 1, 10, 31; Nov 14, 28. Value: 30% (6 quizzes, 5% each)**

3. Mid-term Examination

Students will write a mid-term examination covering all material up to the date of the exam. **Due Date: Oct 17 Value: 17%.**

4. Final Examination

Students will write a cumulative final examination, covering all material from the semester. **Due: Monday, Dec 15, 9am. Value: 25%.**

Submission of Assignments:

So that I can properly evaluate your work the following style guide is to be used for papers in this class:

- **Medium for Submission:** All material for this class will be submitted in hard-copy, and will be due at the beginning of the class-session on the due date.
- **Layout:** Workbook assignments should be removed carefully from the workbook, stapled, and submitted with the student's name clearly visible on the front page. Please endeavor to write legibly, as I cannot effectively grade what I cannot effectively read.
- **Gender Inclusive Language:** Ambrose University College uses inclusive language for human beings in student written materials. In reference to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected. The NRSV and TNIV are examples of the use of inclusive language for human beings.

Attendance:

A core value in my classes is the nurturing of a “learning community”. Such a community fosters growth within the individuals who enter into its life. Your attendance is required, expected and celebrated at every scheduled session. From time to time you may find that you are late for class, or unable to attend. Events such as these will, sadly, incur the wrath of the community and the Instructor. This wrath will manifest itself as a deduction of 2 points from your participation grade. But take heart, redemption is possible. To redeem your tardiness or absence, you may wish to provide a mediating sacrifice in the vein of the *minhah*, or grain offering, of Leviticus 2. In the place of flour and frankincense burned on an altar, Timbits for the class and a *nasek* (drink offering) of coffee (1 cream, 1 sugar) for the Instructor would be acceptable.

Evaluation:

Lateness: Students are expected to submit all assignments on time. Because of the nature of this class, **all workbook assignments must be submitted on the applicable due date, or they will not be graded.** All assignments must be submitted by the end of the semester to achieve a passing grade for the course. I do not grant extensions except in the case of very serious circumstances that are beyond the student's control (see full policy below).

Learning Experience	Value	Due Date
Workbook	30%	Weekly, as assigned
Quizzes	30%	Sept 12; Oct 1, 10, 31; Nov 14, 28
Mid-term	15%	Oct 17
Final Exam	25%	Monday, Dec 15, 9am

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Numerical Equivalents</u>
A+		A+	95-100
A	Excellent	A	90-94
A-		A-	86-89
B+		B+	80-85
B	Good	B	76-79
B-		B-	73-75
C+		C+	70-72
C	Satisfactory	C	66-69
C-		C-	63-65
D+		D+	60-62
D	Minimal Pass	D	55-59
D-		D-	50-54
F	Failure	F	0-49



Policies:

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (Cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, it is highly recommended that they forward all messages from the Ambrose account to the other account.

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may to enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty. These courses will not appear on the student's transcript. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a Request to Withdraw from a Course by the **Withdrawal Deadline**, please consult the List of Important Dates. Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. A grade of "W" will appear on the student's transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a **Revised Examination** Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

No electronic devices of any kind are allowed during class sessions. **Please turn off all phones, and do not use laptops or tablet computers in class.** The professor has the right to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Extensions are granted only in very serious cases that are beyond the student's control, such as serious illness or family emergency.

Students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a "**Course Extension**" from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date, please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control".

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Office of the Registrar in writing within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal to review final grades. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University College as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive,

or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to give credit to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.