

Heb3A03 / Heb6A06* Intermediate Hebrew 1

Fall term, 2010

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Time: Tuesday afternoon. Class will meet on Thurs., Sept. 9, at 1:30, and then every Tuesday, 1:30-4:30.

Course Description

A reading course in classical (biblical) Hebrew. Sample texts will be read from some or all of the following: the Hebrew Bible, the Mishnah, ancient Hebrew inscriptions, the Dead Sea Scrolls, with emphasis on the Hebrew Bible. Class sessions, tests and examination.

*Note for Advanced Degree students taking this course as Heb6A06: you will be required to do an additional 7,500 words of writing on topics selected in consultation with the professor.

This course is usually taught by Professor Boda and the following by intention borrows generously from his syllabus, in order to provide a more or less seamless entry into second term when he returns to instruct. Acknowledgement is gratefully made.

Knowing (Cognitive): To understand intermediate level issues related to the history, morphology, syntax and discourse of biblical Hebrew, to know the various textual traditions which witness to the Hebrew Bible, to build upon the basic reading vocabulary acquired in introductory Hebrew.

Doing (Pragmatic): To refine one's ability to read Biblical Hebrew following the Massoretic accentuation, to use intermediate grammars for studying Biblical Hebrew, to exegete a narrative passage of biblical Hebrew with attention to translation and meaning of the passage, to become proficient in text critical analysis of the biblical text, to expand one's reading and translation to include non-biblical forms of Hebrew including pre-biblical inscriptions and post-biblical Hebrew.

Being (Affective): To gain an appreciation for Biblical Hebrew aesthetically and for the helpfulness of knowing Hebrew for understanding the Hebrew Bible.

Required Texts

Kittel, R., ed. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Stuttgart: Württembergische Bibelanstalt 1969–.

Arnold, Bill T. and John H. Choi. *A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. New York, N.Y.: Cambridge University Press, 2003.

Brown, F., S.R. Driver, and C.A. Briggs, *A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Corrected edition. Oxford: Clarendon, 1952.

or: Holladay, William L., ed. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Based on the First, Second, and Third Editions of the Koehler-Baumgartner Lexicon in Veteris Testamenti Libros. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 1971.

Würthwein, Ernst. *The Text of the Old Testament*. 2nd ed.; tr. Erroll F. Rhodes. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 1995.

One Tool for Memorizing Hebrew words from the following list:

Penner, Ken. *Flash! Pro XP Computer Memory Cards* (obtain by emailing: ken.penner@acadiu.ca)

Mitchel, Larry A. *A student's vocabulary for biblical Hebrew and Aramaic*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984.

Recommended, especially for those pursuing advanced degrees:

- Joüon, Paul and T. Muraoka. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. Subsidia Biblica 14/1 and 14/2. Rome: Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 1996. 2 vols.
- Kautsch, E., *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar*. 2nd English ed., revised in accordance with the 28th German ed. (1909) by A.E. Cowley. Oxford: Clarendon, 1970 (1910).
- Waltke, Bruce K., and M. O'Connor. *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1989.

All required textbooks for this class and others at the Divinity College are available from R.E.A.D. On Books, and should be purchased as early as possible, and at least by the beginning of the term when R.E.A.D. On Books has its book table here at the College. They can be contacted at : 304 The East Mall, Suite 100, Etobicoke, ON M9B 6E2; phone 416-622-0655, ext. 308; fax 416-622-2308; **e-mail** books@readon.ca.

Course objectives

The aim of this course is to develop greater familiarity with the Hebrew Bible and more ease in reading and translating it. Students will solidify their grasp of Hebrew vocabulary, morphology, grammar and syntax. They will also learn about the transmission of the text and about the recovery of the “original” text through the science of textual criticism. Finally, through research on the essay, students will gain an appreciation for the transmission of the text of the Hebrew Bible.

The classes

In class we will read together the material prepared independently by the students (and teacher!) prior to coming to class. We will follow the schedule below.

September

- 09 Orientation
- 14 Deuteronomy 6:1-15; 6:16-25
Würthwein, pp. 1-9; Arnold-Choi*
- 21 Judges 1:1-13; 14-26
Würthwein, 10-30; Arnold-Choi
- 28 *Judges 1:27-2:5; 2:6-23
Würthwein, 30-40; Arnold-Choi

October

- 05 Judges 3:1-11; 12-31
Würthwein, 45-56; Arnold-Choi
- 12 Judges 4:1-12; 13-24
Würthwein, 57-66; Arnold-Choi
- 19 *Judges 6:1-19; 20-40
Würthwein, 66-78; Arnold-Choi
- 26 **Exam 1:** Judges 1-6

November

- 02 Judges 7:1-12; 13-25
Würthwein, 79-84; Arnold-Choi
- 09 Judges 13:1-10; 11-25
Würthwein, 105-112; Arnold-Choi
- 16 *Judges 14:1-11; 14:12-20
Würthwein, 113-122; Arnold-Choi
- 23 *No class: paper preparation*
- 30 Judges 15:1-10, 11-20
Würthwein, 123-132; Arnold-Choi
Essay due.

December

- 07 *Judges 16:1-19, 20-31; Arnold-Choi
- 14 **Exam 2**
* schedule to be provided at first class

Components of the grade:

Preparation and in-class delivery and presentation

Students are expected to attend class and to have prepared well in advance. Part of the grade for the course is based upon preparation as that is reflected in oral participation in class. Your work will be checked once each month: the dates have an asterisk (*) on the schedule. Value: 25% (HEB 3A03); 20% (HEB 6A06).

Exam 1

The mid-term test will cover all material to that point; translation of passages covered in class and discussion of grammatical features. A final component of the test will be the identification of items from the four verb patterns (Qal, Pi‘el, Hif‘il, Nif‘al). Date: Oct. 26. Value: 25% (HEB 3A03); 20% (HEB 6A06).

Essay

Each student will prepare an essay (12 pages) on the history of the transmission of the Hebrew text of one biblical book, a book of the student's choosing. The student will trace the story of the text from the time it was written down until it appears as text in Kittel's BHS. The selection of which book should reflect an interest in working on a book or part of a book in the future, and will prepare the student for exegesis there in the future. The essay will include some evidence of familiarity with the versions (Greek, Syriac, Latin). Value: 25% (HEB 3A03); 20% (HEB 6A06). **Due date: Nov. 30.**

The essay should be prepared according to the "McMaster Divinity College Style Guidelines for Essays and Theses" available at the College and course website and reflect research involving primary and secondary sources. It should use inclusive language, cite sources carefully, and be original. The essay will be submitted in hard copy.

Exam 2

The second test will take place during final exam week and will cover what we have done from the mid-term test to the end of the semester. As with the mid-term test, students will be asked to translate and to identify grammatical features in these texts. Once again, there will be a component wherein the student is asked to recognize verbal forms. Value: 25% (HEB 3A03); 20% (HEB 6A06).

Overview of the grading for the course

HEB 3A03:

Preparation and in-class work	25%
Exam 1: October 26	25%
Essay: due Nov. 30	25%
Exam 2: December 14	25%

HEB 6A06

Those taking this course as HEB 6A06 will complete a second paper of 7500 words (with 5000 words of reading) on a topic related to Intermediate Hebrew.

Preparation and in-class work	20%
Exam 1: October 26	20%
Essay: due Nov. 30	20%
Exam 2: December 14	20%
Additional paper due	20%

Statement on Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence that may take any number of forms, including

plagiarism, the submission of work that is not one's own or for which previous credit has been obtained, and/or unauthorized collaboration with other students. Academic dishonesty can result in severe consequences, e.g., failure of the assignment, failure of the course, a notation on one's academic transcript, and/or suspension or expulsion from the College.

Students are responsible for understanding what constitutes academic dishonesty. If you are a Divinity College student please refer to the Divinity College Statement on Academic Honesty ~www.madciv.ca/regs/honesty.php. If you are a University student please refer to the McMaster University Academic Integrity Policy, specifically App 3 located at (www.mcmaster.ca/senate/academic/ac_integrity.htm).

Gender Inclusive Language

McMaster Divinity College uses inclusive language for human beings in worship services, student written materials, and all of its publications. 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. It is expected that inclusive language will be used in chapel services and all MDC assignments.

Disclaimer

Please Note: This syllabus is the property of the instructor and is prepared with currently available information. The instructor reserves the right to make changes and revisions up to and including the first day of class.

Bibliography

Lexicons/Dictionaries

- Brown, Francis and S.R. Driver, C.A. Briggs, eds. *A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Oxford: Clarendon 1907; repr. with corrections 1968. Cheap but dated.
- David J.A. Clines, ed. *The Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*. Sheffield: Academic Press; vol. 1 1993; vol. 2 1993; vol. 3 1996; vol. 4 1998; vol. 5 (to nun).
- L. Koehler, W. Baumgartner, J.J. Stamm, eds. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament. The New Koehler/Baumgartner in English*. Translated and edited under the Supervision of M.E.J. Richardson. Leiden: Brill 1993–2002. 5 vol. CD-ROM: US\$159.95.

Grammars

- Davidson, A. B. *An Introductory Hebrew Grammar*. Rev'd by John Edgar McFadyen. 24th ed. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark 1946 [24th ed. 1932; 1st ed. 1874]. Now James D. Martin, *Davidson's Introductory Hebrew Grammar*. 27th ed. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark 1993. And, J.C.L. Gibson, *Davidson's Introductory Hebrew Grammar—Syntax*. 4th ed.; T. & T. Clark, 1994.
- Gogel, Sandra Landis. *A Grammar of Epigraphic Hebrew*. SBL Resources for Biblical Study 23. Atlanta: Scholars 1998.
- Greenberg, Moshe. *Introduction to Hebrew*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall

1965.

- Horsnell, Malcolm J. A. *A Review and Reference Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Revised ed. Hamilton: McMaster University Press 1999.
- Joüon, Paul. *Grammaire de l'Hébreu Biblique*. Rome: Institute Biblique Pontifical 1923. Édition photomécanique corrigée 1965. Cf. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew. Vol. 1. Part One: Orthography and Phonetics; Part Two: Morphology. Vol. 2. Part Three: Syntax*, by Paul Joüon. Trans. and rev. by T. Muraoka. Subsidia Biblica 14/1–2. Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute 1991. Review by F. I. Anderson in *JBL* 112/1 (1993) 123–126.
- Kautzsch, E., ed. *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar*. 2nd English ed., rev'd in accordance with the 28th German ed. (1909) by A. E. Cowley. Oxford: Clarendon 1970 [1910].
- Kelley, Page H. *Biblical Hebrew. An Introductory Grammar*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 1992.
- Lambdin, Thomas O. *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons 1971.
- Seow, C.L. *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Revised ed. Nashville/NY: Abingdon 1995.
- Van der Merwe, Christo H.J., Jackie A. Naudeé, and Jan H. Kroeze. *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar*. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 2000.
- Waltke, Bruce K. and M. O'Connor. *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns 1990.
- Weingreen, J. *A Practical Grammar for Classical Hebrew*. 2nd ed. Oxford: Clarendon 1969 [1959; 1st ed. 1939]. See also his *Classical Hebrew Composition* (Oxford: Clarendon 1966 [1959]). Weingreen d. 11/04/95 in Dublin at age 87.

Concordances

- Mandelkern, Solomon. *Veteris Testamenti Concordantiae*. Repr. Graz: Akademische Druck-U. Verlagsanstalt 1955.
- Lisowsky, Gerhard. *Konkordanz zum hebräischen Alten Testament, nach dem von Paul Kahle in der Biblia Hebraica edidit R. Kittel besorgten masoretischen Text*. 2nd ed. Stuttgart: Württembergische Bibelanstalt, 1958.

There are also various computer programmes, such as Accordance.

Guides to Masoretic Accents and References

- Kelley, Page H., Daniel S. Mynatt and Timothy G. Crawford. *The Massorah of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia. Introduction and Annotated Glossary*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 1998.
- Scott, William R. *A Simplified Guide to BHS: Critical Apparatus, Masora, Accents, Unusual Letters and Other Markings*. 3rd ed. Berkeley: BIBAL Press, 1987.
- Yeivin, Israel. *Introduction to the Tiberian Masorah*. Tr. and ed. E. J. Revell. *Masoretic Studies* 5; Missoula: Scholars 1980.
- Wonneberger, Reinhard. *Understanding BHS: A Manual for the users of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Second revised ed. Tr. D.R. Daniels. Subsidia Biblica 8. Rome: Biblical Institute, 1984.

General/Specific Studies

- Andersen, Francis I. *The Hebrew Verbless Clause in the Pentateuch*. JBL Monograph Series, Vol. XIV; Nashville: Abingdon 1970.
- Bartke, Hans. Rev: *The Variable Spellings of the Hebrew Bible: The Schweich Lectures of the British Academy 1986*, by James Barr (Oxford: Oxford University 1989) in *Critical Review of Books in Religion 1991*, ed. Eldon Jay Epp (Atlanta: Scholars 1991) 121-126.
- Ben Zvi, Ehud, Maxine Hancock and Richard Beinert. *Readings in Biblical Hebrew. An Intermediate Textbook*. Yale Language Series; New Haven: Yale University Press, 1993. Advertisement in JBL 112/4 (Winter 1993) 761.
- Bergen, Robert L., ed. *Biblical Hebrew and Discourse Linguistics*. Summer Institute of Linguistics. Distributed by Eisenbrauns.
- Bergsträsser, Gotthelf. Tr., supplemented by Peter T. Daniels. *Introduction to the Semitic Languages. Text Specimens and Grammatical Sketches*. Winona Lake IN: Eisenbrauns 1994 (corrected repr. of 1983 ed.).
- Bodine, Walter R., ed. *Linguistics and Biblical Hebrew*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns 1992. 18 essays by 16 contributors; list of contents: JBL 113/2 (1994) 361.
- Davies, G.I. *Ancient Hebrew Inscriptions. Corpus and Concordance*. Cambridge: Cambridge U. 1991.
- Driver, G. R. *A Treatise on the Use of Tenses in Hebrew and Some Other Syntactical Questions*. Repr. of the ed. of 1892. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans/Dove. 306 pp. with 69 page introductory essay by W. Randall Garr, "Driver's Treatise and the Study of Hebrew: Then and Now."
- _____. *Problems of the Hebrew Verbal System*. Old Testament Studies, No. 2; Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark 1936.
- Horbury, William, ed. *Hebrew Study from Ezra to Ben-Yehuda*. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark 1999.
- Johnson, Bo. *Hebraïisches Perfekt und Imperfekt mit vorangehendem w^e*. Coniectanea Biblica; Old Testament Series 13; Lund: CWK Gleerup 1979.
- Jongeling, K. and H.L. Murre-van den Berg and L. van Rompay, eds. *Studies in Hebrew and Aramaic Syntax Presented to Professor J. Hoftijzer on the Occasion of His Sixty-Fifth Birthday*. Studies in Semitic Languages and Linguistics 17; Leiden: Brill 1991. Sixteen essays; includes "Some Remarks about the So-called Imperative Use of the Infinitive Absolute (Infinitivus pro Imperativo) in Classical Hebrew" by J.H. Hospers (97-102). List of contents: JBL 113/2 (1994) 362-363.
- Malone, Joseph L. *Tiberian Hebrew Phonology*. Winona Lake IN: Eisenbrauns 1993.
- Miller, Cynthia L. *The Representation of Speech in Biblical Hebrew Narrative. A Linguistic Analysis*. HSM; Atlanta: Scholars 1997.
- Moscati, Sabatino, ed. *An Introduction to the Comparative Grammar of the Semitic Languages. Phonology and Morphology*. Porta Linguarum Orientalium, Neue Serie VI; Wiesbaden: Otto Harrassowitz 1964.
- Neusner, Jacob. *The Mishnah. A New Translation*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press 1988?
- O'Conner, M. *Hebrew Verse Structure*. Winona Lake IN: Eisenbrauns 1980.
- Rosenthal. *A Grammar of Biblical Aramaic*. Porta Linguarum Orientalium, Neue Serie V; Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz 1974 [1961].

- Talmadge, Frank, Chaim Rabin, Libby Garshowitz. *Study Guide for SIFRON LA-STUDENT ('ALEF, BET)*. 2nd ed. Toronto and Buffalo: University of Toronto 1977 [1st ed. 1971].
- Waldman, Nahum M. *The Recent Study of Hebrew. A Survey of the Literature with Selected Bibliography*. Winona Lake IN: Eisenbrauns 1989.
- Williams, Ronald J. *Hebrew Syntax. An Outline*. 2nd ed. Toronto: University of Toronto 1976. First ed. 1967.

The Text of the Hebrew Bible / Textual Criticism

- Ap-Thomas, D. R. *A Primer of Old Testament Text Criticism*. Facet Books; Biblical Series 14; Philadelphia: Fortress 1966. Repr. of 2nd rev'd ed; 1st ed. 1947.
- Barr, James. *Comparative Philology and the Text of the Old Testament*. Oxford: Clarendon 1968; repr. Eisenbrauns 1987.
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- McCarter, P. Kyle. *Textual Criticism: Recovering the Text of the Hebrew Bible*. Guides to Biblical Scholarship, Old Testament Series. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1986.
- Tov, Emanuel. *Textual Criticism of the Hebrew Bible*. Minneapolis: Fortress—Assen/Maastricht 1992. Now in a revised ed.
- Ulrich, Eugene. *The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 1999.
- _____. *The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Origins of the Bible*. Studies in the Dead Sea Scrolls and Related Literature. Grand Rapids/Leiden: Eerdmans/Brill 1999. 14 articles from 1980-1998 reprinted.
- Wevers, John William. "Critical Editions of Canonical Texts: The Göttingen Septuaginta," *Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, Series V, Vol. 2* (1987) 131-136.

Exegesis

- Chisolm, Robert B. *From Exegesis to Exposition: A Practical Guide to Using Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.
- Steck, Odil Hannes. *Old Testament Exegesis: A Guide to the Methodology*. Tr. James D. Nogalski. Resources for Biblical Study, 33. Atlanta: Scholars, 1995.
- McKenzie, S.L., and S.R. Haynes. *To Each Its Own Meaning: An Introduction to Biblical Criticisms and Their Application*. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1993.
- Stuart, Douglas K. *Old Testament Exegesis: A Primer for Students and Pastors*. 2nd ed., revised and enlarged. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1980.

Narrative Analysis

- Alter, R. *The Art of Biblical Narrative*. New York: Basic, 1981.
- Bar-Efrat, S. *Narrative Art in the Bible*. JSOTSupp 70. Sheffield: Almond, 1989.
- Longman, T. *Literary Approaches to Biblical Interpretation*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1987.
- Sternberg, M. *The Poetics of Biblical Narrative*. Bloomington: Indiana University,

1985.

Poetical Analysis

- O'Connor, M. P. Hebrew Verse Structure. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1980.
- Watson, Wilfred G. E. Classical Hebrew Poetry. JSOTSup 26. Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1984.

In addition, students may consult Professor Boda's syllabus for this course on the Divinity College's website. More resources are to be found there.