

**L310 / L605 - HEBREW I**  
**BEULAH HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY**

**BHU MISSION:** to develop relevant Christian leaders for the ministry and marketplace

**DEPARTMENT MISSION:** to prepare students to become anointed, trained servants of God through academic excellence and strong biblical foundations

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**DEPARTMENT:** Religious Studies

**MODE OF DELIVERY:** Online

**CREDIT HOURS:** 3.0

**SEMESTER/YEAR:** Spring 2020

**DAY / TIME:** N/A

**YOUR PROFESSOR FOR THIS COURSE**

Dr. Marcus J. Gibson

**Contact Information**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The course is a thorough introduction to classical Biblical Hebrew. It is focused on the study of Hebrew phonetics; syntax, grammar and vocabulary. The goal is to acquire the skills necessary to read, write and translate (with the help of Lexicons) the original texts from the Old Testament. The knowledge of Biblical Hebrew grammar is the very foundation of any serious exegetical study. It is indispensable for theologians, apologists, writers, researchers, pastors, educators and anyone who aspires to be an expert of biblical texts. The course textbook was designed to be studied over the length of two regular semesters and is accompanied by the workbook. The first semester introduces students to the necessary core and structure of the language. The second semester further develops analytical skills through additional grammar learning and study of verbal system for precise comprehension and translation.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK/MATERIALS**

Gary D. Pratico , Miles V. Van Pelt, *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar, Second Edition*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014) ISBN # 978-0310520672

Gary D. Pratico , Miles V. Van Pelt, *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Workbook, Second Edition*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007) ISBN # 978-0310270225

*Biblical Hebrew Laminated Sheet*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005) ISBN # 978-0310262954

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Upon completion of this course students should be able to:

1. Objective: Know Hebrew Alphabet Writing and Phonetic System
  - Acquisition activities: Memorize Hebrew consonants and vowels. Learn proper Hebrew pronunciation and syllabification via video presentation. Complete practice exercises, Read out loud.
  - Measurements: Participation discussion boards, Completed homework exercises, Quizzes.
2. Objective: Recognize and Know Frequently Used Hebrew Vocabulary
  - Acquisition activities: View video presentations. Read the Grammar textbook, Memorize weekly vocabulary. Practice Hebrew pronunciation of new words. Complete Appropriate Exercises, Read out loud.
  - Measurements: Participation in discussion boards, Completed Homework Exercises, Quizzes.
3. Objective: Read and Translate Select Hebrew Prose (with Dictionary help)
  - Acquisition activities: View video presentations. Read the Grammar, textbook, Master basic vocabulary. Recognize grammatical and morphological features of Hebrew in real biblical sentences. Home Practice Exercises, Class performance.
  - Measurements: Participation in discussion boards, Completed Homework Exercises, Quizzes.
4. Objective: Develop basic original text research skills
  - Acquisition activities: View video presentations. Read the Grammar textbook and learn research techniques and methodologies. Learn how to use lexicon and decipher morphological information. Understand how precise information about original words and comprehension of grammar allows for accurate interpretation of the Hebrew text.
  - Measurements: Participation in discussion boards, Homework, Exam.

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)**

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, and its implementing regulations provide that no qualified individual with a disability shall, on the basis of the disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the services, programs, or activities of a public entity. The Act and regulations also require an entity to “make reasonable modifications in policies, practices, or procedures when the modifications are necessary to avoid discrimination on the basis of disability, unless the public entity can demonstrate that making the modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program, or activity.” If you are an individual with a disability who may require assistance or accommodation in order to participate in or receive the benefit of a service, program, or activity, or if you desire more information, you may contact the Office of Student Life and Enrollment Management.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY**

### ***From the BHU Catalog***

- Within a 15 weeks semester – Maximum absence allowance is four (4) class sessions (Two for the Summer semester).
- Online classes – Maximum absence allowance is four (4) class sessions, (two for Summer semester), determined by the weekly semester units as outlined in the course syllabus. Login and completion of assignments are required.
- Five-day modular classes – Maximum absence allowance is one (1) day.
- Weekend modular classes – Maximum absence allowance is one (1) week-end.

## **FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION**

Students who receive financial aid and withdraw from the University during the semester may owe large amounts of money to the U.S. Department of Education and Beulah Heights University. These debts will need to be satisfied before students will be allowed to continue their education. Before making a decision to withdraw, students are encouraged to go the financial aid office to determine the financial consequences of withdrawing from school.

## **LATE WORK/MAKE-UP POLICY**

The professor is to receive all assignments by the due date as outlined on the schedule. However, if the student is unable to attend class on the date an assignment is due, the student must email, fax, or deliver the assignment prior to class time. In the event an exam is missed, the will have until the day before the next class session to make up the exam. All late work is subject to grade reduction.

## **MISSED LECTURES/MATERIAL**

The student is responsible for making arrangements to obtain missed material when absent from class. The instructor recommends that each student choose a study partner, and exchange names and phone numbers. This partner should be contacted prior to class time and contacted after class to receive notes, handouts and assignments.

## **GRADE CRITERIA**

Discussion Board Questions - (8 DBQs at 25 pts. each) - 20% - 200 total points

Homework/Workbook Exercises – 20% - 200 total points

Quizzes – (10 Quizzes at 20 points each) - 20% - 200 total points

Final Exam – 40% - 400 total points

## **GRADE DISPUTE**

Students disputing a grade must bring it to instructor's attention within one week after grade is received or 30 days after receiving final grade report. After the expiration of these timeframes, the grade will not be reconsidered.

## **ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT**

As members of an academic community that places a high value on truth and the pursuit of knowledge, Beulah Heights University students are expected to be honest in every phase of their academic life, and present as their own work only that which is genuinely theirs. Students are

expected to complete this course with integrity. The student's work must be a reflection of his/her own scholarship. Where secondary sources are required, the student is expected to use the proper citation of the material in accordance with the specified style writing guide of this course. If the student fails to comply, the instructor will have no option but to consider the student is cheating and/or plagiarizing. This will result in a failing grade and the possibility of further disciplinary action from the University. Plagiarism is defined as the use of the intellectual property of another without proper citation, giving the impression that it is the student's work.

### **LIBRARY SERVICES STATEMENT**

University Library Services provides instruction, information, resources, and services needed by students pursuing their education and seeking an understanding of themselves, their world, and their Creator. The Barth Memorial Library faculty and support staff offers direct personal assistance to all students, whether on the University Campus, at Extension Centers or the Center for Online Learning. Library acquisitions are carefully selected to support the curriculum and to provide information resources in a variety of formats.

There is an online library tutorial for students to learn about searching the library catalog, researching a paper topic, or using [Galileo](#). Students who are returning to school after an extended period find this particularly helpful. There is also information on finding and evaluating websites and identifying and citing resources for your academic work. Circulating materials (books, reprints from print journals) are checked out for fourteen days. You can also request direct assistance from a librarian by calling the University Campus. The library staff is dedicated to supporting all faculty and students, whether on campus or online.

### **BEULAH HEIGHTS UNIVERSITY CORE VALUES**

#### **BIBLICAL INERRANCY**

*We seek to bring every aspect of personal and corporate life under the functional authority of the inerrant Word of God by obeying its commands, applying its principles, and refraining from dogmatism where the Bible is silent. We are prepared to stand on Biblical inerrancy against the opposing tide of compromising norms and peer pressure.*

#### **INTEGRITY**

*We seek to live, teach and promote a life of Godly choices in the face of temptation, and consistent growth toward Christ-like attitudes and behavior with the context of responsible church membership and involvement. We affirm the necessity of yielding to the Lordship of Jesus Christ as the unconditional Lord of Life, with trust and obedience as essential prerequisites for the enablement of the Holy Spirit to live a Christ-like life.*

#### **GLOBAL MISSIONS**

*We are committed to implementing Christ's mandate to fulfill the great commission by stimulating and training Christians for evangelistic church planting, and support ministries through global evangelization.*

#### **DEDICATED SERVANTHOOD**

*We are dedicated to train Christian leaders who practice a pattern of life which reflects the conviction that both individual and corporate prayer is essential in pursuit of God's purpose for holy living and fruitful ministry. We seek to cultivate an understanding of and commitment to worship and giving as a vital and appropriate response of the believer to God, as evidenced by regular and consistent practice in private and corporate life. We seek to be a community marked by joyful reliance upon God for material provision, victory over sin, growth in Christ-likeness and fruitful servanthood.*

**DIVERSITY**

*We are committed to embracing and empowering multi-ethnic and multi-cultural Christian communities without regard to socio-economic status for purposes of fellowship, encouragement, edification and ministry.*

**GRADE SCALE**

The following is the grade scale which will be used to assign a grade for this course.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Standard</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Quality Points</b>
A+	Excellent	98-100	4.0
A	Excellent	94-97	3.7
A -	Excellent	90-93	3.5
B+	Good	88-89	3.3
B	Good	84-87	3.1
B -	Good	80-83	2.9
C+	Average	78-79	2.7
C	Average	74-77	2.5
C -	Average	70-73	2.3
D+	Passing	68-69	2.1
D	Passing	64-67	1.9
D-	Passing	60-63	1.7
F	Failure	60 or below	0.0
P	Passing	0	0.0
W	Withdrawal	0	0.0
WP	Withdraw passing	0	Counts as hours attempted
WF	Withdraw failing	0	Counts against GPA, and counts as hours attempted

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

**Assigned chapters are to be read before class. Biblical Hebrew Workbook assignments are to be completed and submitted weekly.**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Lecture Content / Assignments Due</b>	<b>Details</b>
1	Basics of Biblical Hebrew (BBH), Chapter 1 Biblical Hebrew Workbook (BHW) Ex. 1 <b><i>Intro to Hebrew Alphabet</i></b>	Read chapters and view lecture video, begin studying alphabet and phonetic system
2	BBH Chapter 2, BHW 2 Discussion Boards Question (DQB) 1: Of what importance is the learning of Hebrew to your specific area of ministry? <b><i>Hebrew Vowels</i></b> <b>QUIZ 1</b>	Study vowels, view lecture video. Turn in BHW pages, Prepare for Quiz
3	BBH Chapter 3, BHW 3 <b><i>Syllabification and Pronunciation</i></b> <b>QUIZ 2</b>	Solidify alphabet, practice putting syllables together into words, view lecture videos, prepare for Quiz
4	BBH Chapter 4, BHW 4 (minus advanced) DQB2: As it relates to Hebrew nouns, to what does the term pattern of inflection reflection refer? <b><i>Hebrew Nouns</i></b> <b>QUIZ 3</b>	Should be able to read now. Begin studying how Hebrew nouns work, view lecture videos, prepare for Quiz
5	BBH Chapter 5, BHW 5 <b><i>Definite Article and Conjunction</i></b> <b>QUIZ 4</b>	Study definite article and conjunction prefixes. View lecture videos, prepare for next Quiz
6	BBH Chapter 6, BHW 6 DBQ3: What is a <i>Maqqef</i> , and how does it impact our understanding of Hebrew prepositions? <b><i>Hebrew Prepositions</i></b> <b>QUIZ 5</b>	Learn about prepositions, and how to recognize them. View lecture videos, prepare for Quiz.
7	BBH Chapter 7, BHW 7 (minus translation) <b><i>Hebrew Adjectives</i></b> <b>QUIZ 6</b>	Study how adjectives work and change. View lecture video and prepare for Quiz
8	BBH Chapter 8, BHW 8 (1-3 only) DBQ4: As it relates to Hebrew prepositions, what are the causes or results of a virtual doubling? <b><i>Hebrew Pronouns</i></b> <b>QUIZ 7</b>	Learn Hebrew pronouns and see how endings change depending on the person. View lecture videos and prepare for Quiz.

9	BBH Chapter 9, BHW 9 (part 2 up to 16, part 3 to 18) <b>Hebrew Pronominal Suffixes</b> <b>QUIZ 8</b>	Study the system of pronominal endings. View lecture videos and study for Quiz.
10	BBH Chapter 10, BHW 10 (minus translations) DBQ5: Under what conditions would construct nouns be spelled differently than their lexical form? <b>Hebrew Construct Chain</b>	Study construct chains. View lecture videos. No quiz this week.
11	BBH Chapter 11, BHW 11 <b>Hebrew Numbers</b> <b>QUIZ 9-11</b>	Learn about numerical system in Hebrew, view lecture videos, and prepare for Quiz over 9 and 11.
12	BBH Chapter 12, BHW 12a DBQ6: How does the presence of the Daghesh Forte impact the functioning of Hithpael verbal stem? <b>Intro to Hebrew Verbs</b>	Study how verbs work in Hebrew. View lecture video. No Quiz.
	<b>SPRING BREAK APRIL 6 - 10</b>	<b>NO CLASS</b>
13	BBH Chapter 13 and 14, BHW 13 and 14 (minus composition) DBQ7: What is the difference between a stative verb and its corresponding adjective? <b>Qal Perfect Strong and Qal Perfect Weak Verbs</b>	Learn about main verb kinds. View lecture videos. No Quiz
14	BBH Chapter 15 and 16, BHW 15 and 16a (minus composition) DBQ8: What are geminate verbs, and what are their distinctive features? <b>Qal Imperfect Strong and Qal Imperfect Weak Verbs</b> <b>QUIZ 12-14</b>	View lecture videos and a Quiz over 12 - 14
15	BBH Chapter 17, BHW 17 (minus translation) <b>Wav Consecutive</b> <b>FINAL EXAM</b>	Learn about Wav conjunction and prepare for the Exam by reviewing the Quizzes.

**Attendance and Participation:** Attendance in language classes is more crucial than classes of any other subject. When you miss even one session you miss a lot. You miss interactive, practical learning, special explanations, demonstrations, experience that cannot be replaced by reading the textbook. Learning language is a hands-on experience and thus the need for disciplined attendance is highly stressed. Because this is an online course, your attendance and participation is tracked through your watching the posted videos, engaging the discussion board questions, workbook exercise submissions, and quiz taking. It is very easy to fall behind and

very hard to catch up in a language class. Everyone is expected to participate in discussion board questions and is encouraged to ask questions.

**Workbook Exercises:** After reading the assigned pages of the textbook, students should complete the exercises listed in the syllabus in the Workbook (BHW). Workbook Exercises should be completed weekly, scanned and turned in via BHU 360. Workbook assignments turned in late will receive a 50% credit. Workbook assignments more than two weeks late will receive a zero. Exercises are very important and thus valued at 20% of student's overall grade. Besides that Quizzes and Exam are based on exercises and students who complete them successfully should do very well on the tests.

**Language Study Habits:** Unlike other subjects language classes require memorization and a lot of practice. There is no way around it in learning a language. Students should be prepared to set aside sufficient amount of study time to succeed in this course. Recommended guideline is roughly 3 hours of study for each hour in class (that's an average of 9 hours of homework per week). This includes textbook reading, exercises and memorization. It is best to break the study into 3 or 5 segments over the week or simply do some work on a daily basis (30-40 minutes). It is most helpful to study with a partner in order to quiz and to drill each other on memory sections. Lack of sufficient study will become evident immediately, because the course material builds on material from previous weeks.

**Quizzes and Final Exam:** For the first half of the course quizzes will be weekly and will be based on BHW assignments. Quizzes will be short. Quizzes missed due to absence can be made up only within a week and otherwise will not receive a grade. Three missed and not made up quizzes will add up and earn one zero grade, which will hurt the average. Quizzes are necessary to assess student's readiness to move on to next grammar subject and will quickly indicate if a student is falling behind. Weekly quizzes all together are worth only 20% of the total class grade, but they also prepare students for the Final Exam (almost a half of a grade) and show students their weaknesses. The Final Exam is based on previous Quizzes.

This syllabus is provided to the students and participants as guidelines for the course. It should not be considered a contract and is subject to change at any time without notice.

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