



On-Campus Course Syllabus

HEB501

Hebrew I

Spring 2024

Class Information

Day and Time: Thursday 4:45-7:15 pm

Room Number: E209

Contact Information

Instructor Name: Kevin R. Warstler, Ph.D.

Instructor Email: kwarstler@criswell.edu

Instructor Phone: 214-818-1331

Instructor Office Hours: Tuesday 1-3 pm; Thursday 1-4 pm

Course Description and Prerequisites

Introduction to the elements of biblical Hebrew with an emphasis on phonology, grammar, and vocabulary. (Prerequisites: BIB 110, ENG 101)

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course you should be able to:

1. Pronounce all Hebrew words that you encounter.
2. Identify the roots of most nouns and adjectives.
3. Identify and translate a vocabulary of approximately 250 words.
4. Parse nouns, pronouns, pronominal suffixes, adjectives, and qal verbs;
5. Translate sentences that include the required vocabulary and qal perfect and imperfect forms; and
6. Write an analysis of a passage in the Old Testament using the knowledge and skills you have acquired in Hebrew I.

Required Textbooks

1. Pratico, Gary D., and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar*, 3d ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. (978-0310533498)
2. Pratico, Gary D., and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Workbook*, 3d ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. (978-0310533559)
3. Holladay, William L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1972 (978-0802834133).

Course Requirements and Assignments

1. Homework

There is no homework grade for the course so it is up to each student to determine how much work is needed to understand a concept and to be prepared for quizzes and exams; however, there will be weekly assignments given over sections of the *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Workbook* as well as supplemental material provided throughout the course. The study guides will include a daily (5-day week) schedule of what is considered an optimal amount of work in order to understand the particular concept we are studying. In most cases, I would encourage you to complete all of the work on the study guides so you will be prepared for the quizzes and exams. There is a CD-ROM provided with the textbook that includes answer keys for most of the homework in the workbook. Bible translations are not included so you will need to check those using a fairly literal Bible translation (NASB, ESV, NKJV, etc.). If you are unable to access the PDF included on the CD-ROM, the file is also available on Canvas under Resources.

2. Quizzes (40%)

There will be a quiz given each week (except for weeks when there is an exam). The quizzes will include vocabulary, morphological and grammatical issues, as well as translation. There will also be a bonus section on each of the quizzes. Points earned on this section will not be cumulative over the semester but only available as points added to that specific quiz. The maximum allowable score for each quiz is 100 points. The three (3) lowest or missing quiz scores will not be included in the final grade. The content of the quizzes will be included on study guides distributed in class.

3. Exams (45%)

Three equally weighted exams will be given over the course of the semester. Based on the fact that language learning involves an accumulation of one concept based upon another, all of the exams will be cumulative in the strictest sense. However, each exam will emphasize the concepts from a specific set of chapters. A study guide for each exam will be provided one week before the exam. If you make less than 70% on any of the first two exams, you must take another similar exam to receive a higher grade. The higher of the two grades will be used; however, you will not receive anything higher than 70% for the grade. You must take the alternative exam before the date of the next exam in the course. Each student will take two exams: a midterm and a final. Each of these exams will be worth 20% of the student's final grade and will be administered in-class according to the dates listed on outline. As with the quizzes, there will be a bonus section on each of the exams to allow you to make up points that you miss on the main exam. The maximum allowable score for each exam is 100.

4. Hebrew Analysis Project (15%)

You will select a passage in the Old Testament that was written in Hebrew and do a Hebrew analysis of that passage. This is not an exegetical paper but it would be a preliminary step towards it. Using the Hebrew knowledge and skills that you have, with particular attention to the content of Hebrew I, work through the passage as best as you can with appropriate helps and do the following:

1. Identify words or phrases that are crucial in the understanding of the meaning of the text.
2. Identify parts of speech and grammar that are significant in presenting the meaning of the passage.
3. Demonstrate some level of research and study going beyond what is covered in the quizzes and exams in order to understand the Hebrew text.
4. Show how your knowledge of Hebrew has assisted in unlocking the meaning and significance of the passage.

You will write out your results of the points identified above. You may organize it in any way that you find most helpful in conveying the results of your study. It should be comprehensible by those who have had a first semester Hebrew course, although it is acceptable to go beyond the first semester content in some places as needed.

Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they anticipate being able to attend every class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any information missed. Professors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual professors may determine how attendance affects students’ ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades.

Grading Scale

A	93-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour
A-	90-92	3.7 grade points per semester hour
B+	87-89	3.3 grade points per semester hour
B	83-86	3.0 grade points per semester hour
B-	80-82	2.7 grade points per semester hour
C+	77-79	2.3 grade points per semester hour
C	73-76	2.0 grade points per semester hour
C-	70-72	1.7 grade points per semester hour
D+	67-69	1.3 grade points per semester hour
D	63-66	1.0 grade point per semester hour
D-	60-62	0.7 grade points per semester hour
F	0-59	0.0 grade points per semester hour

Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An “I” may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their professors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar’s Office. The “I” must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the grade was assigned, or the “I” will become an “F.”

Academic Honesty

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting.

Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

Institutional Email Policy

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students' institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

Disabilities

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the professor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

Resources and Support

Canvas and SONIS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and SONIS for student data. Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number, twenty-four hours a day. Students needing help with SONIS should contact the Campus Software Manager at studenttechsupport@criswell.edu.

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting

the office at 214.818.1332 or studentservices@criswell.edu. Pastoral and certified counseling services are also available to Criswell students. Appointments are scheduled through the Dean of Students, at deanofstudents@criswell.edu.

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, go to the library website, or email the Wallace Library at library@criswell.edu.

Writing Center: Students are encouraged to consult with writing tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence by practicing techniques of clear and effective writing. To consult with a tutor, students can visit the Writing Center located on the first floor near the Computer Lab, or they can schedule an appointment by emailing writingcenter@criswell.edu or calling 214.818.1373.

Course Outline/Calendar

Class	Date	In-Class Topic	Text Chapter(s) Covered	Assignment Due
1	Jan 18	Introduction to Course, Syllabus, Alphabet	1	
2	Jan 25	Vowels, Syllables, Pronunciation	2–3	Quiz 1
3	Feb 8	Nouns, Definite Article	4–5	Quiz 2
4	Feb 15	Prepositions	6	Quiz 3
5	Feb 22	Adjectives	7	Quiz 4
6	Feb 29	Review for Exam		Quiz 5
7	Mar 7	EXAM DAY		EXAM #1
	March 11-15	SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS		
8	Mar 21	Pronouns	8	Quiz 6
9	Mar 28	Pronominal Suffixes	9	Quiz 7
10	Apr 4	Construct Chains, Numbers	10–11	Quiz 8
11	Apr 11	Review for Exam		Quiz 9
12	Apr 18	EXAM DAY		EXAM #2
13	Apr 25	Hebrew Verbs, <i>Qal</i> Perfect Strong Verbs	12–13	Quiz 10
14	May 2	<i>Qal</i> Imperfect Strong Verbs	15	Quiz 11
15	May 9	FINAL EXAM DAY		FINAL EXAM

Selected Bibliography

- Armstrong, Terry A., Douglas L. Busby, and Cyril F. Carr. *A Reader's Hebrew-English Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1989.
- Arnold, Bill T. and John H. Choi. *A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- Bornemann, Robert. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1998.
- Cohn-Sherbok, Dan. *Biblical Hebrew for Beginners*. London: SPCK, 1996.
- Davidson, A. B., and John Mauchline. *Introductory Hebrew Grammar: with progressive exercises in reading, writing, and pointing*. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1966.

DeClaissé-Walford, Nancy L. *Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Textbook*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2002.

Dobson, John H. *Learn Biblical Hebrew*. Second edition. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.

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Fuller, Russell T., and Kyoungwon Choi. *Invitation to Biblical Hebrew: A Beginning Grammar*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2006.

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_____. *Graded Reader of Biblical Hebrew: A Guide to Reading the Hebrew Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.

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