

OT 5241
Elementary Hebrew II
Course Syllabus

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course continues the study of Hebrew grammar and vocabulary with a focus on the Hebrew weak verb. It is also designed to prepare the advancing Hebrew student for exegetical study by a detailed consideration of Hebrew syntax and the reading of selected texts.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of this course you should be able to:

1. Understand basic Hebrew morphology based on Kelly's grammar, especially the difficult categories of the weak verb.
2. Know the remaining vocabulary from Kelly's grammar as well as new words encountered in the OT readings.
3. Read with increased proficiency and confidence directly from the OT Hebrew text.
4. Gain a better understanding of the Hebrew language through a detailed study of biblical Hebrew syntax and applying it to the reading of extended narrative prose.
5. Better appreciate the importance of Hebrew syntax for the exegesis of the Old Testament text.
6. Understand the basic theory and practice of Hebrew Old Testament textual criticism.
7. Begin serious exegetical study of the Hebrew Old Testament.

III. COURSE TEXTBOOKS

Required:

From Fall Semester

1. Kelley, P. H. *Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992.
2. Brown, Francis, S. R. Driver, and Charles A. Briggs. *The New Brown-Driver-Briggs-Gesenius Hebrew-English Lexicon (BDB)*. Peabody, Mass: Hendrickson Pub., 1979 (originally 1906). *NOTE: other versions of BDB are also acceptable.*
3. *Hebrew Tutor* from Parsons Technology (One Parsons Drive, PO Box 100, Hiawatha, Iowa 52233-0100) and available for purchase online.

New:

1. Elliger, Kurt and W. Rudolph. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. 5th edition. Germany: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1997.

(NOTE: This text is also published by The American Bible Society and Hendrickson Publishers. These versions may have different published dates. Small, large, or paperback editions are acceptable)

2. Brotzman, Ellis R. *Old Testament Textual Criticism: A Practical Introduction*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.
3. Van der Merwe, C. H. J. et al. *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar*. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1998.

Recommended:

- Chisholm, Robert B. *From Exegesis to Exposition: A Practical Guide to Using Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.
- Arnold, Bill T. and John H. Choi. *A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.

Suggested:

- Hubbard, Robert L. *The Book of Ruth*. New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. ***Written Assignments and Participation***

You are responsible to read and study the material and complete the assignments for Lessons XXIV-XXXI in Kelly according to the course schedule given below or as instructed in class. In addition you are responsible to complete the syntactic worksheet for each of the Old Testament passages assigned and the corresponding section in the Hebrew Tutor, when appropriate. You will be expected to be able to read the passage assigned for each day and interact with its syntactic, semantic, text-critical and translation issues. The quality of your interaction will be recorded and figured into your overall mark for this assignment.

NOTE: A copy of your assignment will be collected at the beginning of each class. This will be used to compare with your corrected copy done during the class discussion. You are responsible for correcting any mistakes or adding additional information from the class discussion. You will hand in this corrected edition of your written assignments at the end of the semester. This work will be graded based on: 1) the accuracy and thoroughness of your initial preparation and 2) the thoroughness of your corrections and additions from the class discussion.

2. ***Quizzes***

There will be three quizzes over the remaining vocabulary from lessons XXIV-XXXI. Additional quizzes over course material may be given throughout the semester as the instructor deems necessary. The quizzes will be administered at the beginning of the class period and may be taken during the first break for those arriving late.

3. ***Exam***

Three exams will be given throughout the course. The first will cover the remaining chapters from Kelly. The mid-term exam will test the student's ability to translate and analyze a short OT passage. The final exam will be comprehensive and will be given during the last scheduled class time.

4. ***Reading and Hebrew Tutor***

You are responsible to complete and carefully study the assigned reading before the class period for which it is due. You are also responsible for working through the chapters in the Hebrew Tutor software that correspond to the material we are covering in class. You will be responsible to turn in a report at the end of the semester indicating the reading assignments and Hebrew Tutor chapters you were able to complete on time.

V. COURSE GRADING

- Reading and Hebrew Tutor 10%
- Quizzes 10%
- Written Assignments and Participation 35%
- Final Exam 45%
(Kelly – 10%; Mid-term – 15%; Final – 20%)

VI. GRADING SCALE

A 94-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F 0-59
	B 84-86	C 74-76	D 64-66	
A- 90-93	B- 80-83	C- 70-73	D- 60-63	

VII. COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT DUE
1	1/21	Kelly, Lessons XXIV-XXVI	
2	1/28	Kelly, Lessons XXVII-XXIX	Quiz: Vocab. XXIV-XXVI Exers. XXIV-XXVI
3	2/4	Kelly, Lessons XXX-XXXI	Quiz: Vocab. XXVII-XXIX Exer. XXVII-XXIX
4	2/11	Intro. to BHS Gen. 1:1-2	Quiz: Vocab. XXX-XXXI Exer. XXX-XXXI EXAM – Kelly XXIV-XXXI Read Brotzman, 97-106
	2/18	OFF	
5	2/25	Intro. to Text Criticism Gen. 1:3-13	Read BHS Introduction (xi-xviii) Wurtwein, 12-30 (handout) Brotzman, 9-132 Syntactic, semantic, translation worksheet for: Gen. 1:3-13
6	3/3	Syntax of the verb Gen. 1:14-25	Read Van der Merwe, §19 Syntactic, semantic, translation worksheet for: Gen. 1:14-25
7	3/10	Syntax of the verb Gen. 1:26-2:3	Read Van der Merwe, §20-§22 Syntactic, semantic, translation worksheet for: Gen. 1:26-2:3
8	3/17	Syntax of Noun Ruth 1:1-9	MID-TERM EXAM Read Van der Merwe §25,29-35 Syntactic, semantic, translation worksheet and Hebrew Tutor for Ruth 1:1-9
9	3/24	Syntax of Pronouns Ruth 1:10-22	Read Van der Merwe §36 Syntactic, semantic, translation worksheet and Hebrew Tutor for Ruth 1:10-22
10	3/31	Syntax of Preps. & Conjs. Ruth 2:1-13	Read Van der Merwe, §39-40 Syntactic, semantic, translation worksheet and Hebrew Tutor for Ruth 2:1-13
11	4/7	Syntax of Adverbs, etc. Ruth 2:14-23	Read Van der Merwe, §41-45 Syntactic, semantic, translation worksheet and Hebrew Tutor for Ruth 2:14-23
12	4/14	Word Order Ruth 3:1-18	Read Van der Merwe, §46-47 Syntactic, semantic, translation worksheet and Hebrew Tutor for Ruth 3:1-18
13	4/21	Ruth 4:1-22	Syntactic, semantic, translation worksheet and Hebrew tutor for Ruth 4:1-22
14	4/28	Psalm 1 Review	Syntactic, semantic, translation worksheet for: Psalm 1
15	5/5	FINAL EXAM	Submit Reading Report and corrected worksheets