

BIBL 6100 BIBLICAL HEBREW 1
North Park Theological Seminary
Fall 2023, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 1:15-2:30 PM
Hyflex Format: On campus and live online
3 Credit Hours

DRAFT – Final version will be posted on Canvas by the first day of class.

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

J. Nathan Clayton, PhD, Assistant Professor of Old Testament

E-mail: jnclayton@northpark.edu (best method of contact)

Office: Nyvall Hall 321

Office Phone: (773) 244-5236

Cell Phone: (847) 971-4544

- *Email & cell phone:* During the semester, please feel free to email, call, and/or text me M-F, during business hours (8am – 5 pm central time, please confirm your name/class if you text). I usually respond to email and texts within 24 hours, M-F.
- *Meeting with professor.* Students are welcome to schedule an appointment to meet in-person, or to speak by phone or Zoom at any point in the semester. If you are having any difficulties in the course, I encourage you to be in contact early on so we can problem solve together.

ZOOM LINK:

For online students:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82950021595?pwd=QWJGV2l1T0JzQThiSk1EbWtUT2dYQT09>

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a survey of the essentials of biblical Hebrew including basic grammar concepts and the strong verb. A special emphasis is placed on building vocabulary. Course is only graded pass/fail.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Biblical Hebrew I represents the first semester of study in your Hebrew language and exegesis sequence. The main objectives of the course are:

1. To begin developing your core intellectual abilities in Old Testament Hebrew: by taking up careful and serious study of the principal aspects of fundamental Biblical Hebrew grammar—its morphology, phonology, vocabulary, and syntax.
2. To begin developing your abilities in critically interacting with and evaluating exegetical and theological studies rooted in Biblical Hebrew.
3. To help you grow in your ability to handle the biblical text of the Old Testament with clarity, conviction, and competence—towards the crucial tasks of teaching and preaching Holy Scripture in the church.
4. To help you develop spiritually in your ability to study, hear, and meditate on the Old Testament—by bringing you closer to the original Hebrew text.

Learning Hebrew *well* is a great adventure, a worthy challenge, and a central pillar to your fundamental development as a teacher and preacher of Scripture. Be committed to regular, daily study throughout the semester and begin your lifelong journey in learning and using the language of the Old Testament—for the glory of God, for the enrichment of your walk with Him and your service to Him, and for the edification of His church!

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. These books are *required* for the course:
 - a. You will need these two books from the beginning of the course (note editions):
 - Pratico, Gary D., and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Grammar, Third Edition*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019.
 - Pratico, Gary D., and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Workbook, Third Edition*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019.
 - And you will need *one* of the following two lexicons by around midterm:
 - Brown, Francis, S. R. Driver and Charles A. Briggs. *The Brown-Driver-Briggs-Gesenius Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1979. (or other versions of “BDB”, a standard lexicon)
 - or:
 - Holladay, W. L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.
2. These books/resources are not required, but suggested as helpful:

Long, Gary A. *Grammatical Concepts 101 for Biblical Hebrew*. Second Edition. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.

Murphy, Todd J. *Pocket Dictionary for the Study of Biblical Hebrew*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2003.

K. Elliger & W. Rudolph, eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. 5th ed. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1997. (= “BHS” [the scholarly, critical edition of the Hebrew Bible]; large or small hardback, or small paperback [cheapest] versions available; a BHS will be required for Biblical Hebrew 2)

The authors of our grammar & workbook, Gary Pratico and Miles Van Pelt have produced a number of other resources that you can consult/consider (vocabulary guides, various charts, the answer key for the workbook, vocabulary cards, etc). Check out these resources at ZondervanAcademic.com (search for the grammar’s title)

For some online vocabulary tools, keyed to the chapters in the Pratico/Van Pelt grammar—check these websites:

memrise.com (this site includes an app version for IOS & Android—previous students have found this app very helpful)

teknia.com/hebrew

quizlet.com also has various quizlets for each chapter of the grammar

Also: the IOS app BibleVocab+ (on the App store) is good, and also keyed to the Pratico/Van Pelt grammar. See bible-vocab.com

WEEKLY ROUTINES

1. 1 or 2 new grammar chapters will be introduced each week.
2. The first 23 chapters of the grammar will be covered in Hebrew I. Thus: Sections 1-3 of the grammar will be covered this semester (1. Hebrew Writing, 2. Nouns and Nominals, 3. Hebrew Verbs and Qal Stem). Section 4 (Derived [verbal] Stems) and Section 5 (Introduction to BHS) will be covered in Quad A of the second semester (Biblical Hebrew 2).

- Three times in the semesters, (twice early on and once at the very end of the class), a “drills & skills” class session will be held for review, small group exercises, further oral exercises, etc.

COURSE ASSESSMENTS

- 13 quizzes:** the quizzes cover either 1 or 2 chapters of grammar & vocabulary. Most weeks, there is 1 quiz, a few weeks there will be 2 quizzes (that is, one on Tuesday and one Thursday). I will drop the lowest quiz score for your final grade.
- Grammar Reading:** careful reading of chapters 1-23 is required. A self-reporting reading log will be turned in on Canvas at the end of the semester (see Appendix A here, and a blank log is also posted on Canvas).
- Workbook Exercises:** completion of exercises 1-23 is required. A self-reporting workbook exercises log will be also turned in on Canvas at the end of the semester (see Appendix B here, and a blank log is also posted on Canvas).
- Midterm exam:** on chapters 1-11, grammar & vocabulary.
- Final exam:** comprehensive for the grammar & vocabulary of chapters 1-23, but with a stronger focus on chapters 12-23.

On the first day of class, I will cover in detail how the quizzes and exams will be taken and turned in by campus and online students. (Note: online students need to have access to a printer and a scanner/or smartphone)

Also: please note, for the sake of fairness for all students, that the grammar reading, and the completion of workbook exercises, cannot be made up for credit. Please honestly report on the two logs these items as they stand on the day they are due. Further, even if not for credit, I strongly encourage students to catch up on grammar reading and/or workbook exercises, as needed.

This NPTS language class is Pass/Fail, by default. A final grade of C- or above is needed to achieve a “P” (passing grade). If you wish to take this class for a letter grade, you need to make a request to the Academic Services office.

Final Grade Breakdown		
1	Quizzes	25%
2	Grammar Reading	10%
3	Workbook Exercises	15%
4	Midterm Exam	25%
5	Final Exam	25%

Seminary Grading Scale			
A	95-100	C	80-83
A-	93-94	C-	78-79
B+	91-92	D+	76-77
B	88-90	D	72-75
B-	86-87	D-	70-71
C+	84-85	F	0-69

ADDITIONAL COURSE GUIDELINES

It is important that you prioritize your various responsibilities in and out of school to be able to manage your work in Hebrew realistically.

Regular attendance and full participation at every class session is fully expected in this graduate course. This is crucial for the faithful, responsible, and successful completion of your first semester of Hebrew study! Keep in touch with me (phone, text, e-mail, meeting, conversation before/after class) if you need to be absent, if you have any concerns overall, if you are struggling with an issue in the grammar, or if you just love to talk about Hebrew, the OT, and the Bible!

No extra credit is given. The grading is balanced out between reading & workbook exercises, the quizzes, and the two exams.

HYFLEX FORMAT-SPECIFIC GUIDELINES:

In hyflex classrooms, our learning community combines in-person students and students joining the classroom by Zoom. Toward cultivating a respectful, accessible environment for mutual learning, we observe the following:

- All students come prepared for active, informed participation.
- Students joining by *Zoom*: Think of your physical space as an extension of the classroom. Ensure that you are in a private, stable location that is free of visual and audio distractions. Make sure that you have a reliable, consistent internet connection. It's important that we all respect the integrity of classroom discussion. (For this same reason, please do not record class sessions.) Please keep your camera and microphone on through the class session. Consider purchasing a [microphone/headset](#) to improve the quality of your sound. (Attendance in class assumes that you are present in this way.)
- Students joining in the *classroom*: Remember that the class and classroom extend to colleagues joining by Zoom; it's important to remain visible as well. Please engage the full learning community. Registering for the campus section entails a commitment to joining the class in person. In-person students will also be asked to log into the Zoom call as well (and mute themselves).

ACADEMIC HONESTY

In keeping with our Christian heritage and commitment, North Park University is committed to the highest possible ethical and moral standards. Just as we will constantly strive to live up to these high standards, we expect our students to do the same. To that end, cheating of any sort will not be tolerated. Students who are discovered cheating will receive a failing grade on the assignment and are subject to discipline up to and including failure of a course and expulsion. Our definition of cheating includes but is not limited to:

1. Plagiarism – the use of another's work as one's own without giving credit to the individual. This includes using materials from the internet.
2. Copying another's answers on an examination.
3. Deliberately allowing another to copy one's answers or work.
4. Signing an attendance roster for another who is not present.

For additional information, see the [Seminary Academic Catalog](#), pp. 25–26.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Your experience in this class is important to me. North Park is committed to creating inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you have already established your accommodations, please share your accommodation letter with me so we can discuss how your

accommodations will be implemented in this course. If you have not yet established services and have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations, please email the Disability Access Specialist or contact by phone (773-244-5737). Student Engagement facilitates the interactive process that establishes reasonable accommodations.

TITLE IX

Students who believe they may have experienced sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking should contact the Title IX Coordinator (773) 244-5664 or TitleIX@northpark.edu to learn more about reporting options, resources, and support services.

As members of the North Park faculty, we are concerned about the well-being and development of our students and are available to discuss any concerns. Faculty members are private resources meaning we are legally obligated to share information about the behavior reported above with the University's Title IX coordinator. If you are unsure whether you want your concerns disclosed to the Title IX Coordinator, we encourage you to contact Counseling Support Services at (773) 244-4897 or counseling@northpark.edu. Please refer to North Park's [Safe Community](#) site for reporting, contact information, and further details.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

If, due to extenuating circumstances (specifically, pregnancy, illness, personal and family issues, military assignment, etc.), a student anticipates they will be unable to complete course work within the allotted time, that student may request a grade of incomplete from the course instructor before the last week of class clearly stating the reason(s) for this request. Overscheduling and/or lack of self-discipline are not considered extenuating circumstances. If the request is timely and meets the criteria, student and instructor will submit the incomplete grade form and the grade for that class will be listed as "I" until the last day of the following semester. If coursework is not submitted by the last day of the following semester the listing of "I" will automatically be changed to "F." For the full policy, see page 15 of the [Seminary Academic Catalog](#).

COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Class Topic	Grammar Chapters: Reading Due	Workbook Chapters: Exercises Due	Quizzes
Week 1 T 8/29	Course Introduction & Alphabet	--	--	--
Th 8/31	Vowels	1 & 2	1	--
Week 2 T 9/5	Syllabification & Pronunciation	3	2	Quiz 1: chs. 1-2
Th 9/7	<i>Drills & Skills</i>	Review 1-3	3	--
Week 3 T 9/12	Nouns	4	Review 1-3	Quiz 2: ch. 3
Th 9/14	Definite Article & Conjunction Waw	5	4	--
Week 4 T 9/19	Prepositions	6	5	Quiz 3: chs. 4-5

Th 9/21	<i>Drills & Skills</i>	Review 4-6	6	--
Week 5 T 9/26	Adjectives	7	Review 4-6	Quiz 4: ch. 6
Th 9/28	Pronouns	8	7	
Week 6 T 10/3	Pronominal Suffixes	9	8	Quiz 5: chs. 7-8
Th 10/5	Construct Chain	10	9	Quiz 6: ch. 9
Week 7 T 10/10	Numbers	11	10-11	Quiz 7: Chs. 10-11
Th 10/12	Midterm Exam: Grammar & Vocabulary, 1-11	Review 1-11		
Week 8	10/16-20: Reading Week <i>No Class</i>			
Week 9 T 10/24	Introduction to Verbs	12	--	--
Th 10/26	Qal Perfect – Strong Verbs	13	12	--
Week 10 T 10/31	Qal Perfect – Weak Verbs	14	13	Quiz 8: chs.12-13
Th 11/2	Qal Imperfect – Strong Verbs	15	14	Quiz 9: ch. 14
Week 11 T 11/7	Qal Imperfect – Weak Verbs	16	15	--
Th 11/9	Waw Consecutive	17	16	Quiz 10: chs. 15-16
Week 12 T 11/14	Qal Imperative, Cohortative, and Jussive	18	17	Quiz 11: ch. 17
Th 11/17	<i>No Class:</i> Conference Travel for professor	Review 12-18		
Week 13 T 11/21	Pronominal Suffixes on Verbs	19	18	--
Th 11/23	Thanksgiving <i>No Class</i>			

Week 14 T 11/28	Qal Infinitive Construct & Absolute	20 & 21	19	Quiz 12: chs. 18-19
Th 11/30	Qal Participle	22	20 & 21	--
Week 15 T 12/5	Issues of Sentence Syntax	23	22	Quiz 13: chs. 20-22
Th 12/7	Drills & Skills	Review 12-23	23	--
Week 16 12/14 or 12/15	Final Exam: Grammar & Vocabulary Exact date & time TBA; comprehensive, but with focus on chs. 12-23			

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

A. Biblical Hebrew: Introductory Grammars

Bartelt, Andrew H., and Andrew Steinmann. *Fundamental Biblical Hebrew*. St. Louis: Concordia Academic, 2004.

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

Dobson, John H. *Learn Biblical Hebrew*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005.

Ellis, Robert R.. *Learning to Read Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. Waco, Tex.: Baylor University Press, 2006.

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

Fullilove, William. *Introduction to Hebrew: A Guide for Learning and Using Biblical Hebrew*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R, 2017.

Futato, Mark. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2003.

Hackett, Jo Ann. *A Basic Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2010.

Hostetter, Edwin C. *An Elementary Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. Biblical Languages: Hebrew 1. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic, 2000.

Kelley, Page H. *Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. 2nd edition. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2018.

Martin, James D. *Davidson's Introductory Hebrew Grammar*. 27th ed. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1993.

Rocine, B. M. *Learning Biblical Hebrew: A New Approach Using Discourse Analysis*. Macon: Smyth & Helwys, 2000.

Ross, Allen P. *Introducing Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001.

Seow, C. L. *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Rev. ed. Nashville: Abingdon, 1995.

B. Biblical Hebrew: Syntax/Reference Grammars

Choi, Kyoungwon, and Russell T. Fuller. *Invitation to Biblical Hebrew Syntax: An Intermediate Grammar*. Invitation to Theological Studies. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2017.

Gesenius, Wilhelm, Kautzsch, E. , and A. E. Cowley. *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar*. Mineola, New York: Dover, 2006. (Reprint of 1910 edition)

Gibson, John C. L., and A. B. Davidson. *Davidson's Introductory Hebrew Grammar: Syntax*. 4th ed. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1994.

Joiion, Paul, and T. Muraoka. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. 2 Vols. Rev. ed. Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute, 2006.

Naudé, J. A., Kroeze, Jan H., and C. H. J. van der Merwe. *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar*. Biblical Languages: Hebrew 3. 2nd edition. New York & London: T & T Clark, 2017.

Waltke, Bruce K., and Michael P. O'Connor. *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1990.

C. Biblical Hebrew: Various Studies

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

Bodine, Walter R. *Linguistics and Biblical Hebrew*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1992.

Brotzman, Ellis R., and Eric J. Tully. *Old Testament Textual Criticism: A Practical Introduction*. 2nd edition. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2016.

Chisholm, Robert D. *A Workbook for Intermediate Hebrew: Grammar, Exegesis, and Commentary on Jonah and Ruth*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2006.

_____. *From Exegesis to Exposition: A Practical Guide to Using Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.

Groom, Susan A. *Linguistic Analysis of Biblical Hebrew*. Carlisle: Paternoster, 2003.

Long, Gary. *Grammatical Concepts 101 for Biblical Hebrew*. 2nd edition. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.

- Pratico, Gary D., and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Graded Reader of Biblical Hebrew: A Guide to Reading the Hebrew Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.
- Putnam, Frederic C. *A Cumulative Index to the Grammar and Syntax of Biblical Hebrew*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1996.
- Silzer, Peter J., and Thomas J. Finley. *How Biblical Languages Work: Student's Guide to Learning Hebrew and Greek*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2004.
- Walker-Jones, Arthur. *Hebrew for Biblical Interpretation*. Atlanta : Society of Biblical Literature, 2003.
- Landes, George M. *Building Your Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary: Learning Words by Frequency and Cognate*. Resources for Biblical Study 41. 2nd Edition. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2001.

APPENDIX A: Biblical Hebrew 1: Grammar Reading Log

Student Name:

Raw Score: /84

For each day that reading is due from the grammar, report a number between 0-4 (following the scale below) in the "Completion Number" column, based on your honest estimate of the amount of the required you completed.

4 = 100% completed; **3** = 75-99% completed; **2** = 50-74 % completed; **1** = less than 50% completed
0 = none of the readings completed

Date	Topic	Grammar Chapters: Reading Due	Completion Number:
Th 8/31	Alphabet & Vowels	1 & 2	
T 9/5	Syllabification Pronunciation	3	
T 9/12	Nouns	4	
Th 9/14	Definite Article Conjunction Waw	5	
T 9/19	Prepositions	6	
T 9/26	Adjectives	7	
Th 9/28	Pronouns	8	
T 10/3	Pronominal Suffixes	9	
Th 10/5	Construct Chain	10	
T 10/10	Numbers	11	
T 10/24	Introduction to Verbs	12	
Th 10/26	Qal Perfect – Strong Verbs	13	
T 10/31	Qal Perfect – Weak Verbs	14	
Th 11/2	Qal Imperfect Strong Verbs	15	
T 11/7	Qal Imperfect Weak Verbs	16	
Th 11/9	Waw Consecutive	17	
T 11/14	Qal Imperative, Cohortative, and Jussive	18	
T 11/21	Pronominal Suffixes on Verbs	19	
T 11/28	Qal Infinitive Construct & Absolute	20 & 21	
Th 11/30	Qal Participle	22	
T 12/5	Issues of Sentence Syntax	23	

APPENDIX B: Biblical Hebrew 1: Workbook Exercises Log

Student Name:

Raw Score: /84

For each day that reading is due from the grammar, report a number between 0-4 (following the scale below) in the “Completion Number” column, based on your honest estimate of the amount of the required you completed.

4 = 100% completed; 3 = 75-99% completed; 2 = 50-74 % completed; 1 = less than 50% completed
0 = none of the readings completed

Date	Topic	Workbook Chapters: Exercises Due	Completion Number:
Th 8/31	Alphabet	1	
T 9/5	Vowels	2	
Th 9/7	Syllabification Pronunciation	3	
Th 9/14	Nouns	4	
T 9/19	Definite Article Conjunction Waw	5	
Th 9/21	Prepositions	6	
Th 9/28	Adjectives	7	
Th 10/3	Pronouns	8	
T 10/5	Pronominal Suffixes	9	
Th 10/10	Construct Chain & Numbers	10 & 11	
Th 10/26	Introduction to Verbs	12	
T 10/31	Qal Perfect – Strong Verbs	13	
Th 11/2	Qal Perfect – Weak Verbs	14	
T 11/7	Qal Imperfect Strong Verbs	15	
Th 11/9	Qal Imperfect Weak Verbs	16	
T 11/14	Waw Consecutive	17	
T 11/21	Qal Imperative, Cohortative, and Jussive	18	
T 11/28	Pronominal Suffixes on Verbs	19	
Th 11/30	Qal Infinitive Construct & Absolute	20 & 21	
T 12/5	Qal Participle	22	
Th 12/7	Issues of Sentence Syntax	23	