

Course Outline: Winter 2019

Intro to Biblical Hebrew 1041b/5041b

Location: W104

Days & Time: Tues/Fri 2:30-4:20

Instructor: Dr. N. Meyer

Contact info: nmeyer5@uwo.ca

Office: A225 ext c/o 289; hours: Fri 10:20-11:20



Huron
THEOLOGY

Course Description

An introduction to the writing system and grammar of Biblical Hebrew for those with no previous knowledge of the language.

According to an ancient Jewish legend, the Creator spoke the world into existence using the language of Hebrew. With this course, students will begin to learn this sacred language of the Jewish religion, the language in which the majority of the Bible (both Jewish and Christian) was written and which was revived in the twentieth century in the form of Modern Hebrew. To encourage the daily discipline of study and practice that is necessary for language learning, the grading scheme of this course is weighted more evenly throughout the term, with regular homework assignments and quizzes carrying the bulk of the grade. Your commitment is necessary to achieve the goals of this course, which are to develop skills both for reading fluency and basic oral competence with biblical Hebrew; to develop a vocabulary of frequently occurring words in the Hebrew Bible; and to encounter biblical Hebrew as part of a living culture.

Course Outcomes

For the best possible outcome, this course should be regarded as the first of two 3-unit courses, upon the successful completion of which a student should be able to:

- pronounce with confidence the text of the Hebrew Bible
- read basic Biblical Hebrew prose
- articulate the value of reading the text in its original language

Course Materials

Required

Cook, John A., and Robert D. Holmstedt. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2014.

Student resources available at: <http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/books/beginning-biblical-hebrew/342630/students/esources>. Quizlet flashcards are available under BakerAcademic

Assignments & Method of Evaluation of Assignments

Assignments and Participation 26%

The completion of regular assignments (usually bi-weekly) *as well as participation in class* will count for 26% of your grade. Assignments for lessons covered must be submitted *in person at the beginning* of the next class begins.

Quizzes 49%

Seven quizzes, valued at 7 percent, will be written in class. These will test your comprehension of the grammar, syntax, and vocabulary covered in class and in the textbook. Missed quizzes will *not* be accommodated in the case of non-documented absences.

Final Exam 25%

The final exam will be comprehensive and comparable in format to quizzes.

Schedule

Week 1, Jan 8 & 11

Tues: Lesson 29 **בְּנֵי־יָמִים: פֶּעַל וְהַפְעִיל**

Fri: Lesson 30 Main and Subordinate Clauses
+ Pual and Hophal

Week 2, Jan 15 & 18

Tues: Lesson 31 Attached Pronouns: Plural

Reading 6 (Genesis 22ב)

Fri: **Quiz 1** | Lesson 32 Adjectives

Week 3, Jan 22 & 25

Tues: Lesson 33 Demonstrative Pronouns

Fri: Lesson 34 **סְגֻלָּת** Noun Pattern

Reading 7 (Genesis 37ב)

Week 4, Jan 29 & Feb 1

Tues: **Quiz 2** | Lessons 35 & 36 Past
Narrative Conjugation | **וְיָהִי**

Fri: Lesson 37 **נִפְעַל וְהַתְּפַעֵל**

Week 5, Feb 5 & 8

Tues: Lesson 38 Dynamic and Stative Verbs

Reading 8 (Genesis 3ג)

Fri: Lesson 39 Jussives and Imperatives

Week 6, Feb 12 & 15

Tues: **Quiz 3** | Lesson 40 Attached Pronouns
with Verbs

Fri: Lesson 41 Word Order with Topic and
Focus

Reading 9 (Genesis 22ג)

Week 7, Feb 19 & 22

Mid-Term Recess

Week 8, Feb 26 & Mar 1

Tues: **Quiz 4** | Lesson 42 Participles

Fri: Lesson 43 The Foreground and
Background of Narrative

Week 9, Mar 5 & 8

Tues: Lesson 44 The Verbal System: A
Summary

Reading 10 (Genesis 37ג)

Fri: Lesson 45 Numerals

Week 10, Mar 12 & 15

Tues: **Quiz 5** | Lesson 46 Topic

Reading 11 (Genesis I)

Fri: Lesson 47 Accents

Week 11, Mar 19 & 22

Tues: Lesson 48 Complements and Adjuncts

Reading 12 (Genesis 47)

Fri: Lesson 49 Case Relations

Week 12, Mar 26 & 29

Tues: **Quiz 6** | Lesson 50 Lexical Semantics

Reading 13 (Genesis 50)

Fri: Reading and Review

Week 13, April 2 & 5

Tues: **Quiz 7** | Reading and Review

Fri: Reading and Review

Week 14, April 9

Tues: Final Exam

Additional Statements:

1. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices during Tests and Exams

It is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited, to laptops, PDAs, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

2. Statement on Academic Offences:

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/2014/pg113.html>.

3. Plagiarism-detecting Software/Computer Marking:

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

4. Support Services:

- UWO Registrar's Office: <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca>
- Huron's Faculty of Theology, Office of the Dean: http://www.huronuc.on.ca/faculty_of_theology/info_for_current_students
- Faculty of Theology office: srice@uwo.ca, 519-438-7224, ext. 289
- Bachelor's Academic Advising at Huron: <http://www.huronuc.ca/CurrentStudents/AcademicAdvisorsandServices>
- Huron's Writing Skills Centre: http://www.huronuc.on.ca/student_life/writing_services
- UWO's Mental Health website: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to this website for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.
- UWO Student Support and Development Services: http://communications.uwo.ca/current_students/student_services.htm
- Services provided by Western University Student Council: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

5. Accommodation for absences:

If documentation is required for either medical or non-medical academic accommodation, then such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to your Faculty's Dean's office (or academic counselor), and not to the instructor. For the Faculty of Theology, all such documentation must be submitted to room A227. It will be the Dean's office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

a) Non-medical absences:

Missed assignments due to a non-medical absence can be submitted on the following class day *only twice*.

Only one missed quiz will be accommodated in the case of non-documented absences.

Since dates are known well in advance, documentation and a request for relief must be submitted to the Dean's Office in order for accommodation for non-medical absences from examinations to be considered.

- b) **Medical absences:** See also the Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness —Undergraduate Students, at <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf>)

For work representing 10% or more of the overall grade for the course, Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide document. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

For the UWO Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see <http://studentservices.uwo.ca> > Medical Documentation, and for Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness, see: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf Huron University College Academic Counselling website (www.huronuc.on.ca) or from the Dean's Office or Academic Services Centre at Huron.

For work representing less than 10% of the overall grade for the course:

In the above cases, involving documented medical absences, missed quizzes and assignments worth less than 10% will be accommodated by the professor.