

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT.

TITLE: Hebrew Grammar II & Exegesis

TERM: Spring 2020-2021

PROFESSOR: Steven Tuell

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: 15
AUDITORS: 5

UNLIMITED _____
NO AUDITORS _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This **synchronous online** course completes the study of introductory Hebrew grammar and introduces the practice of exegesis. Students will gain skills in interpreting texts by giving attention to their literary, social, historical, and canonical contexts, and by articulating a faithful interpretation of these texts as Christian Scripture. Students will also learn to identify reliable scholarly resources for biblical interpretation.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

This course builds on OT210, which introduced students to the alphabet and script, grammar, syntax (sentence structure), morphology (nouns, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, plus basic verbs and participles), and vocabulary of Biblical Hebrew. Besides filling out the knowledge already gained by the student in these areas, OT220 will devote a significant amount of time to the study of the Hebrew verb system. Students will master the morphology and meaning of each derived stem in the verbal system and will become competent in translating all verbs with their appropriate semantic nuances. Homework assignments will focus exclusively on Hebrew-to-English translations—primarily of specific biblical passages (e.g., the Joseph narrative; selected Psalms; etc.) but with occasional, shorter translation exercises to complement this work. Course objectives require that students:

- a) give a primary meaning for all vocabulary covered in the textbook and assigned biblical readings;
- b) identify all parts of speech and grammatical constructions in Biblical Hebrew;
- c) translate correctly verbal and non-verbal sentences into English and recognize the presence of narrative sequences;
- d) evaluate in grammatical and syntactical terms the main elements of Hebrew narrative and poetry;
- e) display an ability to use the principal tools of Hebrew language study (lexicon; concordance; verb paradigms; etc.)

PREREQUISITES: OT210

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:

- C. L. Seow, *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*, rev. ed. Nashville: Abingdon, 2013. ISBN: 978-1426789076, \$27.49
- Richard and Kendall Soulen, *Handbook of Biblical Criticism*, 4th ed., Westminster John Knox, 2011, ISBN: 978-0664235345, \$27.72
- Merold Westphal, *Whose Community? Which Interpretation? - Philosophical Hermeneutics for the Church*, Baker Academic, 2009, ISBN: 978-0801031472, \$15.95

Recommended:

- *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2006, ISBN: 978-1598561623, \$44.95
- *The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1994, ISBN: 978-1565632066, \$35.95
- Bill T. Arnold and John H. Choi, *A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*, 2nd ed., Cambridge University Press, 2018, ISBN: 978-1107434967, \$32.29
- James L. Mays, ed., *Harper's Bible Commentary*, HarperOne, 2000, ISBN: 978-0060655488, \$38.94
- Harold Attridge, ed., *HarperCollins Study Bible (NRSV)*, HarperOne, 2006, ISBN: 978-0060786854, \$26.64

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING

Midterm 20%, quizzes 10%, homework 5%.

A major exegesis paper (18-20 pages) 45%, with preliminary translation 10% and rough draft 10%

ATTENDANCE: Required.