

Elementary Hebrew I BIBHB 511

Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary
Fall 2017 Tuesday and Thursday 1:00-2:20

Instructor: Rabbi Michael Arsers

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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursday by appointment. Appointments via Skype or other electronic media are welcome.

Texts

Seow, C.L. *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Rev. Ed. Nashville. Abingdon, 1995. ISBN-139780687157860

Qal lilmod Ivrit: Learning Hebrew is easy and fun.

This booklet will be provided to students.

For those students who are planning to continue with Hebrew, it is recommended that they purchase:

Brown, Francis, S. R. Driver, Charles A. Briggs. *The Brown Driver Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Hendrickson Publishing, 1995. ISBN-13 9781565632066

There are also online materials that are required for this course. These will be discussed in class.

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to Biblical Hebrew which lays the groundwork for students to acquire the ability to read and understand the Hebrew Scriptures in the original Hebrew. This first semester begins with mastering the fundamentals of reading Hebrew and covers the rudiments of Hebrew grammar. Students will begin to become familiar with basic vocabulary. This course provides a basis for the continuing study of Hebrew. To reach the goal of being able to read and translate the Bible will require that students continue with Elementary Hebrew in the Spring semester.

The first four weeks of this course will concentrate on learning to read Hebrew fluently. We will also begin learning vocabulary and basic elements of Hebrew grammar. We will use a variety of oral exercises to gain familiarity with the Hebrew language.

By the end of the semester, the goal is to complete the first fifteen chapters in Seow.

Policies and grading:

Attendance and participation in class are required.

There will be four exams.

The first exam will be scheduled approximately at the end of the fourth week and will cover the students' ability to read Hebrew fluently, the basic vocabulary which has been presented, and also will cover the materials in the first three chapters of Seow.

Exam two will cover Seow chapters 4-7.

Exam three will cover Seow chapters 8-11.

Exam four will cover Seow chapters 12-15.

There will also be short quizzes given on a weekly basis. Subject matter will be based on the material most recently covered and will be announced in class.

Please note: On days when we have exams, only a portion of the class time will be used for the exam, the rest of the class period will be used for instruction.

Grades will be determined in the following way:

40% exams

30% quizzes

30% participation.

Schedule

Please note that there are three classes that I must miss due to Jewish holidays. We need to make up these class sessions. We will discuss make-up dates in class.

The three dates that I will miss are: September 21, October 5, and October 12.