

Syllabus for
GBIB 561—Old Testament Hermeneutics and Exegesis (Hebrew)
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2015

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

An exegetical study of selected Old Testament passages. Involves sound exegetical method and critical problems and hermeneutics of the passages. Includes doctrinal significance.
Prerequisites: GBIB 511 and proficiency in Hebrew as demonstrated by examination PRF 052.

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to do the following:

- A. Learn to use prerequisite Hebrew proficiency in a study of Old Testament literature.
- B. Develop a sound understanding of the exegetical problems of various types of literature in the Old Testament.
- C. Achieve increased ability to interpret the Old Testament relevantly to the present age.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Demonstrate a level of mastery of the skills required to translate the text of the Old Testament, either orally or in writing.
- B. Illustrate and explain the importance of contextual exegesis for the interpretation of the text.
- C. Discuss the importance of sound exegetical/hermeneutical method in interpreting and presenting the theological emphasis of the Old Testament to the twenty-first-century Church.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING MATERIALS

A. Required Materials

1. Textbooks

Bolozky, S. *501 Hebrew Verbs*, 2nd ed. New York: Barron's Educational Series, 2004. ISBN: 9780764137488

Brown, Driver, and Briggs. *Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1999. ISBN: 9781565632066

Elliger. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. 4th ed. New York: American Bible Society, 1997. ISBN: 9783438052223

Scott, W. *A Simplified Guide to BHS (Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia)*, 4th ed. Berkeley, CA: Bibal Press, 2007. ISBN: 9781930566682

Stuart, D. *Old Testament Exegesis*, 4th ed. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780664233440

Van Pelt, M., and G. Pratico. *Graded Reader of Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2006. ISBN: 9780310251576

Van Pelt, M., and G. Pratico. *The Vocabulary Guide to Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2003. ISBN: 9780310250722

2. Other
Appropriate grammatical aids

B. Optional Materials

1. Textbooks
None
2. Other
None

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
2. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence are charged a late exam fee.
3. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, electronic, video, multimedia, or computer software. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating involve both lying and stealing and are violations of ORU's Honor Code: "I will not cheat or plagiarize; I will do my own academic work and will not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments." Plagiarism is usually defined as copying someone else's ideas, words, or sentence structure and submitting them as one's own. Other forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - a. Submitting another's work as one's own or colluding with someone else and submitting that work as though it were his or hers;
 - b. Failing to meet group assignment or project requirements while claiming to have done so;
 - c. Failing to cite sources used in a paper;
 - d. Creating results for experiments, observations, interviews, or projects that were not done;
 - e. Receiving or giving unauthorized help on assignments.By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means. Penalties for any of the above infractions may result in disciplinary action including failing the assignment or failing the course or expulsion from the University, as determined by department and University guidelines.
4. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.

5. Students are to be in compliance with University, school, and departmental policies regarding Whole Person Assessment requirements. Students should consult the WPA handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the students' majors.
 - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an ePortfolio artifact is a zero for that assignment.
 - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.
- B. Graduate School of Theology and Ministry Policies and Procedures
1. **Completion of Assignments**
 Assignments are due on the dates established in the course calendar, which is published in the syllabus. **Any assignments turned in after the scheduled due date are penalized five percent (5%) of the original value per day including weekends, breaks, and holidays.** All work turned in two weeks after the assignment deadline is received but is granted a grade of zero for that assignment. **No work** is accepted after the final date of regular classes.
 2. **Incompletes**
 - a. An incomplete is given only after the student establishes with the academic committee by written petition that student's work is incomplete for good cause (i.e., lengthy illness, death in the family). **Incompletes are rarely granted.** Only those absences that are incurred within the time period of the extenuating circumstances prompting an incomplete are excused. The student is still accountable for any other absences and will be penalized for them according to the attendance policy.
 - b. A Petition for Incomplete Grade with all supporting documentation must be submitted for approval one week prior to the end of normal classes. **The submitting of a petition does not automatically ensure the granting of an incomplete.** The petition must be approved by the academic committee of the Graduate School of Theology and Ministry. Students are expected to continue all course work until an incomplete is granted.
 3. **Examinations**
 - a. Early examinations **are not** allowed. Late examinations without grade penalty are administered only when extenuating circumstances are present (such as a death in the family the week before exams or a sudden and major illness the week of exams that is documented by a physician).
 - b. A Petition for Late Examination must be submitted to the academic dean's office. A **\$15 fee**, plus proper documentation, must accompany the petition. The academic committee reviews each petition and grade penalties are assessed. (Late exam fee is not a grade penalty.)
 - c. Students taking late exams should expect alternate versions of the original exams.
 - d. **Not being present for the final examination automatically results in failure of the course.**
 4. **Attendance**
 The administration and faculty of the Graduate School of Theology and Ministry believe that class attendance is crucial in order for students to receive impartation, spiritual formation, and a community experience. Therefore, the Official Attendance Policy for the GSTM is as follows:

- a. Students will receive one letter grade reduction after missing more than two weeks of classes.
 - b. Students who miss more than one month of classes will fail the course.
 - c. **The absences allowed prior to a grade reduction are designed to allow for emergencies and illnesses and are not designed for indiscriminate use.**
 - d. Administrative excuses are granted only when a student is on official university business and has received approval in advance from the university administration.
 - e. Students are expected to be prompt for classes.
 - f. Students are expected to remain for the entire class session.
 - g. Leaving early without permission constitutes an absence.
5. The Disability Service Center, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, assures that no qualified individual with a disability will be denied reasonable accommodations based upon the individual's needs. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Disability Service Center and properly register for these services. For more information, call 918.495.7018 or go to www.studentresources.oru.edu.

B. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedures

- a. The requirements of the course are weighted as follows in computing the final grade:

Class Recitations	20%
Exegetical Research Paper	25%
Book Review	15%
Sermon Outline	15%
Final Examination	25%
- b. Grading scale:
 - A=90-100%
 - B=80-89%
 - C=70-79%
 - D=60-69%
 - F=59% and below

2. Whole Person Assessment Requirements

- a. All students entering the seminary are required to enroll in PRF 059 ePortfolio: Whole Person Assessment, which provides specific training to develop the skills needed to create an ePortfolio.
- b. Whole Person Assessment requirements for this course:
 - (1) All students, regardless of degree program, must submit the exegetical research paper for GBIB 561 to the course professor on ePortfolio, on the same date the assignment is also due in class.
 - (2) Failure to correctly submit designated artifact assignments on time to the course professor on ePortfolio will result in an Incomplete grade for the course. When a student submits the missing artifact to the professor on ePortfolio, he or she may fill out a Change of Grade Request with all relevant information and

submit it to the course professor for approval and final grade change

3. Other Policies and/or Procedures
 - a. Each student prepares a careful translation of the passage assigned for each class period. The student is expected to be prepared to identify the grammatical constructions that are involved in the translation.
 - b. The student must be prepared to discuss the various issues involved in the exegesis and interpretation of each passage.
 - c. The textbooks for the course serve as a background for the hermeneutical task.
 - d. Each student writes a 4- to 5-page book review on D. Stuart, *Old Testament Exegesis*.
 - e. Each student prepares **one** brief **exegetical sermon outline** from a passage selected from those assigned, including the following:
 - (1) A careful translation of the Hebrew text.
 - (2) An analysis of terms and grammatical constructions crucial for understanding and interpreting the text.
 - (3) An understanding of the text in its historical setting, including insights from the commentaries and the student's personal understanding.
 - (4) The significance of the text in the Christian tradition.
 - (5) Explanation of the meaning of the text as it relates to other passages from either the Old Testament or the New Testament.
 - f. Each student prepares a lecture or sermon (6-8 typewritten pages) on one selected passage in the assigned passages to illustrate the student's skill and ability in performing the hermeneutical task. M.A. students have the option of writing an exegetical research paper. All papers must conform to the Turabian form and style manual. **Courier New 12 point font is required.** The paper must be uploaded to ePortfolio.

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

	Topic	Assignment
1	Genesis 1:1-5; 2:1-3	
2	Genesis 26:1-6; 35:9-15	
3	Genesis 43:1-8; Exodus 3:1-12	
4	Exodus 6:1-8; 34:1-6	Book Review Due
5	Leviticus 19:1-4; Numbers 6:22-26	
6	Deuteronomy 6:1-15; 11:18-23	
7	Deuteronomy 31:1-8; Joshua 24:14-18	
8	Judges 3:7-11; 10:10-15	Sermon Outline Due
9	1 Samuel 15:10-24; 2 Samuel 7:1-9	
10	1 Kings 8:22-26; 2 Kings 17:34-40	
11	Isaiah 43:1-6; Jeremiah 31:31-34	
12	Ezekiel 37:1-6; Joel 3:1-5	
13	Psalms 23:1-6; 100:1-5	
14	Psalms 121:1-8; Ezra 7:6-10	Exegetical Research Paper Due
15	2 Chronicles 1:7-10; 7:1-4	
	Final Examination	

**Inventory for Student Learning Outcomes
Graduate School of Theology and Ministry**

Master of Divinity

GBIB 561 Old Testament Hermeneutics and Exegesis (Hebrew)

Dr. Brad Young, Instructor

Fall 2015

This course contributes to student learning outcomes for the Master of Divinity degree as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

No Contribution – Does not address the outcome.

Degree Program Outcomes	Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
Scripture in Cultural/Historical Context				
Articulate a foundational knowledge of the content of Scripture within its cultural and historical context with application to selected contemporary situations.	X			
Exegetical Tools to Translate/Analyze Biblical Text				
Interpret the biblical writings in the Greek and/or Hebrew languages using critical exegetical tools, and write a hermeneutical and exegetical paper.	X			
Knowledge of Christianity				
Present a basic knowledge of the key movements and figures together with their significance in the history of Christianity.				X
Knowledge of Christian Theology/Doctrine				
Exhibit a basic knowledge of contents and methods of Christian theology.			X	
Biblical/Theological Basis for Ministry Strategies				
Present practical ministry skills and strategies.		X		
Christian Ethics for Social Issues				
Analyze and discuss contemporary social issues affecting the Church and society based upon biblical, theological, and ethical principles.			X	
Theology and Theory of Ministry				
Develop and articulate a theology and theory of ministry that is relevant to the student's background and calling.				X
Skills for Contemporary Ministry				
Demonstrate skills for contemporary ministry within a variety of traditions, churches, and cross-cultural contexts.			X	

**Inventory for Student Learning Outcomes
Graduate School of Theology and Ministry**

Master of Arts Biblical Literature

GBIB 561 Old Testament Hermeneutics and Exegesis (Hebrew)

Dr. Brad Young, Instructor

Fall 2015

This course contributes to student learning outcomes for the M. A. Biblical Literature degree as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

No Contribution – Does not address the outcome.

Degree Program Outcomes	Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
1	Translation, Biblical Language			
Demonstrate proficiency in translating the Hebrew Old Testament and Greek New Testament	X			
2	Critical Methods of Exegesis			
Display ability to employ critical methods of exegesis from an informed theological-hermeneutical perspective using biblical languages.	X			
3	Major Old Testament Themes			
Correlate the major Old Testament themes and formulate a coherent Old Testament theology.		X		
4	Major New Testament Themes			
Correlate the major New Testament themes and formulate a coherent New Testament theology.			X	
5	Scripture in Cultural Context			
Apply the results of the critical study of Scripture in its cultural contexts to selected contemporary contexts.	X			
6	Tools/Methods of Research			
Write an advanced research MA thesis in Old Testament/New Testament using biblical critical tools and methods.		X		