

Syllabus for  
**BIB 311—Biblical Hebrew I**  
3.0 Credit Hours  
Fall 2016

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A basic introduction to Biblical Hebrew. Students are introduced to the fundamentals of Biblical Hebrew grammar, morphology, and syntax. Also emphasizes developing reading skills in the Biblical text.

Prerequisites: None

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to read the Hebrew Bible with the aid of a Lexicon and a reference grammar.

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 familiarity with the basics of Hebrew grammar and syntax in writing or by reading aloud as instructed by the instructor.
- B. List the most frequent words (50 occurrences or more) of biblical Hebrew vocabulary.
- C. Parse most Hebrew forms (with the exception of rare forms) encountered in the Hebrew Bible.
- D. Summarize basic facts concerning the Semitic context and development of the Hebrew language.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

*Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. American Bible Society. 1997. (ISBN: 9783438052223)

Pratico, Gary D., and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Grammar*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. (ISBN: 9780310270201)

\_\_\_\_\_. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Workbook*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. (ISBN: 9780310270225)

Recommended

Pelt, Miles V. van, and Gary D. Pratico. *Old Testament Hebrew Vocabulary Cards*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. (ISBN: 9780310259862)  
*Alternatively, order the Vocabulary Cards App below*

Pelt, Miles V. van *Old Testament Hebrew Vocabulary Cards App*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, n.d. (ISBN: 9780310494133)



## 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, video, multimedia, or computer software. 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.
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 Whole Person Assessment 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. School and/or Department Policies and Procedures

Note: Attendance policy is enforced. Excessive absences will affect your grade. See syllabus attendance policy.

1. Completion of a Course
  - a. Late work will not be accepted. Assignments are due on or before the deadline given.
  - b. Under rare circumstances, exceptions may be made in consultation with the faculty member for the course. However, except in extreme emergencies, students must contact faculty members before the assigned due date and request an exception to the policy.
2. Incompletes
  - a. An incomplete is given only after the student establishes with the instructor and the department chair by written petition that his or her 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 will be 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 at least 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 appropriate academic committee of the Undergraduate Theology Department.

3. Examinations and Other Assignments

- a. Early examinations are **not allowed**.
- b. Late examinations are administered only when extenuating circumstances are present (such as a death in the family the week before exams, sudden and major illness the week of exams that is documented by a physician). In fairness to all students, some persons should not have more time to prepare for an examination than others. **The granting of a late examination request is rare.**
- c. A Petition for Late Examination without penalty must be signed by the professor and the chair. Proper documentation must accompany the petition and must be submitted to the Undergraduate Theology Department. The student must schedule the makeup exam with the professor of the course. The exam must be taken no later than five (5) calendar days after the approval of the petition. **Grade penalties may be applied as indicated by the Academic Affairs Committee.**
- d. **All** exams will be given as scheduled. It is the student's responsibility when purchasing airline tickets, for example, to take this schedule into consideration. **Not being present for the final examination automatically results in failure of the course.**
- e. These requirements apply to all quizzes, tests, and examinations administered by the Undergraduate Theology Department.

4. Attendance Policy

- a. The Official Attendance Policy for the Undergraduate Theology Department is as follows:
  - (1.) If class meets three times a week, 3 unexcused absences will result in 1 grade letter reduction; 6 unexcused absences will automatically result in an "F" for the course.
  - (2.) If class meets two times a week, 2 unexcused absences will result in 1 grade letter reduction; 4 unexcused absences will automatically result in an "F" for the course.
  - (3.) If class meets one time a week, 1 unexcused absence will result in 1 grade letter reduction; 2 unexcused absences will automatically result in an "F" for the course.
- b. **The absences allowed prior to grade reduction are designed to allow for emergencies and illnesses, only. (Faculty may require documentation.)** Administrative excuses are granted only when a student is on official University business and has received approval in advance from the University administration.
- c. The penalty for tardies is at the discretion of the instructor.

## C. Course Policies and Procedures

### 1. Evaluation Procedures

- a. Final evaluation will consist of the following:
  - a. Daily assignments (homework) and participation 20%
  - b. Weekly quizzes (written & oral) 20%
  - c. Four examinations (@ 15% each) 60%
- b. The grading scale is as follows:  
A = 100-90; B = 89-80; C = 79-70; D = 69-60; F = Below 60

### 2. Whole Person Assessment Requirements: none.

## VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Note: Homework assignments from *Basics of Hebrew Grammar: Workbook* will be due as we complete each chapter throughout the semester.

Week 1	The Hebrew Alphabet; The Hebrew Vowels <sup>1</sup>
Week 2	The Hebrew Vowels (cont.); Syllabification and Pronunciation
Week 3	Hebrew Nouns
Week 4	Definite Article and Conjunction Waw ( <b>No Class on Mon 9/5: Labor Day!</b> )
Week 5	Hebrew Prepositions; Hebrew Adjectives <b>Exam 1</b> (Monday: ch. 1–4)
Week 6	Hebrew Pronouns; Hebrew Pronominal Suffixes
Week 7	Hebrew Construct Chain; Hebrew Numbers
Week 8	Introduction to Hebrew Verbs; Qal Perfect—Strong Verbs <b>Exam 2</b> (Friday: ch. 5–8)

### **Fall Break!**

Week 9	Qal Perfect—Weak Verbs
Week 10	Qal Imperfect—Strong Verbs
Week 11	Qal Imperfect—Weak Verbs <b>Exam 2</b> (Friday: ch. 9–12)
Week 12	Waw Consecutive; Qal Imperative, Cohortative, and Jussive
Week 13	Pronominal Suffixes on Verbs
Week 14	Infinitive Construct; Infinitive Absolute
Week 15	Qal Participial; Issues of Sentence Syntax <b>Exam 3</b> (Finals Week: ch. 12–15 & cumulative questions)

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<sup>1</sup> Note: the focus of study each week listed in the syllabus corresponds to the chapter headings in Pratico and Van Pelt. The pace of class will vary throughout the semester. Since chapters vary in length and content, some weeks more than one chapter will be covered in class.

**Course Inventory for ORU's Student Learning Outcomes**  
**BIB 311—Biblical Hebrew I**  
**Fall 2016**

This course contributes to the ORU student learning outcomes 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.

The Student Learning Glossary at <http://ir.oru.edu/doc/glossary.pdf> defines each outcome and each of the proficiencies/capacities.

<b>OUTCOMES &amp; Proficiencies/Capacities</b>		<b>Significant Contribution</b>	<b>Moderate Contribution</b>	<b>Minimal Contribution</b>	<b>No Contribution</b>
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<b>1</b>	<b>Outcome #1 – Spiritually Alive</b> Proficiencies/Capacities				
1A	Biblical knowledge	X			
1B	Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit			X	
1C	Evangelistic capability	X			
1D	Ethical behavior			X	

<b>2</b>	<b>Outcome #2 – Intellectually Alert</b> Proficiencies/Capacities				
2A	Critical thinking		X		
2B	Informational literacy		X		
2C	Global & historical perspectives		X		
2D	Aesthetic appreciation			X	
2E	Intellectual creativity		X		

<b>3</b>	<b>Outcome #3 – Physically Disciplined</b> Proficiencies/Capacities				
3A	Healthy lifestyle				X
3B	Physically disciplined lifestyle				X

<b>4</b>	<b>Outcome #4 – Socially Adept</b> Proficiencies/Capacities				
4A	Communication skills		X		
4B	Interpersonal skills				X
4C	Appreciation of cultural & linguistic differences	X			
4D	Responsible citizenship				X
4E	Leadership capacity			X	