

Syllabus for
BIB 319—Hebrew Exegesis
3.0 Credit Hours
Fall 2021

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

An exegetical study of selected Old Testament passages. Attention is given to sound exegetical method and to critical problems and hermeneutics of the passages. Doctrinal significance is also studied.

Prerequisite: BIB 312

II. COURSE GOALS

The course is designed to enable the student to do the following:

- A. Use his or her prerequisite proficiency in Hebrew 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. Increase his or her 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. Translate a selected text of the Old Testament orally or in writing as instructed.
- B. Use the methods of interpretation and do careful exegesis.
- C. Formulate and present the Old Testament in a relevant manner to our 20th Century setting for the people of the Church orally or in writing as instructed.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required Materials:

Elliger, Karl, and Willhelm Rudolph, eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. 5th ed. American Bible Society. 1997. (ISBN: 9781598561630)

Brotzman, Ellis R., and Eric J. Tully. *Old Testament Textual Criticism: A Practical Introduction*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2016. (ISBN: 9780801097539)

Holladay, William L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971. (ISBN: 9780802834133)

Pelt, Miles V. Van, and Gary D. Pratico. *Graded Reader of Biblical Hebrew: A Guide to Reading the Hebrew Bible*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2020. (ISBN: 9780310093350)

Pratico, Gary D., and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Grammar*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019. (ISBN: 9780310533498)

Pratico, Gary D., and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Workbook*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019. (ISBN: 9780310533559)
(ISBN: 9780310251576)

B. Optional Materials

Arnold, Bill T., and John H Choi. *A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003. (ISBN: 978-0521533485)

Gesenius, W. *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar as Edited and Enlarged by the late E. Kautzsch*. Translated by A. E. Cowley. 2nd Ed. Oxford: Clarendon, 1910. (ISBN: 9780198154068)

Kelley, Page H., et al. *The Masorah of the Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998. (ISBN: 0802843638)

Murphy, Todd J. *Pocket Dictionary for the Study of Biblical Hebrew*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2003. (9780830814589)

Pelt, Miles V. Van, and Gary D. Pratico. *Old Testament Hebrew Vocabulary Cards*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019. (ISBN: 9780310534181)

Scott, William R. *A Simplified Guide to BHS*. Berkley: Bibal Press, 1987. (ISBN: 0941037355)

Tov, Emanuel. *Textual Criticism of the Hebrew Bible*. 3rd ed. Revised and Expanded. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2012. (ISBN: 9780800696641)

Wonneberger, Reinhard. *Understanding BHS: A Manual for Users of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. 4th ed. Rome: Biblical Institute Press, 1984. (ISBN: 978-1930566682)

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

- a. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence are charged a late exam fee.
- b. 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.
- c. 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.

- d. 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.
 - i. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an ePortfolio artifact is a zero for that assignment.
 - ii. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.

B. School and/or Department Policies and Procedures

- a. Completion of a Course
 - i. Late work will not be accepted. Assignments are due on or before the deadline given.
 - ii. 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.
- b. Incompletes
 - i. 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.
 - ii. 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.

C. 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.

C. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedures

The requirements of the course will be weighted as follows in computing the final grade:

a.	Reading and Homework	30%
b.	Quizzes & Exams	50%
e.	Paper	20%

2. The student will memorize and recite from memory selected biblical passages in Hebrew. (Grade a component of the Quiz & Exam grade.)

3. Prepare an exegetical paper on 4–8 verses *you* chose from the Hebrew Bible. Parse all *significant* verbal constructions and identify any *significant* elements of the passage (including unique nouns, adjectives, pronouns; literary constructions, etc.). You *must* use lexicons, grammars, dictionaries, commentaries, journal articles, etc. in your research, *and* present the paper in proper format.

VI. COURSE CALENDAR¹

Note: Homework assignments will be due as we complete each chapter throughout the semester.

Week 1	Review Hebrew Grammar and Vocabulary (ch. 1–11)
Week 2	Review Hebrew Grammar and Vocabulary (ch. 1–11; cont.); Quiz
Week 3	Review Hebrew Grammar, Vocabulary, and Translation (ch. 12–23); Quiz
Week 4	Review Hebrew Grammar, Vocabulary, and Translation (ch. 24–29); Quiz

Week 5	Translation (Genesis 1:1–5; 2:1–3; 26:1–6)
Week 6	Piel Strong Verb (HW ² due Friday in class)
Week 7	Piel Weak Verb; (HW due Friday in class)
Week 8	Pual Strong Verb & Weak Verb (HW due Friday in class)

Exam (Monday: ch. 30–33)

Week 9	Hithpael Strong & Weak Verb (HW due Friday in class)
Week 10	Translation: (Exodus 3:1–12; 6:1–8; 34:1–6)
Week 11	Intro. to the Hebrew Bible, Lexicons, etc.; (Brotzman and Tully [BT] ix–35)
Week 12	Translation (Lev 19:1–4; Num 6:22–26 [<i>memorize</i> 6:24–26], BT 36–64); Quiz
Week 13	Translation: (Deut 6:1–15 [<i>memorize</i> 6:4–5]; 11:18–23; 31:1–8; BT 65–96) Quiz
Week 14	Translation (Ps 23; 100 [<i>chose one to memorize</i>]; BT 97–141); Quiz
Week 15	Finals Week: Exegetical Paper due Wednesday by noon

¹ **Note:** The Course Schedule will be adjusted to reflect the class progress in Pratico and Van Pelt's Grammar in the previous semester. Following a brief grammar and vocabulary review, the class will continue its study of Biblical Hebrew grammar from where we finished the previous spring, and then progress into Hebrew Bible hermeneutical issues.

² HW = Homework from Pratico and Van Pelt, *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Workbook*.