

“The mission of Tyndale Seminary is to provide Christ-centred graduate theological education for leaders in the church and society whose lives are marked by intellectual maturity, spiritual vigour and moral integrity, and whose witness will faithfully engage culture with the Gospel.”

Course	HEBREW GRAMMAR I / INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW I OLDT 0611 / HEBR 2013 1S
Date, Time and Delivery Format	SEPTEMBER 11 – DECEMBER 8, 2023 MONDAYS 6:45 PM – 9:35 PM SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE
Instructor	GORDON OESTE, PhD. Email: goeste@tyndale.ca
Class Information	This class will be livestreamed on Mondays 6:45 PM – 9:35 PM. Office Hours: by appointment via email
Course Material	Access course material at classes.tyndale.ca or other services at Tyndale One . Course emails will be sent to your @MyTyndale.ca e-mail account only.

Tyndale Undergraduate students may enroll in this course under the following course code:

HEBR 2013

NOTE: This course is joint-listed between Undergraduate Studies and Seminary. It is a graduate level course and operates on the Seminary schedule related to reading days, start and end of semester, exam schedule and according to the Seminary Academic Calendar.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the basic principles of biblical Hebrew with emphasis on morphology, phonology and syntax.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

A. Knowledge and Understanding

1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the grammar and syntax of Biblical Hebrew
2. Read and translate basic Hebrew sentences.
3. Recognize the vocabulary introduced through the course.
4. Recall some of the history of the Hebrew language.
5. Recognize the importance of knowing Biblical Hebrew for interpreting the Old Testament.

B. Disciple-Specific Skills

1. Parse and translate verbal forms in the categories studied in class.
2. Use Hebrew dictionaries and grammars for doing Bible study, word study, exegesis, and sermon preparation.
3. Read biblical texts in Hebrew with perception and insight.

C. Transferable Skills

1. Use the available resources for studying Biblical Hebrew.
2. Foster the ability to read biblical texts carefully, paying close attention to detail.
3. Foster a desire for life-long learning of the Hebrew language.
4. Learn self-disciplined study habits and the ability to meet fixed deadlines as set out in the course outline.

Course Philosophy

1. The goal of this course is to provide the student with a basic grasp of Hebrew grammar, so as to enable him/her to preach and teach the Old Testament with accuracy and confidence.
2. The course will seek to steer a middle course between a simplistic and an overly detailed approach.
3. Language learning need not be frustrating and intimidating. If grammatical terminology and categories are understood, and if adequate time is given to the memorization of forms and vocabulary, the student can expect to acquire a good working knowledge of forms and vocabulary of Biblical Hebrew.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED TEXTS

Pratico, G. D., and M. V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar*. 3rd Edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2019. ISBN: 9780310533498.

Pratico, G. D., and M. V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Workbook*. 3rd Edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2019. ISBN: 9780310533559.

Scheumann, Jesse R. and Merissa Scheumann. *According To Their Kinds: A Biblical Hebrew Picture Dictionary*. Wilmore, KY: GlossaHouse, 2019. ISBN: 978-1942697930

B. SUPPLEMENTARY / RECOMMENDED READING AND TOOLS

Pratico, G. D., and M. V. Van Pelt. *Biblical Hebrew Laminated Sheet*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2005. 9780310262954.

Van Pelt, M.V. *English Grammar to Ace Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2010. 9780310318316.

Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary Flashcards

[Google Play Store](#)

[Apple Store](#)

[Accordance Bible Software](#)

Tyndale recommends www.stepbible.org – a free and reputable online resource developed by Tyndale House (Cambridge, England) – for word searches of original-language texts, as well as for topical searches, interlinear texts, dictionaries, etc. Refer to the library for other [online resources for Biblical Studies](#).

C. INTERACTIVE LIVESTREAM AND/OR HYBRID COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Livestream attendance at announced times
- Headphones (preferred), built-in microphone, and web-camera
- Well-lit and quiet room
- Stable high-speed internet connection, preferably using an Ethernet cable over Wi-Fi
- Full name displayed on Zoom and Microsoft Teams for attendance purposes*
- A commitment to having the camera on to foster community building*

*Exceptions with permission from professor

D. GUIDELINES FOR INTERACTIONS

Tyndale University prides itself in being a trans-denominational community. We anticipate our students to have varied viewpoints which will enrich the discussions in our learning community. Therefore, we ask our students to be charitable and respectful in their interactions with each other, and to remain focused on the topic of discussion, out of respect to others who have

committed to being a part of this learning community. Please refer to “Guidelines for Interactions” on your course resource page at classes.tyndale.ca.

E. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Each of the assigned elements below contributes to Learning Outcomes above.

- 1. Homework assignments (10%):** Homework assignments will be given for each class period and will be taken up in class. The assigned exercises from the workbook will develop the skills needed to recognize and read biblical Hebrew. Students will indicate whether or not the homework has been done with an emailed confirmation to the professor within the first 5 minutes of the class. **The key to learning this language is consistency and thoroughness in preparation of daily assignments. As a result, keeping up with home will be crucial to learning.**
- 2. Quizzes (50%):** There will be regular quizzes given in class during the course of the semester based on the vocabulary and grammar studied up to that point. Quizzes are given at the beginning of the class period. Missed quizzes count as a zero unless previous arrangements have been made with the professor.
- 3. Final Exam (40%):** A three-hour examination will be given at the end of Hebrew Grammar I (the date to be confirmed by Office of the Registrar).
- 4. Regular class attendance** is a must. Your grade will be impacted should you fail to attend class regularly. Moreover, please make every effort to log on to the class on time. Do not miss class, even if you have not completed your homework.

F. EQUITY OF ACCESS

Students with permanent or temporary disabilities who need academic accommodations must [contact](#) the [Accessibility Services](#) at the [Centre for Academic Excellence](#) to [register](#) and discuss their specific needs. *New students* must self-identify and register with the Accessibility Office at the beginning of the semester or as early as possible to access appropriate services. *Current students* must renew their plans as early as possible to have active accommodations in place.

G. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following for Hebrew Grammar I:

Homework assignments	10 %
Quizzes	50 %

Final exam	40 %
Total Grade	100 %

H. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

1. Your work should demonstrate the following characteristics:

- *Clarity* – your work should be well organized and should make sense
- *Accuracy* – your work should follow the instructions given and accurately represent the works consulted
- *Thoughtfulness* – your work should reflect the mature fruit of your critical reflection upon the assigned topics/issues
- *Thoroughness* – your work should reflect proper English grammar, spelling and style
- *Conciseness* – your work should be presented in a clear and succinct manner, following the guidelines given for the assignment/quiz

For proper citation style, consult the [tip sheet, “Documenting Chicago Style”](#) (Tyndale e-resource) or the full edition of the [Chicago Manual of Style Online](#), especially ch. 14. For citing scripture texts, refer to sections 10.44 to 10.48 and 14.238 to 14.241 from the *Chicago Manual of Style* or reference the [tip sheet, “How to Cite Sources in Theology”](#).

Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism (including improper use of artificial intelligence programs). Tyndale University takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty. Please refer to the [Academic Integrity website](#) for further details.

Students are encouraged to consult [Writing Services](#). Citation and other [tip sheets](#).

Students should also consult the current [Academic Calendar](#) for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System.

Research Ethics

All course-based assignments involving human participants requires ethical review and may require approval by the [Tyndale Research Ethics Board \(REB\)](#). Check with the Seminary Dean’s Office (aau@tyndale.ca) before proceeding.

I. COURSE EVALUATION

Tyndale Seminary values quality in the courses it offers its students. End-of-course evaluations provide valuable student feedback and are one of the ways that Tyndale Seminary works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student's learning experience. Student involvement in this process is critical to enhance the general quality of teaching and learning.

Before the end of the course, students will receive a MyTyndale email with a link to the online course evaluation. The link can also be found in the left column on the course page. The evaluation period is 2 weeks; after the evaluation period has ended, it cannot be reopened.

Course Evaluation results will not be disclosed to the instructor before final grades in the course have been submitted and processed. Student names will be kept confidential and the instructor will only see the aggregated results of the class.

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

Date	Topics Introduced	Homework	Quiz
Hebrew Grammar I			
Sept 11	Introduction 1: Consonants 2: Vowels	pp. 1-3 p. 8 pp. 9-11	QUIZZES ARE CUMULATIVE
Sept 18	3: Syllabification & Pronunciation 4: Nouns	pp. 12-14 pp. 15-18	Quiz # 1 Alphabet & Vowels
Sept 25	5: Def. Art. & Conjunction	pp. 19-20 pp. 21, Part IV	Quiz # 2 Chs 3-4
Oct 2	6: Prepositions	pp. 22-23 p. 24 (Bible Translation)	Quiz # 3 Ch 5
Oct 9	THANKSGIVING		
Oct 16	7: Adjectives	pp. 25-27 (Parts I-III) pp. 28, #1-3 (Bible Translation)	Quiz # 4 Ch 6
Oct 23	8: Pronouns	pp. 29-30 p. 32 (Bible Translation)	Quiz # 5 Ch 7
Oct 30	9: Suffixes	pp. 33-36 p. 37 (Odds)	Quiz # 6 Ch 8
Nov 6	10: Construct Chain	pp. 38-39 (#1-20) p. 40 (6-10)	Quiz # 7 Ch 9

	11: Numbers	p. 43 (1-6)	
Nov 13	12 Verbs 13: Qal Perfect (strong)	p. 45 pp. 46 (5-7) p. 48 p. 50 (Part III) p. 51 (2-4)	Quiz # 8 Ch 10 & 11
Nov 20	14: Qal Perfect (weak)	pp. 52-53 pp. 54-55 (Part IV)	Quiz # 9 Ch 12 & 13
Nov 27	15: Qal Imperfect (strong)	p. 56 p. 58 (Part III) p. 59	Quiz # 10 Ch 14
Dec 4	16: Qal Imperfect (weak)	pp. 60-61 (1-15) p. 61 (Part II - #5-8) p. 63 (8-9) pp. 64-65 p. 67 (6-8)	Quiz # 11 Ch 15
Dec 11-15	Final Exam (to be determined by Office of the Registrar)		

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

([Tyndale Library](#) supports this course with [e-journals](#), [e-books](#), and the [mail delivery of books](#) and circulating materials. See the [Library FAQ page](#).)

Introductory Grammars

Buth, Randall. *Living Biblical Hebrew: Introduction Part One (Aleph)*. Jerusalem: Biblical Language Center, 2006.

Buth, Randall. *Living Biblical Hebrew: Introduction Part Two (Beth)*. Jerusalem: Biblical Language Center, 2006.

Cook, John A. and Robert D. Holmstedt. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew: A Grammar and Illustrated Reader*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2013.

Dallaire, Hélène M. *Biblical Hebrew: A Living Language*. Lexington, KY, 2016.

Dobson, John H. *Learn Biblical Hebrew*. 2nd Edition. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1999, 2005.

Fuller, Russell T. and Kyoungwon Choi. *Invitation to Biblical Hebrew: A Beginning Grammar*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2006.

- Futato, Mark D. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2003.
- Hackett, Jo Ann. *A Basic Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 2010.
- Kelley, Page H. *Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co, 1992.
- Kittel, B., V. Hoffer, R. Wright. *Biblical Hebrew: A Text and Workbook*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1989.
- Lambdin, Thomas O. *Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*. New York: Scribner, 1971.
- Long, Gary A. *Grammatical Concepts 101 for Biblical Hebrew*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2002.
- Overland, Paul. *Learning Biblical Hebrew Interactively*. 2 Volumes. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2014.
- Ross, Allen P. *Introducing Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.
- Seow, C. L. *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1987.
- Webster, Brian L. *The Cambridge Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009.
- Weingreen, J. *A Practical Grammar for Classical Hebrew*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1959.
- West, Travis. *Biblical Hebrew: An Interactive Approach*. Ha'Arets: Hebrew and Aramaic Accessible Resources for Exegetical and Theological Studies. Wilmore, KY: GlossaHouse, 2016.
- Vance, Donald R. *Introduction to Classical Hebrew*. Boston: Brill Academic Publishers, 2004.
- More Advanced Grammars:**
- Arnold, Bill T. and John H. Choi. *A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003.
- Buth, Randall, *Living Biblical Hebrew: Selected Readings with 500 Friends (Gimel)*. Jerusalem: Biblical Language Center, 2006.

Davidson's Introductory Hebrew Grammar – Syntax. Ed. J. C. L. Gibson. 4th ed. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1994.

Gesenius, W. *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar (GKC)*. Ed. E. Kautzsch and A. E. Cowley. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1910.

Joüon, Paul and T. Muraoka. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. 2 Vols. Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute, 1991.

Patton, Matthew H. and Frederic Clarke Putnam. *Basics of Hebrew Discourse: A Guide to Working with Hebrew Prose and Poetry*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019.

Rocine, B. M. *Learning Biblical Hebrew: A New Approach Using Discourse Analysis*. Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwyn Publishing Inc., 2000.

Steinmann, Andrew E. *Intermediate Biblical Hebrew: A Reference Grammar with Charts and Exercises*. Saint Louis. MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2009.

Van der Merwe, Christo H. J., Jackie A. Naudé and Jan H. Kroeze. *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar*. Biblical Languages: Hebrew 3. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999, 2000.

Waltke, Bruce K. and M. O'Connor. *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1990.

Williams, R. J. *Hebrew Syntax: An Outline*. Second edition. Toronto: University of Toronto, 1976.

Williams, Ronald J. *Williams' Hebrew Syntax*. 3rd E. Revised and expanded by John C, Beckman. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2007.

Zvi, E., M. Hancock, R. Beinert. *Readings in Biblical Hebrew: An Intermediate Textbook*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1993.

Dictionaries/Lexicons:

Brown, F., S. R. Driver and C. A. Briggs. *A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament (BDB)*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1907; corrected impression 1952.

Clines, D. J. A. ed. *The Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*. 9 Volumes. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1993, 1995, 1996, 1998, 2001, 2007, 2010, 2011, 2016.

Clines, David J. A., ed. *The Concise Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2009.

Holladay, W. L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.

Jenni, Ernst and Claus Westermann. *Theological Lexicon of the Old Testament* (transl. Mark E. Biddle: vol 1-3; Peabody: Hendrickson, 1997.

Koehler, L. and W. Baumgartner (eds). *Hebräisches und aramäisches Lexicon zum Alten Testament (KB)*. 3rd ed. Leiden: Brill, 1967-1990.

Koehler, L. and W. Baumgartner. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Vol. 1 a-j. Trans. M. E. J. Richardson. Leiden: Brill, 1994-.

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Concordances:

Even-Shoshan, A. (ed). *A New Concordance of the Old Testament*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1989.

Lisowsky, G. *Konkordanz zum Hebräischen Alten Testament*. 2nd ed. Stuttgart: German Bible Society, 1981.

Mandelkern, Solomon. *Veteris Testamenti concordantiae Hebraicae atque Chaldaicae*. 3rd Rev. ed. New York: Schocken, 1971.

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Armstrong, T. A., D. L. Busby and C. F. Carr. *A Reader's Hebrew-English Lexicon of the Old Testament. Four Volumes in One*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1989.

Beall, T. D. and W. A. Banks. *The Old Testament Parsing Guide*. 2 Vols. Chicago: Moody, 1986, 1990.

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- McNinch, Timothy. *Illustrated Genesis in Hebrew*. GlossaHouse Illustrated Hebrew-English Old Testament. Wilmore, KY: GlossaHouse, 2016.
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92.
- Pleins, David J. with Jonathan Homrighausen. *Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary by Conceptual Categories*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2017.
- Scott, W. R. *A Simplified Guide to BHS: Critical, Apparatus, Masora, Accents, Unusual Letters & Other Markings*. 2nd ed. Berkeley: Bibal Press, 1990.
- Scheumann, Jesse R. and Merissa Scheumann. *According To Their Kinds: A Biblical Hebrew Picture Dictionary*. Wilmore, KY: GlossaHouse, 2019.

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Van Pelt, Miles V. and Gary D. Pratico. *The Vocabulary Guide to Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.

Van Pelt, Miles V. and Gary D. Pratico. *Old Testament Hebrew Vocabulary Cards*. The Zondervan Vocabulary Builder. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.

Van Pelt, Miles V. *English Grammar to ACE Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010.

Williams, Michael. *The Biblical Hebrew Companion for Bible Software Users*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015.

Wonneberger, R. *Understanding BHS: A Manual for the Users of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. 2nd Rev. ed. Trans. D. R. Daniels. Rome: Pontifical Institute, 1990.

There is a lot of computer software available as well for learning Hebrew and doing lexical and grammatical searches of the Hebrew Bible. *Accordance* or *Logos* are recommended.

Williams, Michael. *The Biblical Hebrew Companion for Bible Software Users*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015.

[Tyndale Library Research Guides for biblical languages](#)

Audio Hebrew Bible:

<http://www.mechon-mamre.org/p/pt/ptmp3prq.htm>

<https://torahclass.com/audio-bible-in-hebrew>

Helpful websites for Hebrew:

<https://biblingo.org/>

<http://dailydoseofhebrew.com/>

<http://www.animatedhebrew.com/>

<http://www.mechon-mamre.org>

<http://torahforme.org>

<http://www.learningbiblicalhebrewinteractively.com/>

<http://bakerpublishinggroup.com/books/beginning-biblical-hebrew/342630/esources>

<https://www.stepbible.org/>

A list of additional resources can be found on the [Biblical Studies website](#)