Course Outline: Winter 2022
Introduction to Biblical Hebrew
Hebrew 1041b/5041b

Location: ****
Days & Time: Tues/Thurs 2:30-4:30pm

Instructor: Nick Meyer, Ph.D.
Contact info: Email nmeyer5@uwo.ca
Office hours: TBD

Recording of Classes

Class sessions for this course will be recorded. The data captured during these recordings may include your image, voice recordings, chat logs and personal identifiers (name displayed on the screen). The recordings will be used for educational purposes related to this course, including evaluations. The recordings may be disclosed to other individuals participating in the course for their private or group study purposes. Please contact the instructor if you have any concerns related to session recordings. Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

Course delivery with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic

Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 landscape may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

Course Description

An introduction to the writing system and grammar of Biblical Hebrew for those with no previous knowledge of the language.

According to an ancient Jewish legend, the Creator spoke the world into existence using the language of Hebrew. With this course, students will begin to learn this sacred language of the Jewish religion, the language in which the majority of the Bible (both Jewish and Christian) was written and which was revived as a spoken language in the late nineteenth century in the form of Modern Hebrew.

Course Outcomes

Your commitment to regular study and practice will help us achieve the goals of this course, which are:

- to develop reading competence in the Hebrew Bible by gaining a working vocabulary of frequently occurring words and familiarity with the most common grammatical forms, and

- to develop compositional skills and basic aural competence with the language by the completion of regular written and spoken exercises.
This is the second of two courses. Students will continue to hone their pronunciation of the biblical Hebrew script and they will expand their skills of translation and composition, particularly in the area of the Hebrew verb. The successful student will be in a good position to read Hebrew Bible narrative with a lexical aid and to pursue learning the language with a life-long passion.

Course Materials

**Required at the very beginning of term!**


**Not Required for Purchase, but Recommended**


Assignments & Evaluation

**Participation** 10%

Attendance for most students will be critical to their success. Students should show up ready to be active participants in the classroom, volunteering and being ready to be called upon to ask and answer question and to practice reading Hebrew aloud.

**Exercises** 30%

Weekly exercises, worth about 2.5% each, found at the end of each chapter in the textbook will be completed and a copy of the work uploaded in the form of a clearly named, scanned PDF file to OWL prior to 12pm on the day on which they are due. (These must be submitted in a single PDF file per assignment. Many applications are available for your phone which will convert photos into PDFs. One of the best and most powerful is CamScanner.) Exercises will be looked over by the instructor but not graded; their completion will be sufficient for full marks. See Table of Exercises below.

**Note:** Students should complete at least 5 hours a week on exercises; if they do not think they can complete all of the exercises within this time-frame, they are permitted to complete a portion of the exercises assigned below; however, they should aim to complete a variety of the assigned exercises
and they should sign their homework with a note certifying that they have spent 5 hours on the material.

**Quizzes** 45%
Ten quizzes will be written, worth 5% each. The lowest score will be dropped. Quizzes will test vocabulary introduced at the beginning of chapters (students will be required to work ahead one chapter on vocabulary; see schedule), other items the text or instructor asks to be memorized, and grammar covered to that point.

**Final Exam** 15%
The Final Exam will be cumulative. Date TBD

**Schedule**

**Week 1: Possessive Endings**
- Jan 11: Syllabus & Chapter 15
- Jan 13: Chapter 22

**Week 2: Pronoun Endings**
- Jan 18: Chapter 16
- Exercises for chs. 15 & 22 due
- Jan 20: Ch. 16 cont’d

**Week 3: The Reversing 1**
- Jan 25: Quiz 1 | Chapter 17
- Exercises for ch. 16 due
- Jan 27: Ch. 17 cont’d

**Week 4: The Participle**
- Feb 1: Quiz 2 | Chapter 18
- Exercises for ch. 17 due
- Feb 3: Ch. 18 cont’d

**Week 5: Commands and Numbers**
- Feb 8: Quiz 3 | Chapter 19
- Exercises for ch. 18 due
- Feb 10: Ch. 19 cont’d

**Week 6: The Infinitive and Verb Review**
- Feb 15: Quiz 4 | Chapter 20
- Exercises for ch. 19 due
- Feb 17: Ch. 20 cont’d

**Week 7:**
- Fall Reading Week – No Class

**Week 8: Hollow Verbs**
- Mar 1: Quiz 5 | Chapter 21
  - Exercises for ch. 20 due
- Mar 3: Ch. 21 cont’d

**Week 9: The הִפְעִּיל Verb Pattern**
- Mar 8: Quiz 6 | Chapter 23
  - Exercises for ch. 21 due
- Mar 10: Ch. 23 cont’d

**Week 10: The הִפְעִּילוּ Verb Pattern**
- Mar 15: Quiz 7 | Chapter 24
  - Exercises for ch. 23 due
- Mar 17: Ch. 24 cont’d

**Week 11: The הִפְעִּילוּ Variations, incl. Hollow Verbs**
- Mar 22: Quiz 8 | Chapter 25
  - Exercises for ch. 23 due
- Mar 24: Chapter 26

**Week 12: Verbs with Object Suffixes**
- Mar 29: Quiz 9 | Chapter 27
  - Exercises for chs. 25 & 26 due
Mar 31: Ch. 27 cont’d

Week 13: The נִנְפָעַל and הִתְפַעֵל Patterns

Apr 5: Quiz 10 | Chapter 28

Exercises for ch. 27 due Apr 7: Chapter 29
Table of Exercises

Exercises for Chapters 15 & 22 (2.5%)
Complete for chapter 5 all exercises; for 3, 6 & 7 odd numbers within each; Ruth, oral
for chapter 22 all of exercises 1 & 2

Exercises for Chapters 16 (2.5%)
Complete exercises 1-7, odd or even numbers within each; Ruth Oral

Exercises for Chapter 17 (2.5%)
Complete all of exercises 1 & 2 and odd or even numbers for 3-7; Ruth Oral

Exercises for Chapter 18 (2.5%)
Complete all of exercises 1-3 and odd or even numbers for 4-7; Ruth Oral

Exercises for Chapter 19 (2.5%)
Complete all of exercises 1-5; 7 Oral and Ruth Oral

Exercises for Chapter 20 (2.5%)
Complete all of exercises 1-4 and odd or even for numbers for 5-8; Ruth Oral

Exercises for Chapter 21 (2.5%)
Complete all of exercises 1-3 and odd or even numbers for 4-7; Ruth Oral for both chapters 21 & 22.

Exercises for Chapter 23 (2.5%)
Complete odd or even for exercises 1-6; work on 8; Ruth Oral

Exercises for Chapter 24 (2.5%)
Complete all of exercises 1-3 and odd or even numbers for 4-6; any one of 7; Ruth Oral

Exercises for Chapters 25 & 26 (2.5%)
Complete for ch. 25 all of exercises 1-5 and odd or even numbers for 6-7; Ruth Oral
Complete for ch. 26 all of exercises 1-4 and odd or even numbers for 5-7; Ruth Oral

Exercises for Chapter 27 (2.5%)
Complete all of exercises 1-5 and either text of 8; Ruth Oral

Exercises for Chapters 28 & 29 (2.5%)
Complete for chapter 28 exercises 1-4
for chapter 29 exercises 1, 3, 4 & 6

Additional Statements:

1. Statement on Use of Electronic Devices during Class and in Tests and Exams
   It is particularly important in an online setting that students respect the classroom environment
   and refrain from inappropriate or distracting use of technology. It is also important that
   students exercise the highest levels of integrity during tests and exams, completing these within
   the limits established by the instructor.

2. Statement on Academic Offences: Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are
   directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a
   Scholastic Offence, at the following web site:
   https://westerncalendar.uwo.ca/PolicyPages.cfm?Command=showCategory&PolicyCategoryID=1&SelectedCalendar=Live&ArchiveID=#Page 20.

3. Plagiarism-detecting Software/Computer Marking:
   A) All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the
   commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection
of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents
in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently
submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently
between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (http://www.turnitin.com).

B) Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for
similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that
may indicate cheating.

4. Support Services:

- Huron’s Faculty of Theology, Office of the Dean: http://www.huronuc.on.ca > Theology
- Faculty of Theology office: srice@uwo.ca
- Bachelor’s Academic Advising at Huron: https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-
services/academic-advising/
- Huron’s Writing Skills Centre: https://huronatwestern.ca/library/writing-services/
- Mental Health@Western: http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/ Students who are
  in emotional/mental distress should refer to this website for a complete list of options about
  how to obtain help.
- Student Accessibility Services: http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/accessible_education/index.html
  Western is committed to achieving barrier-free accessibility for all its members, including
  graduate students. As part of this commitment, Western provides a variety of services
devoted to promoting, advocating, and accommodating persons with disabilities in their
respective graduate program.

Students with disabilities (for example, chronic illnesses, mental health conditions, mobility
impairments) are encouraged to register with Student Accessibility Services, a confidential
service designed to support graduate and undergraduate students through their academic
program. With the appropriate documentation, the student will work with both SAS and
their faculty (normally their Dean and/or Course instructor) to ensure that appropriate
academic accommodations to program requirements are arranged.

- Services provided by Western University Student Council: http://westernusc.ca/your-
services/

5. Academic Accommodation for Absences:

Types of Accommodation and how to use them:
https://registrar.uwo.ca/academics/academic_considerations/index.html

Student Medical Certificate can be found here, if required:
https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf
Students who experience an extenuating circumstance (illness, injury, or other extenuating circumstance) sufficiently significant to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements may submit a request for academic consideration through the following routes:

i. **Submitting a Self-Reported Absence form** provided that the conditions for submission are Met (see below);

ii. **For medical absences**, submitting a **Student Medical Certificate (SMC)**, signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner in order to be eligible for Academic Consideration (for instance, when a Self-Report is not possible: any assignment worth more than 30%, final exams, or December mid-terms during exam schedule); or

iii. **For non-medical absences**, submitting appropriate documentation (e.g., obituary, police report, accident report, court order, etc.) to Academic Counselling in their Faculty of registration in order to be eligible for academic consideration. Students are encouraged to contact their Academic Counselling unit to clarify what documentation is appropriate.

Any documentation required must be submitted by the student directly to your Faculty’s Dean’s office (or academic counselor), and not to the instructor. For students of the Faculty of Theology, all such documentation must be submitted to theology@huron.uwo.ca. It will be the Dean’s office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

**Further Details about Requests for Academic Consideration**

**Self-Reported Absence Form**

**Report through student.uwo.ca.**

The full Policy on Academic Consideration for student absences is available at: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic_Consideration_for_absences.pdf).

Students who experience an unexpected illness or injury or an extenuating circumstance (48 hours or less) that is sufficiently severe to temporarily render them unable to meet academic requirements (e.g., attending lectures or labs, writing tests or midterm exams, completing and submitting assignments, participating in presentations) should self-declare using the online Self-Reported Absence portal. This option should be used in situations where the student expects to resume academic responsibilities within 48 hours or less.

The following conditions are in place for self-reporting of medical or extenuating circumstances:

a. students will be allowed a maximum of two self-reported absences between September and April and one self-reported absence between May and August

b. any absences in excess of the number designated in clause a above, regardless of duration, will require students to present a Student Medical Certificate (SMC), signed by a licensed medical or mental health practitioner, detailing the duration and severity of illness, or appropriate documentation supporting extenuating circumstances to the Academic
Counselling unit in their Faculty of registration no later than two business days after the date specified for resuming responsibilities.

c. The duration of the excused absence will be for a maximum of 48 hours from the time the Self-Reported Absence form is completed through the online portal, or from 8:30 am the following morning if the form is submitted after 4:30 pm;

d. The duration of the excused absence will terminate prior to the end of the 48-hour period should the student undertake significant academic responsibilities (write a test, submit a paper) during that time;

e. The duration of an excused absence will terminate at 8:30 am on the day following the last day of classes each semester regardless of how many days of absence have elapsed;

f. Self-reported absences will not be allowed for scheduled final examinations; for midterm examinations scheduled during the December examination period; or for final lab examinations scheduled during the final week of term;

g. Self-reporting may not be used for assessments (e.g. midterm exams, tests, reports, presentations, or essays) worth more than 30% of any given course.

h. Students must be in touch with their instructors no later than 24 hours after the end of the period covered by the Self-Reported Absence form, to clarify how they will be expected to fulfil the academic expectations they may have missed during the absence