Syllabus for Beginning Hebrew I: Phonology/Morphology
(OTL 501)
Front Range Bible Institute
Professor Jonathan Henderson (Fall 2017)

I. Course Description

An introduction to biblical Hebrew designed to equip the student with a basic vocabulary and an understanding of the essential principles of phonology, morphology, and syntax.

II. Course Objectives

A. To give students a level of fluency in reading and understanding biblical Hebrew.

B. To give students a working knowledge of the basics of Hebrew grammar (with an exegetical emphasis).

C. To acquaint students with the tools required to do an effective word study.

D. To give students experience working with the actual text of the Hebrew Scriptures. We will focus on a variety of key passages in the Old Testament and demonstrate how an understanding of Hebrew can enhance one’s understanding of God’s Word and impact one’s walk with Christ.

E. To grow in love for God and Christ-likeness by applying the magnificent spiritual lessons about God and His covenant purposes to our own personal, practical walk with Him.

F. To lead learners to share with others in some setting an exegetical insight or biblical-theological reflection gleaned in the course.

G. In summary:

Students will become familiar with:

1. The alphabet – consonants and vowels.
2. Hebrew pronunciation (emphasizing biblical Hebrew at this time).
3. Writing Hebrew in one’s own handwriting.
4. The names (in Hebrew) of “famous” people and places in the Bible.
5. A basic understanding of the history and culture behind the Hebrew language.
6. A beginning vocabulary, including key biblical, theological, and cultural words and expressions.
7. The basic workings of the Hebrew language.
8. The entry-level study tools for doing studies with the Hebrew language.
9. Beginning Hebrew language skills.
10. Responding to the biblical Hebrew text in a way that is more than academic, but involves responding to God and what He said through the writers.
III. Course Requirements

A. Attendance

Each student should be faithful in attendance. If a student must miss a class, he must obtain a DVD copy and watch the lecture. The student is completely responsible for making up any work missed and for securing any material missed in absence. (Note DVD policy.)

B. Assignments

1. **Daily Work & Exercises**: The exercises in *BBHW* are to be completed for each lesson. You may self-grade them (based on the answers given on the *BBHG* cd), but only after finishing your work. The instructor will assign a grade and return your exercise sheet. It will be helpful to place the workbook in some kind of binder for this purpose.

2. **Quizzes** – Weekly quizzes are designed to keep you current.

3. **Tests** – There will be three tests, announced a week ahead each time. The forecasted dates may come earlier, when helpful.

4. **Texts**

   a. **Required Texts/Resources**


   b. **Recommended Texts/Resources**


      2) *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*, by William D. Barrick and Irvin A. Busenitz (Sun Valley, Calif.: The Master’s Seminary, revised July 2004).


Note: Use well the library!

5. Applied Ministry Project: Exegetical Insight

a. Prepare an exegetical insight (on the scale of a devotional lesson plan) based upon some portion of your studies in OTL 501 – and use it to teach others in some context.
b. After preparing the material, you will teach it.
c. After teaching the material, you will turn in a copy of the material. (This may be turned in any time during OTL 501, but may be submitted as late as December 18.)
d. You are also to turn in a copy of the material (along with a note that explains where, when, and to whom you taught it). The note is to be signed by one person who was present. You may note this on your teaching outline.
e. Aim for 5-10 minutes minimum teaching.
f. Some suggestions for ministry context:
   1) Sunday School class
   2) Home Bible study
   3) Family devotions
   4) Convalescent home
   5) Hospital that permits this
   6) Shut-in from your church family or neighborhood
   7) Vacation Bible School / Backyard Bible Club
   8) Devotional for choir or prayer meeting

g. The exegetical insight is to include the following:
   1) OT text chosen (anything from one chapter to one book of the Bible)
   2) The exegetical insight (either meaning of the word [lexical] or grammatical point [syntactical])
   3) (Further) Explanation of the insight
   4) Application of the insight

h. The exegetical insight may include an outline, but most of the exegetical insight should be written in prose/paragraph format.
i. Length – The project should be 1 page for Certificate and Bachelor students, and 2 pages for Masters level students. Masters level students may choose to write two insights rather than 2 pages.

IV. Course Grading

A. Daily Assignments & Exercises 10%
B. Quizzes 35%
C. Tests (10%, 15%, 20%)  45%
D. Project (Exegetical Insight)  10%

Any work turned in after the deadline loses 10% immediately per class week.
## V. Course Schedule

### OTL 501 - Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FALL SESSION</th>
<th>Textbook</th>
<th>Workbook</th>
<th>Other</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>07-Sep-17 Ch 1 - The Hebrew Alphabet</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>14-Sep-17 Ch 2 - The Hebrew Vowels</td>
<td>Ch 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>21-Sep-17 Ch 3 - Syllabification &amp; Pronunciation</td>
<td>Ch 3</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>28-Sep-17 Ch 4 - Hebrew Nouns</td>
<td>Ch 4</td>
<td>Ch 3</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>05-Oct-17 Ch 5 - Definite Article &amp; Conjunction Waw</td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>12-Oct-17 Ch 6 - Hebrew Prepositions</td>
<td>Ch 6</td>
<td>Ch 5</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>19-Oct-17 Ch 7 - Hebrew Adjectives</td>
<td>Ch 7</td>
<td>Ch 6</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>26-Oct-17 Ch 8 - Hebrew Pronouns</td>
<td>Ch 8</td>
<td>Ch 7</td>
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<td>&gt;&gt; 5p Start Time Ch 11 - Hebrew Numbers</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>02-Nov-17 Ch 9 - Hebrew Pronominal Suffixes</td>
<td>Ch 9</td>
<td>Ch 8</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>09-Nov-17 Ch 10 - Hebrew Construct Chain</td>
<td>Ch 10</td>
<td>Ch 9</td>
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<td>16-Nov-17 Ch 12 - Introduction to Hebrew Verbs</td>
<td>Ch 11</td>
<td>Ch 10</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>23-Nov-17</td>
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<td>Test #3</td>
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### OTL 502 - Class Schedule

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<th>Other</th>
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<tr>
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<td>11-Jan-18 Ch 13 - Qal Perfect - Strong Verbs</td>
<td>Ch 13</td>
<td>Ch 12</td>
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</tbody>
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>> 5p Start Time

>> Project Due <<
VI. Bibliography


