

Syllabus for Hebrew Exegesis (OTL 601-603)

Front Range Bible Institute (Fall 2010)

I. Course Description

Hebrew Exegesis is designed to build upon the basic learning that students obtain in first-year Hebrew. In this one-year course, students learn the process of obtaining the interpretation of the biblical text through a study of the original language.

This course helps students to build a workable level of Hebrew vocabulary and gain a reasonable mastery of important grammatical features and syntactical structures of the language.

This course will also teach the student to learn an effective method for doing ground-up studies in the original text.

II. Course Objectives

- A. To extend the students' breadth of Hebrew vocabulary
- B. To give students an understanding of the complete Hebrew verb system (the 'binyanim')
- C. To facilitate the acquisition of Hebrew grammar and syntax
- D. To impart knowledge of the history and development of the Hebrew language
- E. To equip students with the skills needed to discover the background for key vocabulary words
- F. To give students practice in their ability to translate from the Hebrew Scriptures
- G. To enable students to develop and polish a sound exegetical methodology

III. Required Course Materials

- A. Reading materials (all students):
 - i. *Gesenius' Grammar* (free pdf)
 - ii. Horowitz, Edward. *How the Hebrew Language Grew*. Katav Publishing House, 1960.
 - iii. Mansoor, Menahem. *Biblical Hebrew Step by Step*, vol. 2. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1984.
 - iv. Wigram, George, V. *The Englishman's Hebrew Concordance of the Old Testament*. Peabody: Hendrickson Publishers, 1996.
 - v. Girdlestone, Robert Baker. *Synonyms of the Old Testament: Their Bearing on Christian Doctrine*. Lafayette: Sovereign Grace publishers, Inc.

IV. Course Requirements

- A. Attend classes
- B. Take notes as appropriate
- C. Take quizzes
 - i. Vocabulary will be taken from the textbook lists, theologically significant words, and required flash cards.

- ii. Vocabulary, grammar, parsing, and translation will be assigned on a weekly basis, and quizzes will be given the following week.
- D. Interact with multiple Hebrew Grammar tools on all relevant passages that you parse and translate:
 - i. Gesenius' Grammar
 - ii. Exegetical excerpts from other Hebrew grammar books (these will be sent to the student)
- E. Word studies and grammatical notes. Interact with the following resources for insights on the lexical and syntactical aspects of the passages we translate. Take notes on what you learn.
 - i. *Englishman's Hebrew Chaldee Concordance*
 - ii. *Gesenius' Grammar* (digital pdf available)

V. Course Grading Criteria

- A. 40% Completion of homework
- B. 40% Quizzes (vocabulary, parsing, grammar, translation)
- C. 20% Lexical and syntactical notes

Grade reduction for:

- Incomplete/late homework
- Lack of participation in class discussions
- More than two absences per trimester

VI. Class Schedule

Week	Book Chapter	Key Grammatical Concept(s)
1	Mansoor, ch. 3; Horowitz, chs. 1-2 (and answer q's)	Genesis 2:1-9
2	Mansoor, ch. 4	Genesis 2:15-23
3	First Heb Primer, ch. 24a Horowitz, chs. 3-4 (and answer q's)	The Hiphil pattern
4	First Heb Primer, ch. 24b	The Hiphil pattern
5	Explore resources Horowitz, chs. 5-6 (and answer q's)	
6	Mansoor, ch. 5 Read Horowitz, ch. 7 "Patterns of the Verb" (and answer q's)	Genesis 3:1-13, and work on presentation
7	Mansoor, ch. 9 Read Horowitz, ch. 8 "Patterns of the Noun" (and answer q's)	Genesis 8:1-9, discuss your research in class (10-15 min presentation)
8	First Heb Primer, ch. 25a	Hiphil Variations
9	First Heb Primer, ch. 25b	Hiphil Variations; give presentation in class
10	First Heb Primer, ch. 26a	Hollow Verbs in the Hiphil Pattern
11	First Heb Primer, ch. 26b Give presentation in class	Hollow Verbs in the Hiphil Pattern