GRACE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

The knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness

OT151: Biblical Hebrew I

2027

When: 5:30-7:15pm, Tuesday **Start:** 2 March

Where: Live online.

Lecturer: Michael Beck, Ph.D.

1. BIBLICAL CASE

1.1. 2 Timothy 2:15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

1.2. 2 Peter 1:19 And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place…

2. COURSE DESCRIPTION.

In this class, you will continue to advance in your study of the morphology, vocabulary, and syntax of Biblical Hebrew. The goal is to enable you to read and understand the Hebrew of the Old Testament as efficiently as possible. As such, the course will emphasise recognition and translation over linguistics and composition.

3. COURSE PURPOSE AND LEARNING OBJECTIVES

3.1. Graduate Ideals

At GTC we believe that the ideal graduate is someone who, because of Christlikeness and kingdom focus, by hard work, a commitment to a lifetime of learning, becomes mighty in the Scriptures, and commits themselves to serving the church and evangelising the world.

3.2. Purpose

Biblical Hebrew is the language of the original writings of the Old Testament Scriptures. By studying OT152: Biblical Hebrew II, you can gain a deeper and more accurate understanding of the biblical texts, their historical and cultural contexts, and their theological implications. You can also appreciate the beauty and richness of the literary styles and rhetorical devices used by the biblical authors. Studying OT152 will enhance your ability to read, understand, and also teach the Old Testament.

3.3. *Objectives*

It is my aim that the student who has completed OT152 will:

• Gain a love for Biblical Hebrew.

• Commence their journey as life-long learners of Biblical Hebrew.

• See the value of studying the original languages and witness the fruit of that study.

• Demonstrate a grasp of basic Hebrew vocabulary.

3.4 **Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1.1.1. Describe and explain several introductory elements of Biblical Hebrew syntax.

1.1.2. Identify and define basic Hebrew morphology.

1.1.3. Recognize and critique various approaches to language pedagogy and explain the drawbacks and benefits of these methods in regarding to the learning of Biblical Hebrew.

My learning goal is:_____

2. ASSESSMENT ACTIVITIES

Credit students should read through this outline and ask any questions about things that you are unclear on. If any of the tasks are not suitable for your optimal learning, you are welcome to discuss any concerns with the tutor.

Activity	**% grade**
Class attendance	5%
Class assignments	20%
Class review	40%
Examination	35%
Total	**100%**

2.1. Classes: Attend and participate in the classes. We learn when we are present and engaged with the material. We learn better when we think through what is being presented and discuss it with others. Come to class with questions and ideas. Online students to arrange with the tutor the best way for them to participate in the class and get the most from their experience. This is usually done through Microsoft Teams. **5% of your final grade is attendance.**

<u>Note for ALL Students must have their web camera switched on.</u>

2.2. Reading:

All reading is due by the end of the term.

Grading Criteria:

- Completion of required reading.
- Demonstration of critical thinking and thoughtfully constructed answers to questions.

2.3. Exam: An examination is an opportunity for you to review everything that you have learned and attempt to recall it in your own words. If you are concerned about reading and writing in a limited time, or English is your second language, please talk to your tutor about how we can assist you.

Examination: 35% of your final grade will come from your examination results.

The exam is to be typed and submitted via email to the lecturer.

Grading Criteria:

- Recognize and explain basic elements of Hebrew syntax and morphology.
- Identify words in the vocabulary list.
- Translate Hebrew sentences and be able to justify/ support your choice of translation.

2.4. Allocation of Study Hours:

1	Homework Exercises	8
2	Reading	8
3	Exam Preparation	8
4	Class Time	26
		50 Hours

3. Learning Resources

Author	Title	Publisher
Simon, Motzkin and Resnikoff.	The First Hebrew Primer, Third Edition.	EKS / Logos
Christo Van Der Merwe.	The Lexham Hebrew-English Interlinear Bible	Lexham / Logos
Thom Blair (Editor)	Hebrew-English Interlinear ESV Old Testament Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia (BHS) and English Standard Version (ESV)	Crossway
A Schenker (Senior Editor)	Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia (BHS)	Deutshce Bibelgesellschaft

4. RESEARCH RESOURCES

4.1. GTC library 75 Rogers Road, Manurewa. If you are a student, then you automatically receive library membership and can borrow books from our library for 1-month. Priority is given to credit students. You are welcome to come and use the library at any time between 9am and 4:00pm, Monday to Friday.

We are able to post out books to students if students are willing to pay.

4.2. Christ College Library: Our friends at Christ College are happy to allow GTC students to be members of their library. While you cannot access their books without a trip to Sydney, for AU$55 per year, you can purchase access to their online database of journals and e-books. This is highly recommended for any credit student. Their librarians have also curated a large list of free online research resources.

To join the Christ College electronic library, email: library@christcollege.edu.au

4.3. Purchasing books. Books purchasing in NZ is often expensive and books can take a long time to arrive. Try your local bookstore, Christian bookstore, or online. We also recommend:

Reformers Bookshop (reformers.com.au) in Australia offers students a discount on books. Please use the (2026) discount code: **BCD26N**

Grace Books (gracebooks.co.nz) are a NZ Christian bookshop which carries a good stock of books.

4.4. Logos Software Library. **Logos Bible Software** is more than simply a Bible search tool. It is also an electronic library where you can purchase many of the books that you need. Once you purchase books you own them, even if you choose to use the free software version. GTC recommends that you subscribe to a library package (annual or monthly) in order to gain access to reference resources. It is worth noting Logos also has a student discount scheme and GTC is registered with them.