



HARDING SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

5100 Hebrew Readings Syllabus

Fall 2017, Tuesday 1:00-3:45 PM

Professor: Lance Hawley
Email: lhawley2@harding.edu
Cell: (901) 275-0468
Office: (901) 432-7729

Welcome to Hebrew Readings! This semester we will be reading large quantities of the Masoretic Text of the Hebrew Bible in order to come to know God more completely. Hebrew is not a spiritual language, but learning biblical languages is a spiritual discipline and a theological task. In the midst of the labors of learning vocabulary, practicing oral vocalization, and conjugating verbs, do not miss the abundant rewards in the close reading of God's word.

וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי בְּוֶאֶדָם בְּטֶנֶף תֹּאכַל וּמַעֲיָה תִמְלֵא אֶת הַמְּגִלָּה הַזֹּאת אֲשֶׁר אֲנִי נֹתֵן אֵלֶיךָ
וְאָכַלְהָ וַתְּהִי בְּפִי כְדֹבֵשׁ לְמַתּוֹק
- Ezekiel 3:3

טַעֲמוּ וּרְאוּ כִי־טוֹב יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר־י הַגִּבֹּר יִחְסֶה־בּוֹ
- Psalm 34:9

(see also Psalm 19 for good tasting Torah)

COURSE GOALS

Our goals pertain to the italicized intended degree outcomes for the M.Div., M.A.C.M., and the M.A. degrees.

Demonstrate exegetical skills in the interpretation of scripture

1. To translate sections of biblical Hebrew narrative without notes. Our focus is Hebrew prose because it is simpler and more predictable, but also because there is value in reading large sections of narrative for thematic purposes.
2. To increase students' knowledge of Hebrew vocabulary, semantics, and syntax in order to facilitate reading of biblical texts.
3. To vocalize Hebrew words and sentences. Reading Hebrew aloud with correct pronunciation of consonants, vowels, and accentuation is an essential part of the Hebrew tradition and language learning. Vocalization will be stressed.
4. To learn to use lexicons and other tools for translation and interpretation.

Evidence a love for God and others and a personal commitment to spiritual formation

5. To develop the spiritual discipline of studying biblical languages. Do not lose sight of what you are reading – an ancient and authoritative book, a witness to God’s work among His people.

TEXT BOOKS

Brown, F., S. Driver, and C. Briggs. *The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1906. (Reprinted 1994)

Elliger, K. and Rudolph W., eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*.

Holmstedt, Robert D. *Ruth: A Handbook on the Hebrew Text*. Baylor Handbook on the Hebrew Bible. Waco: Baylor University, 2010.

Landes, George M. *Building Your Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary: Learning Words by Frequency and Cognate*. SBL Resources for Biblical Study 41. Atlanta: SBL, 2001.

Textbooks can be ordered through a link on the HST website. The Textbooks tab can be viewed on the navigation bar on any page of the website. Check the book list provided under the Textbooks tab (<http://hst.edu/students/textbook-services/>) for correct ISBN’s and editions to insure correct ordering. A link provided there will take you to Amazon where you will only need to enter the ISBN to order your books. By going through our website, HST will receive some credit from the order. Thanks for your support.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Quizzes** (20%) – There will be a quiz at the beginning of each class (including our first meeting) except for when we have an exam. I will count your 10 highest quiz grades. See the schedule for specifics.

Each quiz will include:

- a. **Vocabulary** – All vocab will be selected from Landes and will be **cumulative**. You need to memorize the gloss for each verb in each *binyan*. Although I encourage you to learn the gender of nouns (put it on your flashcards), I will not ask for noun gender on the quizzes.
 - b. **Parsing and Production** – I will ask you to parse verbs, including weak verbs and verbs with suffixes. I will also ask you to produce strong verb forms of קטל.
2. **Exams** (70%) – There will be three exams (see schedule for dates and contents). The final is comprehensive, but the translation/parsing of biblical texts will emphasize 1 Kings 17-19. The first and second exams are worth 20% and the final is worth 30%
 3. **Participation and Performance** (10%) – A major part of our shared class time will be dedicated to vocalization, translation, parsing, and discussion of grammar of the assigned biblical text. I will be tracking your performance each class. I do not expect perfection, but I expect that prior to class you will have orally rehearsed the verses and prepared to translate and parse *without notes*. If you are not prepared, it will not only hurt your grade, but will also negatively impact the value of our time together. You may also be asked to

prepare some interpretive observations, especially in Ruth from your reading in Holmstedt.

A good oral reading of the Bible is available at http://www.aol.org/hebrew_audiobible.htm.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES AND INFORMATION

Accessibility/Communication

HST professors are accessible to local and distance students. Please use the following to arrange appointments with me (in person or by phone):

Email: lhawley2@harding.edu

Cell Phone Number: (901) 275-0468

Office Phone Number: (901) 432-7729

The best way to communicate with me is by email. I check it often and expect you to check it as well for class announcements and additional documents. Feel free to contact me with your questions any time. I will use Canvas and your Harding University email address, so please make sure to check it regularly.

Students with Disabilities

It is the policy of Harding University to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal and state law. Any student with a disability who needs accommodation should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Students with disabilities are also encouraged to contact Steve McLeod, the Associate Dean, at 901-761-1353.

Credit Hour Workload

For every course credit hour, the typical student should expect to spend at least three clock hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work, including but not limited to time attending class, as well as out-of-class time spent reading, reviewing, organizing notes, preparing for upcoming exams, problem solving, developing and completing projects, and other activities that enhance learning. Thus, for a three-hour course, a typical student should expect to spend at least nine hours per week dedicated to the course.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty in all its forms is inconsistent with Christian faith and practice, and will result in penalties which could include a failing grade for the assignment, a failing grade for the course, dismissal from the course, and even dismissal from the school.

LIVE (see below)

GRADING SCALE

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 D = 60-69 F = < 60

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Week 1 (Aug 22)

Read Landes 7-39; Holmstedt 51-79
Prepare to read Ruth 1:1-11 together

Quiz on: Landes #1-4 (30 times and up), #72-78 (50 times and up)

If time allows: Dating texts on linguistic features (Holmstedt 17-21); Siloam Tunnel inscription Can't do this here because I will be gone at the Preacher's Retreat

Week 2 (Aug 29)

Ruth 1 (Holmstedt 79-101)

Quiz on: Landes #5-6 (30 times and up), #79-81 (50 times and up); Parsing strong verbs

Week 3 (Sept 5)

Ruth 2 (Holmstedt 103-146)

Quiz on: Landes #7-8 (30 times and up), #53-56 (50 times and up); Parsing strong verbs

Week 4 (Sept 12)

Ruth 3 (Holmstedt 147-178)

Quiz on: Landes #9-10 (30 times and up), #57-60 (50 times and up);
Parsing strong verbs + suffixes

Week 5 (Sept 19)

Ruth 4 (Holmstedt 179-214)

Quiz on: Landes #11-13 (30 times and up), #31-33 (50 times and up)
Parsing of guttural verbs

Week 6 (Sept 26)

Exam:

1. Ruth 1-4
2. Vocab Landes #1-14 (30 times and up); #31-35; 53-60; 72-81 (50 times and up)
3. Production of קטל (*Qal, Piel, Niphal, Hiphil*)
4. Parsing strong verbs (+ suffixes); guttural verbs

Week 7 (Oct 3)

Exodus 19

Quiz on: Landes #15-16 (30 times and up), #36-39 (50 times and up)
Parsing of III-*aleph*, and III-*he* verbs

Week 8 (Oct 10)

Exodus 20

Quiz on: Landes #17-18 (30 times and up), #40-43 (50 times and up)
Parsing of I-*nun* and I-*aleph* verbs

Week 9 (Oct 17)

Exodus 32:1-24

Quiz on: Landes #19-20 (30 times and up), #44-46 (50 times and up)
Parsing of I-*waw/yod* verbs

Week 10 (Oct 24)

Exam:

1. Exodus 19-20; 32:1-24
2. Vocab Landes #1-22 (30 times and up); #31-51; 53-60; 72-81 (50 times and up)
3. Parsing strong verbs (+ suffixes), guttural, III-*aleph*, III-*he*, I-*nun*, I-*aleph*, I-*waw/yod*, and II-*waw/yod* (hollow) verbs

Prepare 1 Sam 1:1-11 – syntax activity following exam

Week 11 (Oct 31)

1 Kings 17

Quiz on: Landes #23-24 (30 times and up)
Parsing of geminate verbs

Week 12 (Nov 7)

1 Kings 18 (vv. 1-19ish)

Quiz on: Landes #25-26 (30 times and up)
Parsing of all weak verbs and verbs with suffixes

Week 13 (Nov 14)

1 Kings 18 continued

Quiz on: Landes #27-28 (30 times and up)

Parsing of all weak verbs and verbs with suffixes (again)

Nov 21 – Thanksgiving Break

Week 14 (Nov 28)

1 Kings 19

Quiz on:

Review all vocab and parsing instead of new vocab from Landes and new parsing

Week 15 (Dec 5) – **Final Exam**

1/3 Vocab

1/3 Parsing

1/3 translation of texts we have done this semester (with special emphasis on 1 Kings 17-19)

For LIVE Students

USE OF TECHNOLOGY FOR STREAMING

This course is supported with the video platform [www.Zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) and **Canvas** (available at <http://elearning.harding.edu/>) to facilitate class participation. For new Zoom platform users, go to <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/categories/200101697-Getting-Started> for helpful video tutorials about using this platform. The Meeting ID for our class is **9012750468**

Assignments in this course offer opportunities for students to demonstrate proficiency in the use of technology in the following ways:

- Use of library and electronic databases to do research
- Use of online technology for submissions and class participation

Equipment Requirements:

1. **Ear buds with microphone required. Apple Earbuds with mic have worked flawlessly.** (Apple MD827LL/A EarPods with Remote and Mic - Standard Packaging – White) Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/Apple-MD827LL-EarPods-Remote-Mic/dp/B0097BEG1C/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1480536372&sr=8-1&keywords=Apple+MD827LL%2FA+EarPods+with+Remote+and+Mic+-+Standard+Packaging+-+White

2. **Additional monitor for remote students required. Used monitor is okay.**

3. Laptop or tablet with camera or desktop computer with camera. On-ground students are encouraged to bring their laptops with camera to class and connect to the Zoom meeting with their computer.

4. Internet access using a latest version of a web browser such as Firefox (preferred), Google Chrome, or Microsoft Internet Explorer.

5. Latest version of Zoom software. This does change periodically without notification.

Canvas can be accessed at <http://elearning.harding.edu/>. If you have problems gaining access to the Canvas system, contact technical support for students by calling (501) 279-4545. You will need your HST username and your password to log into Harding Pipeline. These are the same credentials you use to register for classes via Pipeline.

When you need to contact your professor via email about a class related issue, always use the email system contained in the Canvas learning management system. This provides a secure convenient means of tracking communication between you and your professor. Of course, there are many email providers, and many students and professors hold more than one email address. To promote timely and secure communication about class related issues, students and professors will only use Canvas email.

Harding University gives each student an email address that also utilizes your user name. For example, your instructor's email address is lhawley2@harding.edu. Many students use other email addresses as their preferred address. You can set your Harding G-mail account to forward messages to an alternative email address if you want; however, **it is your responsibility to check your Harding email account regularly because this is the official Harding email address to which all Harding-related email will be sent.**