



**MCMASTER DIVINITY COLLEGE/MCMASTER UNIVERSITY
COURSE SYLLABUS
WINTER 2016**

INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW 2 (HEB 2B03)

INSTRUCTOR: MARY L. CONWAY, PH.D.

Email: conwam2@mcmaster.ca

Mondays & Wednesdays @ 3:30pm-5:00pm


I. COURSE DESCRIPTION



This course is a continuation of HEB 2A03 and continues the journey of learning Hebrew with the aim of enhancing the student's capacity for study in the biblical texts and for interpretation of these texts. Building on the previous course, students will learn more grammar, syntax, and vocabulary of the language of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. There will be continued emphasis on morphology (words and their forms) and syntax (how words fit together to make coherent sentences). Students will also continue to acquire a broad vocabulary for reading and translation and more skill will be developed in the use of lexicons. Pronunciation and oral reading will be practiced. The knowledge acquired should enable the student to read the simple prose and poetry of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament in its original language.

N.B.: The study of Hebrew is very challenging for most students but is very rewarding for those who persevere. You should plan on spending 1–3 hours every day preparing for and reviewing material covered in class. The secret of success is to attend every class, to complete your assignments regularly and on time, and to review what you have learned on a consistent basis.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES



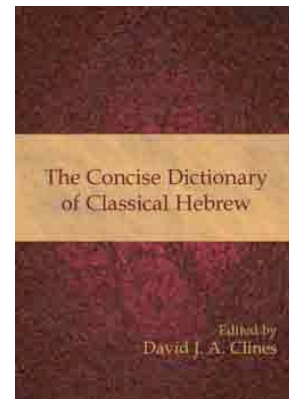
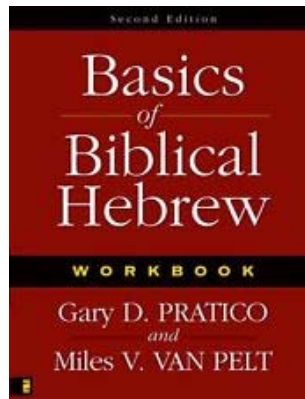
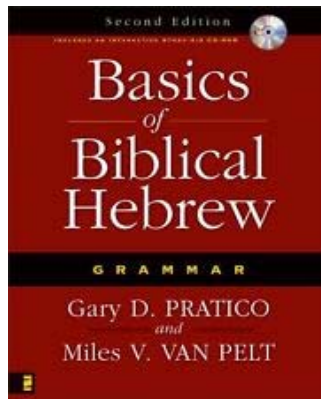
- a.  Knowing
- To build a solid basic vocabulary of Classical Hebrew words
 - To understand the basic forms of Hebrew words as they are used in various ways in sentences

- To understand the use of grammars and dictionaries in translating Hebrew texts
- b.  Being
- To embrace the value of understanding the original language in researching and exegeting the biblical text
 - To enrich one's understanding of another culture through knowledge of that culture's language
- c.  Doing
- To further develop skill in translating texts from the Hebrew Scriptures
 - To engage with the Scriptures in their original language and context

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED TEXTS

Both the textbook and workbook must be brought to every class!



Pratico, G. D., and M. V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. ISBN: 978-0310270201

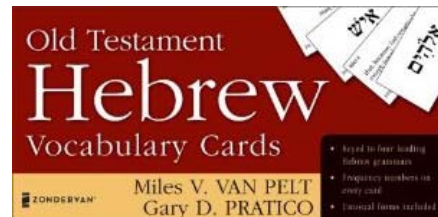
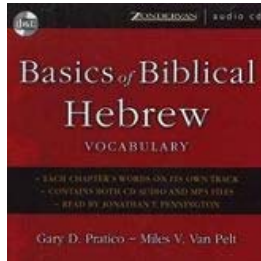
Pratico, G. D., and M. V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Workbook*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. ISBN: 978-0310270225

Clines, David J. A., David M. Stec, and Jacqueline C. R. De Roo. *The Concise Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix, 2009. ISBN: 978-1906055790

Note: All required textbooks for this class are available from the College's book service, R.E.A.D. On Bookstore, Room 145, McMaster Divinity College or contact R.E.A.D. On Bookstores, 304 The East Mall, Suite 100, Etobicoke, ON M9C 5K1. Phone 416-620-2934; fax 416-622-2308; e-mail books@readon.ca. Website: <http://webhome.idirect.com/~readon/bookstore.html> **XBkEducation**. Texts may be ordered ahead and sent to your home or purchased on the first day of class.

B. RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

At least one aid to learning vocabulary is strongly recommended. The following are keyed to the course text:



1. Flashworks vocabulary learning computer program <https://www.teknia.com/flashworks> (This is a free download. It also appears on the disc that accompanies the text.)
2. Old Testament Hebrew Vocabulary Cards. ISBN: 978-0310259862
3. Basics of Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary Audio CD: ISBN: 978-0310270744

C. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Note: It is extremely important that you do not become dependent on Bible software programs as a substitute for learning. These programs cannot be used on tests and exams. You are **strongly** advised not to use these programs until later in the learning process. Programs such as BibleWorks, Accordance, and Logos will be very helpful research tools when you are more advanced in the language but do not take the place of basic understanding.

Grammar Tests and Translations	35%
Vocabulary Quizzes	15%
Workbook Exercises	15%
Oral Reading	5%
Final Examination	30%
Total Grade	100%

Policy for Missed Quizzes, Tests, and Assignments:

Marks will be deducted for late assignments (workbook exercises) if there is no valid reason, such as illness (a doctor's note may be required) or serious family crisis. The deduction will be 2% per day. It is essential in a language course that students keep up with their work if they are to be successful.

There will be no make up for missed quizzes/tests except in the case of illness (a doctor's note may be required) or serious family crisis. If you must miss a test or quiz due to a valid reason, you must email the professor at conwam2@mcmaster.ca as soon as possible. You must make arrangements to make up the quiz or test at the first possible opportunity.

1. Grammar Tests and Translations: 35%. At the beginning of each Monday class there will be a grammar test covering the material up to the previous class. They may include sentence translations, grammar explanations or diagramming, paradigms, and parsing, etc.

2. Vocabulary Quizzes: 15%. At the beginning of class each Wednesday there will be a vocab quiz covering material up to and including the chapter covered in the last class. These quizzes will simply ask for the English translation of 24 Hebrew words.

3. Workbook Exercises: 15%. Dates marked on course schedule with an asterisk (*). Once a chapter has been covered in class, students must then complete the corresponding workbook pages for the next class. Workbook exercises will be handed in for grading. The actual pages from the exercise book can be torn out (or photocopied) and stapled together to be submitted (in legible handwriting). Please be sure to write your name on the sheets.

Note: Students must show evidence in their workbooks of individual translation, such as parsing, highlighting, and tentative translations. Do not give in to the temptation to copy from an English translation. The only way to learn is by doing the translations yourself.

4. Oral Reading: 5%. Students will be tested on their oral reading of a selection from Jonah. Resources and practice are available from <http://www.animatedhebrew.com/jonah/>. Details will be provided in class.

5. Final Exam: 30%. Details about the final exam will be given in class nearer to the date.

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE

Note: An asterisk (*) indicates a date when workbook assignments are due.

Wk	Date	Textbook	Content	Test/Quiz
1	Jan 4	----	Introduction, Exam Issues, Review of Semester 1	----
	Jan 6	Chapter 18	Qal Imperative, Cohortative, and Jussive	----
2	Jan 11	Chapter 19	Pronominal Suffixes on Verbs	Grammar 1 (Ch 1-18)
	Jan 13	Chapter 20	Qal Infinitive Construct	Vocabulary 1 (to Ch 19)
3	Jan 18	----	Review and Practice	Grammar 2 (Ch 1-20)
	Jan 20	Chapter 21	Qal Infinitive Absolute	Vocabulary 2 (to Ch 20)
4	Jan 25	Chapter 22	Qal Participle	Grammar 3 (Ch 1-21)
	Jan 27	Chapter 23	Issues of Sentence Syntax/ Review and Practice	Vocabulary 3 (to Ch 22)
5	*Feb 1	----	Discourse Issues	Grammar 4 (Ch 1-23)
	Feb 3	Chapter 24	Niphal Stem, Strong Verbs	Vocabulary 4 (to Ch 23)
6	Feb 8	Chapter 25	Niphal Stem, Weak Verbs	Grammar 5 (Ch 1-24)
	Feb 10	Chs 18-25	Review and Practice	Vocabulary 5 (to Ch 25)
7	Feb 15	Reading Week	No Class	----
	Feb 17	Reading Week	No Class	----

8	Feb 22	Chapter 26	Piel Stem, Strong Verbs	Grammar 6 (Ch 1-25)
	Feb 24	Chapter 27	Piel Stem, Weak Verbs	Vocabulary 6 (to Ch 26)
9	*Feb 29	Chapter 28	Pual Stem, Strong Verbs	Grammar 7 (Ch 1-27)
	Mar 2	Chapter 29	Pual Stem, Weak Verbs	Vocabulary 7 (to Ch 28)
10	Mar 7	Chapter 30	Hiphil Stem, Strong Verbs	Grammar 8 (Ch 1-29)
	Mar 9	Chapter 31	Hiphil Stem, Weak Verbs	Vocabulary 8 (to Ch 30)
11	Mar 14	----	Review and Practice	Grammar 9 (Ch 1-31)
	Mar 16	Chapter 32/33	Hophal Stem, Strong/Weak Verbs	Vocabulary 9 (to Ch 31)
12	Mar 21	Chapter 34/35	Hithpael Stem, Strong/Weak Verbs	Grammar 10 (Ch 1-33)
	Mar 23	Chapter 36	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible (BHS)	Vocabulary 10 (to Ch 35)
13	Mar 28	Chs 18-36	Review	Oral Reading Test
	Mar 30	Chs 18-36	Review	----
14	*Apr 4/6	Exam	Date to be determined	

V. CLASSROOM BEHAVIOUR, ATTENDANCE, AND PARTICIPATION

- Students are expected to be on time for class. Admittedly, unavoidable delays do occasionally happen. If you arrive late, please enter as quietly as possible and give an explanation to the professor after class.
- Students are also expected to stay for the entire class session.
- Computers and tablets should only be used for class related purposes, not for social networking and the like. Students may not have cell phones out during tests.
- All thoughtful student participation is welcome. There are no “dumb questions” or “stupid answers.” Students will respect the contributions of other students and respond to them without ridicule or scorn.
- Students may eat or drink in class as long as they do so quietly and unobtrusively and clean up afterwards.

VI. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

All assignments must adhere to the MDC Writing Style Guide, available from <http://www.mcmasterdivinity.ca/programs/resources-forms>.

Inclusive Language

McMaster Divinity College uses inclusive language for human beings in worship services, student written materials, and all of its publications. In reference to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected. The NRSV and TNIV are examples of the use of inclusive language for human beings. It is expected that inclusive language will be used in chapel services and all MDC assignments.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is a serious offence that may take any number of forms, including plagiarism, the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which previous credit has

been obtained, and/or unauthorized collaboration with other students. Academic dishonesty can result in severe consequences, e.g., failure of the assignment, failure of the course, a notation on one's academic transcript, and/or suspension or expulsion from the College. Students are responsible for understanding what constitutes academic dishonesty. Please refer to the Divinity College Statement on Academic Honesty at <http://www.mcmasterdivinity.ca/programs/rules-regulations>.

Disclaimer: This syllabus has been prepared with the best information available, but the professor reserves the right to make changes where necessary.