



**MCMASTER DIVINITY COLLEGE
COURSE SYLLABUS
SUMMER 2022**

HEBREW 2: HEBREW MORPHOLOGY ONLINE (OT 2C03)

INSTRUCTOR: Jacob Tomc, MDiv

Email: tomcj@mcmaster.ca

Online Asynchronous/Synchronous: Most of the work for the course is asynchronous. Optional weekly workshops will take place **Tuesdays from 3:00pm–4:50pm** (subject to change depending on student schedules).

Important Note: This is a condensed course that covers the material of one semester in 8 weeks (July 4–August 26). Students should be prepared to move quickly and are advised not to take another course at the same time. However, many students have successfully learned Hebrew with us in this format. The secret of success is working on the material regularly every day.

Note: You must have some basic familiarity with computers if you choose to take an online course. You should be able to navigate web pages, make PDF documents, and upload these files.

The course web page is found at [Avenue to Learn](#).

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a continuation of OT 1B03. **It assumes that the student has an awareness of the material taught in that course.**




Although OT 2C03 can function as a self-contained, totally asynchronous online course, weekly online (Zoom) workshops will be available for students to clarify concepts, ask questions, and interact with the professor and other students. While attendance is not required, students who show up typically do much better in the course.

This course continues to build upon the students' understanding of biblical Hebrew morphology and syntax in order to enable them to translate and sight-read Hebrew texts with greater understanding. It also further develops the students' Hebrew vocabulary. This course will greatly enhance their capacity for study in the biblical texts and prove a tremendous aid to interpretation.

Reminder: The study of Hebrew is challenging for most students but is very rewarding for those who persevere. **You should plan on spending time every day listening to lectures, completing assignments, and reviewing.** You cannot “set this course aside” for a week or two while you work on a paper for another course. The secret of success is to keep to a regular schedule of study, to complete your assignments carefully and on time, and to review what you have learned on a consistent basis. Because this is an accelerated summer course, you will need to be especially proactive to keep up as you learn new concepts.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES



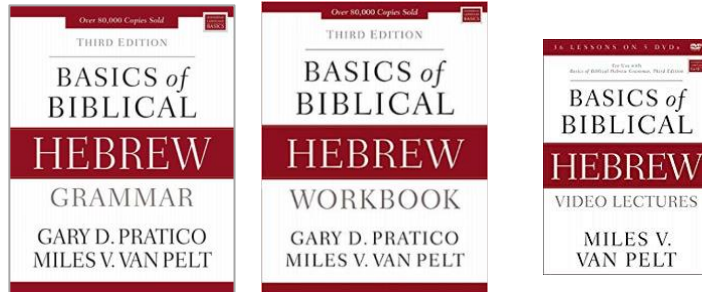
- a.  Knowing
 - To understand and recognize the forms (morphology) of Hebrew words as they are used in various ways in sentences
 - To deepen understanding of Hebrew syntax/grammar
 - To continue to build a solid basic vocabulary of Classical Hebrew words
- b.  Being
 - To embrace the value of understanding the original language in exegeting the biblical text
 - To enrich one's understanding of another culture through knowledge of that culture's language
 - To deepen one's relationship with God through interacting with Scripture.
- c.  Doing
 - To engage with the Scriptures in their original language and context
 - To be able to translate most Hebrew passages into English in a way that reflects their original meaning
 - To develop the ability to read directly from the Hebrew Scriptures
 - To develop skills in using grammars and dictionaries when translating and interpreting Hebrew texts

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED TEXTS/MATERIALS

1. Grammar Text (required)

Pratico, Gary D., and Miles Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019. ISBN: 978-0310533498



2. Workbook (required)

Pratico, Gary D., and Miles Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Workbook*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019. ISBN: 978-0310533559

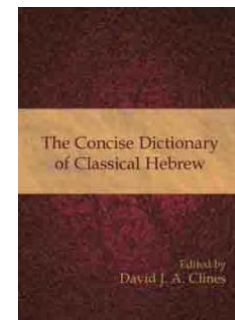
3. Video Lectures (optional, but highly recommended)¹

Van Pelt, Miles. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Video Lectures*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019. ASIN: 0310538602

4. Lexicon (required)

The Concise Dictionary of Classical Hebrew. Edited by David J. A. Clines et al. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix, 2009. ISBN: 978-1906055790

This is the best and most up to date single volume print lexicon available for Hebrew.



5. Bible Software (optional)

Logos: The Academic Basic package is available free from <https://www.logos.com/academic-basic>.

Accordance: You may compare the various available packages here <https://accordancebible.com/collections-comparison/>.

Bible software is an exceptionally helpful tool. However, it can easily become a crutch when first learning biblical languages. For that reason, it is recommended that you use it sparingly while you learn the fundamentals of the Hebrew language. We will discuss how to use these resources effectively without becoming dependent on them. For now, do some research on the two options listed above, and we will discuss your questions in the workshops.

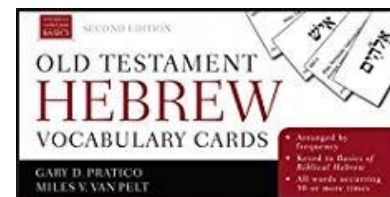
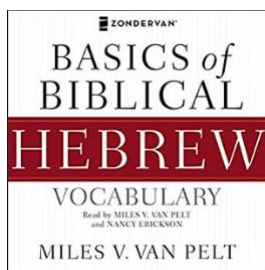
¹ These video lectures are not available in our bookstore. They may be purchased from Amazon, Chapters-Indigo, or ChristianBook.com as a set of discs covering Hebrew 1–2. You can also purchase them as a download from <https://vimeo.com/search?q=basics%20of%20biblical%20hebrew>. For the download option there is “instant delivery.” You may also be available from other sources.

Textbook Purchase

All required textbooks for this class are available from the College's book service, READ ON Bookstore, Room 145, McMaster Divinity College. For advance purchase, you may contact READ ON Bookstore, 5 International Blvd, Etobicoke, Ontario M9W 6H3: phone 416.620.2934; fax 416.622.2308; email books@readon.ca. Other book services may also carry the texts.

B. SUGGESTED RESOURCES

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



A. Old Testament Hebrew Vocabulary Cards. 3rd ed. ISBN: 978-0310534181

B. Basics of Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary Audible Audiobook (3rd ed.)
ASIN: B07LCSPFNT.

C. FlashWorks vocabulary learning computer program. There is a free download from <https://www.billmounce.com/flashworks>. It is designed for the 2nd edition but is adaptable and still useful.

D. Quizlet: <https://quizlet.com/subject/basics-of-biblical-hebrew-3rd/>.

2. **The following is a helpful resource for using language in argumentation:**

Hardy, H. H. II. *Exegetical Gems from Biblical Hebrew: A Refreshing Guide to Grammar and Interpretation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2019. [Available on the Digital Theological Library]

C. PROCTORING

This is an online course. All tests and exams will be proctored remotely using Zoom (the same program that we will use for online workshops). This program is free for students to use. Instructions will be given on A2L and in the workshops.

D. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Workbook Exercises	30%
Vocabulary Quizzes	10%
Term Test	25%
Oral Reading	5%
Exam	30%
Total Grade	100%

Assignment Details:

Note: All assignments must be submitted to the appropriate Assignment Box on Avenue to Learn (A2L) **in PDF format only**.

Workbook Exercises 30%. Due July 15, 29, Aug 12, 26, by 11:59 pm.

Each chapter in the textbook has a corresponding chapter in the workbook. Once a chapter has been covered by the video lecture and text, students must complete the corresponding workbook pages. Students are required to complete a *minimum* of 1/2 (one half) of each exercise, that is, every other question (1, 3, 5 or a, c, e) in each exercise, and any extended translation passages. Workbook exercises will be handed in for grading on a regular basis as indicated on the schedule below. This will be done as follows:

The pages will be scanned and uploaded as one PDF file (one workbook page to electronic page, right side up) to the Assignment Box for that assignment. Answers must be legible. They will be returned to A2L within one week with comments. Every question will not be checked and corrected. Since you have an answer key and can consult the versions, you are expected to self-correct as part of the learning process. However, helpful feedback will be given.

Important: Students **must** show evidence in their workbooks of individual effort, such as parsing, highlighting, tentative translations, and corrections. You will be evaluated by the rubric on A2L; please check this before completing your workbook. **Do not** give in to the temptation to simply copy from an English translation; this is plagiarism. The only way to learn to read Hebrew is by doing the translations yourself. However, **after** you have completed your translation as well as you can, **be sure** to check your translation against a good, recent translation such as the NASB, NIV, or NRSV.

Vocabulary Quizzes 10%. Due July 7, 14, 21, 28, Aug 4, 11, 18, 25, by 11:59 pm.

Students will complete brief online quizzes on the vocabulary included in each chapter. While only one English gloss is required per Hebrew word to attain full marks on the quizzes, it is highly recommended that you memorize as many of the English glosses as possible.

Term Test 25%. Due Aug 5 by 11:59 pm.

This will cover all material up to chapter 25 and will include parsing and translations. More information will be discussed in workshops.

Oral Reading 5%. Due Aug 26 by 11:59 pm.

Students will be tested on their oral reading of a passage from Jonah, available from http://www.animatedhebrew.com/jonah/jonah_01.html. Details will be provided on *Avenue to Learn*.

Exam 30%. Due Aug 30 by 11:59 pm.

Review materials will be provided. The exam will cover all material up to Chapter 35 and will include grammar, parsing, and translations.

Important: Learning a language is a **cumulative process**. Students will be expected to know the material from Chapter 1 in the text up to the last chapter cited, including vocabulary, for all tests and exams.

Note: The term test and exam will be proctored remotely, completed within the allotted time, and submitted on the due dates provided. Further details for test procedures will be given in the workshops.

Policy for Late Assignments:

Marks will be deducted for late assignments or delayed tests if there is no valid reason (e.g., illness or serious family crisis). The deduction will be 3% per day (excluding Sundays). If possible, please be in touch with the instructor at least 48 hours before the due date to discuss extensions.

IV. CONTACT WITH THE INSTRUCTOR

The instructor will be available via email and Zoom. Please do NOT use the built-in A2L email system, but the direct email address tomcj@mcmaster.ca. The student is encouraged to schedule conversations with the instructor during the semester and is responsible for initiating this interaction. Remember, there are no “dumb questions”; questioning is a good way to engage in the learning process. I will do my best to reply to any emails or questions on A2L within 24 hours on weekdays.

On the discussion pages on A2L, the student will be able to interact with any other students who may be taking the course. No marks are assigned for participating in this discussion, but the interaction may be helpful.

V. COURSE SCHEDULE

Wk	Week of	Textbook Chapters	Content	Wkbk/Tests	Vocab Quizzes; Oral Reading
1	Jul 4	Ch. 17 Ch. 18	Waw Consecutive Qal Imperative		Vocabulary Quiz 1 (Ch. 1–18), due by Thurs, Jul 7.
2	Jul 11	Ch. 19 Ch. 20 Ch. 21	Pronominal Suffixes on Verbs Qal Infinitive Construct Qal Infinitive Absolute	<i>Workbook 1 Ch. 17- 21 due by Friday, Jul 15.</i>	Vocabulary Quiz 2 (Ch. 1–20), due by Thurs, Jul 14.
3	Jul 18	Ch. 22 Ch. 23	Qal Participle Syntax, Qal Cohortative, and Jussive		Vocabulary Quiz 3 (Ch. 1–23), Thurs, Jul 21.
4	Jul 25	Ch. 24 Ch. 25	Niphal Stem, Strong Verbs Niphal Stem, Weak Verbs	<i>Workbook 2 Ch. 20- 25 due by Friday, Jul 29.</i>	Vocabulary Quiz 4 (Ch. 1–25), Thurs, Jul 28.
5	Aug 1	Ch. 26 Ch. 27 Ch. 28	Hiphil Stem, Strong Verbs Hiphil Stem, Weak Verbs Hophal Stem, Strong Verbs	Term Test to Ch. 25 due by Friday, August 5.	Vocabulary Quiz 5 (Ch. 1–27), Thurs, Aug 4.
6	Aug 8	Ch. 29 Ch. 30 Ch. 31	Hophal Stem, Weak Verbs Piel Stem, Strong Verbs Piel Stem, Weak Verbs	<i>Workbook 3 Ch. 26– 31 due by Friday, Aug 12.</i>	Vocabulary Quiz 6 (Ch. 1–29), Thurs, Aug 11.
7	Aug 15	Ch. 32 Ch. 33	Pual Stem, Strong Verbs Pual Stem, Weak Verbs		Vocabulary Quiz 7 (Ch. 1–32), Thurs, Aug 18.
8	Aug 22	Ch. 34 Ch. 35 Ch 36	Hithpael Stem, Strong Verbs Hithpael Stem, Weak Verbs Introduction to the Hebrew Bible; Review	<i>Workbook 4 Ch. 32– 35 due by Friday, Aug 26.</i>	Vocabulary Quiz 8 (Ch. 1–35), Thurs, Aug 25; Oral Reading Friday, Aug 26.
9	Aug 29	Exam Week	Exam	Final Exam to Ch. 35 due by Tue, Aug 30.	Exam includes vocabulary Chs. 1–35

VI. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Style

All stylistic considerations (including but not limited to questions of formatting, footnotes, and bibliographic references) must conform to the McMaster Divinity College Style Guidelines for Essays and Theses <https://mcmasterdivinity.ca/resources-forms/mdc-style-guide/>. Failure to observe appropriate form will result in grade reductions.

Gender Inclusive Language

McMaster Divinity College uses inclusive language for human beings in worship services, student written materials, and all its publications. It is expected that inclusive language will be used in chapel services and all MDC assignments. In reference to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected, but you will need to use gender-inclusive language for humans, and you will need to quote from a gender-inclusive version such as the following: NRSV (1989), NCV (1991), TEV/GNB/GNT (1992), CEV (1995), NLT (1996), TNIV (2005), and the Common English Bible (CEB 2011).

Academic Honesty:

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 <https://www.mcmasterdivinity.ca/programs/rules-regulations>.

Disclaimer: This syllabus is the property of the instructors and is prepared with currently available information. The instructor reserves the right to make changes and revisions up to and including the first day of class.