



OT 504A: Introduction to Hebrew A

Online Syllabus • 2 Semester Hours

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Course Description

Introduction to Hebrew A is a thirteen-week, two-credit-hour course that introduces students to the fundamentals of Old Testament Hebrew vocabulary, grammar, and syntax. The course is designed to be followed by *Introduction to Hebrew B* and *Introduction to Hebrew C* in the succeeding semesters. Together, these three courses lay the foundation for basic translational and exegetical work using the Hebrew Old Testament. In preparation for the course exams, students will progress through a series of textbook readings and workbook exercises that lay the foundation of content.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be equipped to continue their study of biblical Hebrew, having obtained an essential understanding of the elements of Hebrew vocabulary, grammar, and syntax as covered in the course textbook. Specifically, in this first course they will gain an understanding of:

- A foundational Hebrew vocabulary that includes the forms and meanings of 194 frequently used words;
- The Hebrew alphabet and punctuation system;
- The Hebrew noun, adjective, and pronoun systems, including pronominal suffixes;
- The Hebrew construct chain;
- The Hebrew number system;
- An introduction to Hebrew verbs and the strong verb system.

Online Course Format

Modules: You have up to fifteen weeks to complete this online course. The course is divided into thirteen modules, designed to be completed in order over the course of 13-14 weeks. To see a detailed outline of the structure, click the "Modules" link on the left side of the Canvas main page. Assignments, quizzes, and exams for the course will be completed online using the Canvas Learning Management System.

Conferences: Your course instructor will want to meet with you at least monthly using the conferencing capabilities of Canvas. Contact your instructor about setting up a conference within the first couple of weeks of the course.

Mentor: As you proceed through this course, you will need to obtain the services of a course mentor who will meet with you on a monthly basis to interact with you regarding your studies and to proctor the course exams. (The quizzes may be taken without supervision.) Ideally, your course mentor will be a pastor, youth pastor, or other spiritual authority in your church who can guide and counsel you as you pursue biblical and theological training. In the course materials there is a mentor agreement form that your mentor will need to sign and return to New Geneva Seminary before you begin the course.

Required Textbooks

Pratico, Gary D. and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Grammar*. 2nd edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.

_____. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Workbook*. 2nd edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.

Recommended Resources

Vance, Donald R., George Athas, and Yael Avrahami, eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia: A Reader's Edition*. Stuttgart: German Bible Society, 2015.

Holladay, William L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971.

Course Requirements

- Complete 12 weekly review quizzes covering each week's unit of study;
- Complete 13 translation assignments;
- Complete two examinations;
- Recite Genesis 1:1-2 in Hebrew from memory.

Review Quizzes (30%)

Review quizzes covering each chapter of the Pratico-Van Pelt (PVP) text as covered in class will serve to prepare the student for each exam. Each review quiz is worth ten points and may be taken a second time, with the highest score being recorded.

Examinations (50%)

There are two examinations for the course that cumulatively constitute fifty percent of the final grade. The exams cover vocabulary, word identification (parsing and/or translation), grammatical content, translation, and exegesis. While the translation and exegesis portions of the exams are of necessity cumulative, each exam will focus on the paradigms and grammatical rules presented since the previous exam. The second exam will also include the memorization assignment. All exams for this course are to be taken online in the Canvas Learning Management System (LMS).

Assignments (20%)

Weekly assignments involve translation and parsing and are to be uploaded in Canvas. Students are encouraged to complete all the exercises contained in the Workbook, but only the exercises specified in the assignments listed in the table below are required to be submitted for grading.

T = top half of the page; B = bottom half of the page

Lesson	Contents	Workbook Assignments
1	PVP Ch. 1: <i>Alphabet</i>	Typing Exercise; p. 5 all (type each word in Hebrew and transliterate using course transliteration scheme)
2	PVP Ch. 2: <i>Vowels</i>	Ex. 2: p. 7 #1-17; p. 8b #1-11
3	PVP Ch. 3: <i>Syllab. & Pronunciation</i>	Ex. 3: pp. 11-12 evens; p. 13 #1-15
4	PVP Ch. 4: <i>Nouns</i>	Ex. 4: pp. 15-16 evens; pp. 17B-18 evens; p. 19 #1-8
5	PVP Ch. 5: <i>Def. Article & Conj. Waw</i>	Ex. 5: p. 21 evens; p. 22 evens; p. 23 #2, 4, 6, 8
6	PVP Ch. 6: <i>Prepositions</i>	Ex. 6: p. 25T evens; pp. 25B-26 #4, 8, 12, 16, 20; pp. 27B-28 evens
7	PVP Ch. 7: <i>Adjectives</i>	Ex. 7: p. 29 evens; p. 30 evens; pp. 32B-33 evens
8	PVP Ch. 8: <i>Pronouns</i>	Ex. 8: p. 35 evens; pp. 36B-37T evens; pp. 37B-38T evens
9	PVP Ch. 9: <i>Pronom. Suffixes</i>	Ex. 9: pp. 39-42 evens; pp. 47-48 evens
10	PVP Ch. 10: <i>Construct Chain</i>	Ex. 10: pp. 49-51T evens; pp. 51B-53T evens
11	PVP Ch. 11: <i>Numbers</i>	Ex. 11: pp. 57-58 all
12	PVP Ch. 12: <i>Introduction to Verbs</i>	Ex. 12: p. 59 evens; pp. 60-62 evens; read pp. 63-66
13	PVP Ch. 13: <i>Qal Perfect – Strong Verbs</i>	Ex 13: pp. 67-68 evens; pp. 69-70 #1, 5, 11; p. 71 evens