

UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
BI 624 – BIBLICAL HEBREW EXEGESIS
SPRING SEMESTER 2017

FACULTY INFORMATION:

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

(3 credits)

Prerequisites: BI 400/500D and BI411/511D

Grading: Letter grade or pass/fail for those taking this course as an elective

This course is a continuation of BI 400/500D, providing further introduction to the basics of biblical Hebrew. It also involves the application of exegetical methods with the Hebrew text. This course is highly recommended for certain denominational requirements (please check with your governing body) and may be taken as an elective.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

During this course students will continue the objectives of BI 400/500D:

1. Develop a thorough understanding of the fundamentals of biblical Hebrew grammar.
2. Assimilate basic biblical Hebrew vocabulary.
3. Become proficient in translating passages from the Hebrew Bible using morphological aids.
4. Demonstrate competence working with Hebrew exegetical tools.
5. Acquire a conceptual framework for further learning.

In keeping with the stated purpose of the M.Div. degree ("to serve the one God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – and prepare women and men for faithful, compassionate, and effective pastoral ministry"), this course meets the following M.Div. curricular objectives:

- Interpret the Christian Scriptures through faithful exegesis and in light of the Christian tradition.
- Preach the Word of God with faithfulness and clarity.

It also contributes to the following M.A.M.C. curricular objective:

- Articulate and reflect critically and constructively on the biblical and theological foundations of God's mission to the world.

TEXT(S), READINGS, AND MATERIALS:

Required Textbooks from Last Semester:

1. Futato, Mark D. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*. Winona Lake, Ind.: Eisenbrauns, 2003.
2. BibleWorks (Software). Version 10 is the most recent version, but earlier versions will work fine.

Additional Required Textbooks/Software:

3. Davis, Ellen F., and Margaret Adams Parker. *Who Are You, My Daughter? Reading Ruth through Image and Text*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2003.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

The final grade for the course is based on [1] quizzes (25%), [2] translation homework (40%), and [3] a text analysis assignment (25%), and [4] a text analysis pre-assignment (5%). See also the note below on class participation.

Quizzes (25%): Students will take five closed-book quizzes on material from Futato. The first will be review (due Thu Feb 5). The others (due subsequent Mondays) will cover new material. See esp. *course objectives 1 & 2*.

Translation Homework (40%): By Monday evening of most weeks in March and April, students should use Moodle to answer a set of questions on the translation passage assigned for that week. See esp. *course objectives 3, 4, & 5*.

Exegetical Homework (35%): Throughout the semester, students will apply principles of exegesis, exploring translation, textual variants, historical context, literary context, literary artistry, and theological/homiletical significance of the Hebrew text. Detailed instructions will be on Moodle. See esp. *course objectives 3, 4, & 5*.

Class participation: Class participation is assumed. Thus, students should watch all lectures. Failing to do so can result in a significant reduction of the final grade. Similarly, students should abide by UDS's Netiquette Guidelines (or face grade penalization). Students who ask questions or answer them on Moodle can increase their overall grade, particularly when posts are made frequently and display high quality (e.g., are clear and without errors). See esp. *course objectives 3, 4, & 5*.

GRADING:

There are four components by which students are graded: [1] quizzes (25%), [2] translation homework (40%), and [3] exegetical homework (35%).

<i>Component</i>	<i>Percent of Final Grade</i>
Quizzes (5 @ 5% each)	25%
Translation Homework (8 @ 5% each)	40%
Exegetical Homework	35%

The grading scale is as follows:

93 – 100%	A	73 – 76%	C
90 – 92%	A-	70 – 72%	C-
87 – 89%	B+	67 – 69%	D+
83 – 86%	B	63 – 66%	D
80 – 82%	B-	60 – 62%	D-
77 – 79%	C+	Below 59%	F

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Subject Matter	Translation Homework
1	Jan 30-Feb 5	Review; Qal Hollow Verbs & Waw Relative	Review quiz due Thu Feb 1; Lessons 25-26; Quiz (1A-C, due Tue Feb 5)
2	Feb 6-12	Qal Active Participles & Volitives	Lesson 21, 24; Quiz (1D-2A, due Mon Feb 12)
3	Feb 13-19	Prepositions, & Verbs; There is (not) & have (not); Temporal & Interrogative Clauses; Numbers & Hinnah	Lessons 22-23, 27, 30, 35; Quiz (2B-2C, due Mon Feb 19)
4	Feb 20-26	Other Verbal Paradigms: Piel, Hiphil, Niphal, and others	Lessons 28-29, 31-34, 36-40; Quiz (2D-2E, due Mon Feb 26)
5	Feb 27-Mar 5	Accents; Translate Ruth 1:1-11; Read Davis & Parker xi-xxi, 4-19; Homework due Mon Mar 5	
6	Mar 6-12	Study Days	
7	Mar 13-19	Translate Ruth 1:12-22; Read Davis & Parker 20-36; Homework due Mon Mar 19	
8	Mar 20-26	Translate Ruth 2:1-12; Read Davis & Parker 37-51; Homework due Mon Mar 26	
9	Mar 27-Apr 2	RESEARCH & EASTER BREAK	
10	Apr 3-9	Translate Ruth 2:13-23; Read Davis & Parker 51-65; Homework due Mon Apr 9	
11	Apr 10-16	Translate Ruth 3:1-10; Read Davis & Parker 67-81; Homework due Mon Apr 16	
12	Apr 17-23	Translate Ruth 3:11-18; Read Davis & Parker 82-93; Homework due Mon Apr 23	
13	Apr 24-30	Translate Ruth 4:1-11; Read Davis & Parker 95-111; Homework due Mon Apr 30	
14	May 1-7	Translate Ruth 4:12-22; Read Davis & Parker 112-125; Homework due Mon May 7	
***Exegesis homework due dates TBA.			