I. Course Description

This course is an introductory study of the basic elements of the Hebrew language. In addition to work in syntax, the primary focus is on the vocabulary and morphology of the Hebrew Bible and developing translations skills for reading the Hebrew text. By the end of the two-course sequence, students will have the rudimentary skills to translate and understand the Hebrew Bible with the aid of a lexicon.

II. Required Course Texts


There are also numerous apps which can be used for flashcards. My favorite is Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary, which costs $2.99 through the Apple’s App Store. This is optional, and extraordinarily helpful for the student, but not required.

III. Course Design

Throughout this first semester, the course will cover some of the basic elements of Biblical Hebrew, including alphabet, pronunciation, and the most frequent grammatical features encountered in the Hebrew Old Testament. Video lectures will be posted each week to introduce the material in each chapter. We will also meet online once a week to answer questions and for additional practice. Weekly worksheets and quizzes will be assigned to reinforce what is being learned along the way.

IV. Course Grade

Students’ course grade will be based on weekly worksheets (which are pass/fail), weekly quizzes, a mid-term exam, and a final exam. Students’ lowest quiz grade will be dropped from the final grade. The proportion of each of these in the final grade is as follows:

- Weekly worksheets – 15%
- Weekly quizzes – 25%
- Mid-term exam – 30%
- Final exam – 30%