

Knox College	KNB 1001HF - Introduction to Biblical Hebrew I (Summer 2016)	Prof. Brian P. Irwin
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Class: May 2 – May 24, Monday–Thursday, 9:30AM-12:30PM

Location: Knox College, room TBA

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A. Course Description and Student Learning Goals

This intensive course is the first of *two* courses designed to introduce the student to the basics of Biblical Hebrew grammar and syntax. *Parts I (KNB 1001HF) and II (KNB1002HS) of the course taken consecutively, will give the student the equivalent of a year-long introduction to Biblical Hebrew.* This course is intended for both those who wish to acquire Hebrew for use in ministry and for those who intend to go on to advanced academic degrees. This course uses video lectures to be viewed before class as well as a web-based interactive workbook for exercises. Class time will be devoted to clarifying material encountered in the readings and video lectures, learning vocabulary, and doing in-class exercises.

Upon successfully completing this course and its complement, the student will:

- 1) have a basic understanding of the principles of Hebrew grammar and syntax
- 2) have a working vocabulary of approximately 400 words sufficient to read, with supplementary aids, basic Hebrew narrative
- 3) gain experience in using a variety of Hebrew language tools, including lexicons, grammars, Hebrew software as an aid to translation and exegesis
- 4) have guided practice in reading and translating the Hebrew Bible
- 5) demonstrate ethical behaviour, taking responsibility for the expectations of course and showing respect and willingness to listen in the learning atmosphere including class discussions and small groups

Learning a language requires commitment, determination, and good time management. It is important for students to set aside adequate time each day outside of class to review grammar and vocabulary. During a typical week you will be expected to: review lessons before they are presented in class, review old and prepare new vocabulary, memorise paradigms, complete daily exercises, practise reading aloud, and seek extra help if concepts are not at first understood.

B. Required Textbooks

Required texts are available at Crux Theological Books located at Wycliffe College.

- Pratico, Gary D, and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew E-Learning Bundle: Grammar, Video Lectures, Laminated Sheet, And Interactive Workbook*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2014.
At first glance, this bundle does look expensive, but it includes everything that you will need to complete *two semesters* of Hebrew learning including access to a Blackboard module for completing exercises online.

- Some course material may be distributed online in PDF format. Students should, therefore, download Adobe Acrobat Reader, a utility that enables PCs to read PDF files. Adobe Acrobat Reader is available as a free download from the Adobe web-site (www.adobe.com).

C. Recommended Resources

- Long, Gary A. *Grammatical Concepts 101 for Biblical Hebrew*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2002.

D. Course Requirements and Assignments

The class consists of a four, three-hour class sessions per week. The assignments and their weights are as follows:

- **Quizzes (50%):** Three quizzes on vocabulary, grammar and syntax. Quizzes will be approximately 20 minutes in length and will be given at the beginning of class. Students will *not* be permitted to take missed quizzes except in cases where the absence was due to medical necessity or significant personal or family crisis. Students will be allowed to retake failed quizzes for a maximum score of 70%.
- **Final Exam (40%):** A cumulative exam on vocabulary, grammar and syntax. Two hours. Session 14.
- **Homework and Participation (10%):**

E. Course Policies


Policies for courses are contained in the *TST Basic Degree Handbook* and the *Knox Student Handbook*. See further, the *Syllabus Supplement* available from the class website. In particular, please note the following:

1. **E-mail:** E-mail correspondence related to the course will be sent to UTORmail addresses only. All students are required to have a University of Toronto e-mail address (e.g., firstname.lastname@utoronto.ca) and to check their UTORmail account regularly for messages relating to class. Students should not attempt to forward UTORmail messages to Hotmail.com, Yahoo.com or other accounts as such messages can be rejected as spam. To receive a University of Toronto e-mail address, go to the library website (<http://content.library.utoronto.ca/>) and select Library Services > Computing & connecting > UTORid.
2. **Late Policy:** 4% deducted per week late (2% off per half week).
3. **Attendance:** 80% attendance at a lecture course is required for credit; 100% attendance is required at seminar courses
4. **Completion of Course work:** all course work (including any late work) must be completed by the end of term, the last day of exams. Only in the case of illness (with a note from a doctor), bereavement or other unusual circumstances will an extension be considered (SDF status) and this must be authorised by the Basic Degree Committee and the Faculty.
5. **Style Guidelines for Papers:** see Knox "Style Manual" booklet and *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*, by Kate L. Turabian
6. **Email assignments:** Papers and assignments are not accepted by fax or e-mail, except in rare cases by prior permission of professor.
7. **Plagiarism Policy:** See TST Basic Degree Handbook

8. **Use of Turnitin.com.** Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays or other major written assignments to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site. Students who have principled objections to the use of this service should see the course instructor early in the semester to arrange an alternative.
9. **Use of Technology.** Laptops and other computing devices may be used in the classroom for note taking purposes only. The use of the internet is not permitted while class is in session unless it is part of a specific class activity. Students wishing to text message, search for images, fact check etc. should do so during the break or outside of class. Much of the learning that goes on in the classroom is founded upon mutual disclosure that takes place between the instructor and the student and between students. Parties outside of that learning community have not committed themselves to this relationship of trust. For this and other reasons, permission to record lectures in audio format is granted for use by registered students only. Video recording is not permitted without the written permission of the instructor. Recordings and notes of class lectures may not be electronically reproduced, posted or distributed without the written permission of the instructor.
10. **Consultation:** Please do not hesitate to consult with the instructor about any questions you may have.

F. Weekly Schedule of Classes, Readings & Assignments

Week 1

Session 1	Chapters 1–2: Alphabet and Vowels
Session 2	Chapters 3–4: Syllabification and Pronunciation, Nouns
Session 3	Chapters 5–6: Definite Article, Conjunction, Prepositions
Session 4	Chapters 7–8: Adjectives and Pronouns
	 Quiz 1: Chapters 1–6

Week 2

Session 5	Chapter 9: Pronominal Suffixes
Session 6	Chapter 10: Construct Chain
Session 7	Chapters 11–12: Numbers and Verbs
Session 8	Chapters 12–13: Verbs and <i>Qal</i> Perfect Strong



Quiz 2: Chapters 7–11


Week 3

- Session 9 Chapters 13–14: *Qal* Perfect Strong and *Qal* Perfect Weak
- Session 10 Chapters 14–15: *Qal* Perfect Weak and *Qal* Imperfect Strong
- Session 11 Chapters 15–16: *Qal* Imperfect Strong and *Qal* Imperfect Weak
- Session 12 Chapters 16–17: *Qal* Imperfect Weak and *Waw* Consecutive



Quiz 3: Chapters 12–16

Week 4

- Session 13 Chapters 1–17 Review
- Session 14  **Final Exam: Chapters 1–17**