

## General Information

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*These are the best ways to communicate with me.  
Please do not try to contact me through the email  
function on IQWeb.*

Class hours:  
Thursdays 3 – 4:50 p.m.

Office hours: Monday 1– 3 p.m.  
Tuesday 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
Thursday 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
Friday 1 – 2 p.m.

## Course Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this course is to deepen our experience and understanding of God's Word found in the Old Testament so that we can more faithfully articulate it to ourselves, our churches, and the world around us. This purpose will be pursued through an intermediate level study of Biblical Hebrew (BH), focusing on matters of syntax and lexicon, and the exegesis of selections from the BH corpus. During class gatherings, we will discuss the features of BH syntax while reading through the portions of the book of Deuteronomy. While translation will be necessary for the student's participation in class discussion, it is not intended to be the end-product of our class work. Translation, rather, is an important by-product of interpretation, and interpretation has to do with meaning. To this end, students will be expected to engage in the linguistic, literary, historical and theological world of the biblical text and draw application from it.

The product of this class will be a deeper engagement of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament as well as a short research assignment which can provide the groundwork of a larger exegetical paper.

## Course Prerequisites

Biblical Hebrew 1 and 2

## Course Materials

Elliger, Karl and Willhelm Rudolph, eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1997.

**ISBN:** 978-3438052223 (paperback)  
978-3438052193 (hardback)

-or-

McCarthy, Carmel, ed. *Biblia Hebraica Quinta, Fascicle 5: Deuteronomy*. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2007.

**ISBN:** 978-1598561982

Holladay, William L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1988.

**ISBN:** 978-0802834133

Schertz, Mary H. and Perry B. Yoder. *Seeing the Text: Exegesis for Students of Greek and Hebrew*. Nashville, Tenn.: Abingdon, 2001.

**ISBN:** 978-0687091140

Scott, William R., and Harold P. Scanlin. *A Simplified Guide to BHS: Critical Apparatus, Masora, Accents, Unusual Letters & Other Markings*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. N. Richland Hills, TX: D & F Scott, 2007.

**ISBN:** 978-1930566682

van der Merwe, Christo H.J., et al. *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar*. Sheffield, England: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999.

**ISBN:** 978-1850758563

*Professor's Note: I realize that the financial cost of these books is high. Please note, however, that these resources are reference materials and, if properly evaluated, will serve a student of the Hebrew text for many years to come, not only in future courses but as a part of a personal library.*

## Optional Course Materials on Reserve in Library

Driver, S. R. *Deuteronomy*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. The International Critical Commentary on the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1999.

Jouion, Paul. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. 2 vols. Subsidia biblica 14. Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute, 2000. Translated and edited by T. Muraoka. Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute, 1991. Translation of *Grammaire de l'Hébrue biblique*. Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute, 1923.

Koehler, Ludwig and Baumgartner, Walter, *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Boston: Brill, 2001.

**Due Dates**

## Weekly Quizzes

September 23	Paper Topics Due
October 21	Mid-term Exam
November 18	Student Paper and Presentation (750 words)
December 10-15	Final Exam Period

**Course Assignments**

- Prepare for and participate in the readings for each class by analyzing, translating, and reading the passages for each day. Pay special attention to difficult verb forms, rare words, argument flow, and story logic (how the stories make sense). (10%)
- Weekly quizzes will test verb parsing, vocabulary, and grasp of syntax. (30%)
- Mid-term and final exams will test the same type of material as quizzes, though in an expanded format. (30%)
- Student papers will treat a passage from the book of Deuteronomy not discussed in the class readings, aiming to explain its meaning and significance with the book of Deuteronomy and the Scriptures as a whole. Treatments will rely on scholarly research, and a close reading of the Hebrew text. Papers will be presented in class. (30%)

**Class Schedule**

Class 1, Aug. 26:	Introduction
Class 2, Sept. 2:	Deut 1:1-8 Studies in Syntax and Lexicon #1
Class 3, Sept. 9:	Deut 1:9-18 Studies in Syntax and Lexicon #2
Class 4, Sept. 16:	Deut 1:19-33 Studies in Syntax and Lexicon #3
Class 5, Sept. 23:	Deut 1:34-46 Studies in Syntax and Lexicon #4 <b>Paper Topic Due</b>
Class 6, Sept. 30:	Deut 2:1-12 Studies in Syntax and Lexicon #5
Class 7, Oct. 7:	Deut 2:13-25 Studies in Syntax and Lexicon #6
	READING WEEK
Class 8, Oct. 21:	<b>Mid-term Exam</b> Studies in Syntax and Lexicon #7
Class 9, Oct. 28:	Deut 2:26-37 Studies in Syntax and Lexicon #8
Class 10, Nov. 4:	Deut 3:1-7

- Class 11, Nov. 11: Studies in Syntax and Lexicon #9  
Deut 3:8-17
- Class 12, Nov. 18: Studies in Syntax and Lexicon #10  
**Student Presentations**
- Class 13, Nov. 25: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
- Class 14, Dec. 2: Deut 3:18-29  
Course Review

REFORMED  THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
SYSTEM

**Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: OT506 Hebrew Exegesis  
 Professor: Scott Redd  
 Campus: Orlando  
 Date: August to December 2009

<b>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</b>		<b>Rubric</b>	<b>Mini-Justification</b>
<p><i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Strong</li> <li>➤ Moderate</li> <li>➤ Minimal</li> <li>➤ None</li> </ul>	
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	<b>Strong</b>	Knowledge of the linguistic structure of Biblical Hebrew (BH) will be presented and articulated in written and oral assignments.
<b>Scripture</b>	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	<b>Strong</b>	The course is primarily concerned with the Hebrew version of the Old Testament as it has been received through the Masoretic Text. BH will be studied as a means to interpretation and exhortation.
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	<b>Minimal</b>	Reformed notions of the biblical text as inspired and authoritative provide the framework and justification for such a class, however implicit.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	<b>Moderate</b>	Rigorous, prayerful engagement with the biblical text for the purpose of learning, spiritual growth and maturity is encouraged.
<b>Desire for Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	<b>Minimal</b>	Understanding cross-linguistic and cross-cultural communication is crucial to understanding worldview.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	<b>Moderate</b>	Study of original biblical languages provides an avenue through which faithful scholars communicate the teaching of Scripture in a way that is less bound by native culture.
<b>Preach</b>	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	<b>Strong</b>	Capacity to work with original languages greatly enhances a student's ability to interpret and preach from Scripture.
<b>Worship</b>	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	<b>Minimal</b>	The topic of worship is limited to its presence in the text of Deuteronomy.
<b>Shepherd</b>	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	<b>Minimal</b>	Again, knowledge of BH enhances knowledge of Scripture and ability to shepherd scripturally.
<b>Church/World</b>	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	<b>Minimal</b>	Only present in matters relating to cross-linguistic, cross-cultural interpretation and articulation of Scripture.