Goal:

This course is an advanced study of Biblical Hebrew. It is a course that builds on the student’s prior work in Hebrew grammar, hermeneutics, and exegesis. As such, the primary aim of the course is the development of good, sound translation and exegetical skills. It is also our hope that the student will acquire a richer Hebrew vocabulary and good reading skills. These goals will be accomplished through an in-depth study of Genesis 1-11. We will also investigate the place of Genesis 1-11 in the flow of redemptive history, and how it fits into the unfolding of God’s plan for salvation.

Moses wrote the following to the children of Israel: “And these words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. And you shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates” (Deuteronomy 6:6-9). The Word of God is to be central to our very being, life, and ministry. Beyond a doubt, the study of Hebrew enhances a person’s ability to work with the biblical text and adds depth to one’s ministry. So, this course is a means to an end, namely, the student’s better understanding of God’s holy Word and an application of it to today’s world. Do not hesitate! Do not flee! Your Hebrew study is not in vain. It is a noble task. Do it to the glory of God. “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father” (Colossians 3:17). “Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men” (Colossians 3:23).

Textbooks:

The following books are required for the course:

1. **Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia.** You must bring your Hebrew Bible to class. You may not use a computer during class time. All translations and grammatical work must be hand-written, and it must be brought to class-time.

2. A Hebrew lexicon. You should own one of the following:


3. A Hebrew Grammar. One of the following would serve you well:


4. Suggested, but not required:


**Requirements:**

The grade for the course will be determined on the basis of the following facts:

1. The student must produce a verse-by-verse commentary on one of the chapters of Genesis 1-11, exclusive of the genealogical chapters. The structure and style of this assignment will be covered in detail during the first class period. This assignment is worth 80% of the final grade.

2. Students are expected to be prepared for in-class reading of Hebrew assignments and for other class participation. 10% of final grade.

3. Reading will be assigned for each class period. Students must have the material read for the date assigned. At the end of the last class period of the semester, the
student will give a written report of the amount of reading he/she did during the semester for the course. 10% of final grade.

**Office Hours:**

The professor will regularly keep office hours. They are from 11:00 am to noon, Monday through Friday. In addition, the professor will have IM (Instant Messaging) time weekly from 10:00 am to 11:00 am on Mondays and Tuesdays. At that time, you may ask any questions you may have from your work in the class or any other matters or concerns you might have.

**Course Outline:**

1. **August 24**
   - Topic: Syllabus and Introduction
   - Translation: Genesis Bibliography
   - Genesis in Salvation History

2. **August 31**
   - Topic: Creation
   - Translation: Genesis 1

3. **September 7**
   - Topic: Eden
   - Translation: Genesis 2

4. **September 14**
   - Topic: Fall and Redemption
   - Translation: Genesis 3

5. **September 21**
   - Topic: Cain and Abel; Cain’s Genealogy
   - Translation: Genesis 4

6. **September 28**
   - Topic: Genealogy of the Seed of the Woman
   - Translation: Genesis 5

7. **October 5**
   - Topic: Nephilim; Noah
   - Translation: Genesis 6

8. **October 12**
   - No class (reading week)
9. October 19
   Topic: The Flood
   Translation: Genesis 7

10. October 26
    Topic: Post-Flood
    Translation: Genesis 8

11. November 2
    No class

12. November 9
    Topic: Cultural Mandate
    Translation: Genesis 9

13. November 16
    No class

14. November 23
    No class (Thanksgiving)

15. November 30
    Topic: Table of Nations; Tower of Babel
    Translation
      Genesis 10-11
      Commentary Assignment Due