

## *Successfully completing an Internet course*

1. Understand that Internet courses are not “easier” than classroom courses. Disabuse yourself of any notion to the contrary. In a typical semester, 20% of my Internet students do not complete the course whereas 95+% of classroom students do.

2. You must be able to envision specific blocks of time in which you can complete your work, something like regular class times in a traditional course.

3. If you plan to do the work in your spare time, don't take the course because no one has any spare time.

**Important note regarding *Incomplete Work*:** Please know that students may not receive an Incomplete for any Internet course--i.e., all work must be completed during the academic duration of the Internet course. (Page 170, NOBTS Graduate Catalog 2013-2014.)

# New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

## OTHB 6300 Intermediate Hebrew Grammar

**Professor:** Dr. Jeff Griffin  
**Office:** Library  
**Phone:** 504-816-8018

**Room:** Internet  
**Dates:** June 1 – July 24, 2015  
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“At a time when 90% of Southern Baptist churches are plateaued or declining, NOBTS is a school focusing on training God-called men and women to grow healthy churches.”

—Dr. Chuck Kelley—

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**NOBTS Mission** To equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

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**Core Value** Our seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity as the Bible is believed to be the Word of God, inspired and inerrant. The specific core value celebrated this academic year is Spiritual Vitality.

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**Course Description** Readings from all the different genres of the Hebrew OT will provide the basis for solidifying and expanding students' grammatical knowledge and for introducing them to all the basic components required for advanced work in the Hebrew text. Foundational elements of the study will be limited grammar review, and introductions to the standard critical edition of the Hebrew Bible, textual criticism, translation theory and method, and syntactical analysis. Guided practice in reading, textual criticism, grammatical and syntactical analysis, and translation will prepare students to achieve maximum benefit from subsequent advanced Hebrew exegesis courses.

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**Curriculum Competencies**

The Seminary has seven key competencies in its academic program. They are: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Discipleship Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The key competency addressed in this course is Biblical Exposition.

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**Course Objectives**

By the end of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Describe the basics of biblical Hebrew syntax.
2. Read and translate texts from the Hebrew Bible.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of 300 vocabulary words.
4. Parse strong and weak verbs.
5. Demonstrate understanding of Hebrew language tools for use in biblical exegesis.

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**Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):**

1. The student will be able to understand how to improve biblical exegesis by the means of Hebrew grammar and syntax.
2. The student will demonstrate how to apply the benefits of Hebrew word studies, syntax, literary analysis, genre nuances, or text critical issues in the proclamation of the Bible (Hebrew Bible).
3. The student will be able to communicate clearly the meaning of the original Hebrew text, especially as influenced by genre, lexicography, context, and literary structure.

**Embedded Assignment — Exegetical Project**


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**Teaching Methodology**

The course methodologies include video lectures, oral readings, article and textbook readings, weekly quizzes, and exams.

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**Required Textbooks**

Ellis R. Brotzman, *Old Testament Textual Criticism: A Practical Introduction*. Baker, 1994. [TC]

Robert B. Chisholm, Jr. *From Exegesis to Exposition: A Practical Guide to using Biblical Hebrew*. Baker, 1999. [EE]

Jeff Griffin. *Mastering Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary*. E-Book. (Provided to the student at no cost.)

**The student should have the following texts from Introductory Hebrew:**

*Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*.

*Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Hendrickson, 1996. (Other lexicons are permissible)

**Recommended texts:**

Page H. Kelley, et al., *The Masorah of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia: Introduction and Annotated Glossary* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998).

William R. Scott, *Simplified Guide to BHS: Critical apparatus, Masora, accents, unusual letters & other markings*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed. (D & F Scott Publishing, 2007).

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**Course Requirements:**

The student will:

1. Complete weekly quizzes on the lectures, reading assignments, and vocabulary assignments.

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2. Translate assigned passages from the *BHS*.
3. Prepare an exegetical paper on an assigned passage. (Embedded Assignment for Student Learning Outcomes assessment)
4. Complete a mid-term and final examination.

**Exegetical Project Description**

1. Prepare an exegetical paper on an approved passage. Each text must interact with at least 10 verses in order to address textual meaning, textual criticism, syntax, grammar, context, and the literary structure of the passage. This paper should be 12-15 pages, double-spaced, using 12 pt Times New Roman font, and employ no less than 12 critical and/or technical sources. This paper should be 12-15 pages of text, double-spaced, with no less than 12 critical or technical sources. Text pages do not include title page, table of contents, or the bibliography.
2. Document and interact with key contributors in the field of study and demonstrate how the use of appropriate tools and resources can assist in the exegetical research process of investigating a selected passage for exegesis.
3. Communicate how exegesis of biblical texts impacts the faith and life of contemporary believers.

**Rubric for the Exegetical Project Assessment Description**

- Three domains are assessed:
1. **UNDERSTANDING:** The student understands how to improve biblical exegesis by the means of Hebrew grammar and syntax.
  2. **APPLICATION:** The student applies the benefits of Hebrew word studies, syntax, literary analysis, genre nuances, or text critical issues in the proclamation of the Hebrew Bible.
  3. **COMMUNICATION:** The student communicates clearly the meaning of the original Hebrew-especially as influenced by genre, lexicography, context, and literary structure-for the life of contemporary believers.
- Assignment Evaluation** (0 = Inadequate, 1 = Basic, 2 = Competent, 3 = Good, 4 = Excellent).

**Course Evaluation**

1. Weekly Quizzes – 30%
  2. Translations – 10%
  3. Mid-Term Exam – 30%
  4. Final Exam – 30%
- Total – 100%

**Grading Scale**

A: 93-100% B: 85-92% C: 77-84% D: 70-76% F: below 70%

<b>OTHB 6300 – Intermediate Hebrew Grammar</b>			
<i>READINGS &amp; ASSIGNMENTS SCHEDULE</i>			
Week	Dates	Lectures	Assignments
1	June 1-5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What we're doing and why it matters!</li> <li>• Getting Started</li> <li>• A Reviewing the Seven Basic Stems</li> <li>• Vocabulary – On the Making of New Words – Pt 1</li> <li>• Vocabulary – On the Making of New Words – Pt 2</li> <li>• Vocabulary - 1</li> <li>• Parsing Verbs Made Easy</li> <li>• Parsing Verbs Made Easy – Applied 1</li> <li>• Handout: Parsing Verbs – Afformative Sheet</li> <li>• Handout: Parsing Verbs – Practice Sheet 1</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 1</li> <li>• Textual Criticism – Introduction</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 5, pgs. 57-64</li> <li>• Textual Criticism – Ch. 1</li> </ul>
2	June 8-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parsing Verbs Made Easy – Applied 2</li> <li>• Parsing Verbs Made Easy – Applied 3</li> <li>• Parsing Verbs Made Easy – Applied 4</li> <li>• Reading Hebrew - 1</li> <li>• Tools of the Trade – Hebrew Lexicon</li> <li>• Tools of the Trade – Lexicon Drills Worksheet</li> <li>• Reading Hebrew – 2</li> <li>• Parsing Weak Verbs 1 – A</li> <li>• Masorah Minute - 1</li> <li>• Vocabulary - 3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encyclopedia Judaica – pgs. 606-08</li> <li>• Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 5, pgs. 64-78</li> <li>• Textual Criticism – Ch. 2, pgs. 37-55</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encyclopedia Judaica – pgs. 609-12A</li> <li>• Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 5, pgs. 78-89</li> <li>• Textual Criticism – Ch. 2, pgs. 55-62</li> </ul>
3	June 15-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Translation – 1 – Zechariah 14</li> <li>• Tools of the Trade – Bible Projects</li> <li>• Reading Hebrew – 3 – Deut .18</li> <li>• Parsing Weak Verbs 1 – B</li> <li>• Masorah Minute – 2</li> <li>• Vocabulary - 4</li> <li>• Translation – 2 – Numbers 24</li> <li>• Masorah Minute – 3 – Masorah Parva</li> <li>• Masorah – Accents - 1</li> <li>• Parsing Weak Verbs 1 – C</li> <li>• Reading Hebrew - 4</li> <li>• Vocabulary - 5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encyclopedia Judaica – pgs. 612-614</li> <li>• Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 5, pgs. 89-94</li> <li>• Textual Criticism – Ch. 3</li> </ul>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encyclopedia Judaica – 614-618</li> <li>• Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 5, pgs. 94-112</li> <li>• Textual Criticism – Ch. 4</li> </ul>
4	June 22-26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Translation – 3 – 1 Samuel 2</li> <li>• Masorah Minute – 4 – Masorah Gadolah</li> <li>• Masorah – Accents – 2 – Kings</li> <li>• Reading Hebrew – 5 – 1 Samuel 2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encyclopedia Judaica – 618-21</li> <li>• Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 3</li> <li>• Textual Criticism – Ch. 5</li> </ul>
			<b>Mid-Term Exam</b>

5	<p>June 29- July 3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Translation – 4 – Deuteronomy 18</li> <li>• Masorah Minute – 5 - Sederim</li> <li>• Parsing Weak Verbs 2 – A</li> <li>• Syntax – 1 - Idioms</li> <li>• Tools of the Trade – 3 – Englishman’s Concordance</li> <li>• Reading Hebrew – 6 – Zechariah 14</li> <li>• Vocabulary – 6 – Verbs</li> <li>• Translation – 5 – Jeremiah 33</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 4, pgs. 31-49</li> <li>• Textual Criticism – Ch. 6</li> </ul>
6	<p>July 6-10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Translation – 6 – Isaiah 3 &amp; 4</li> <li>• Vocabulary – 7 – Nouns</li> <li>• Reading Hebrew – 7 – Jeremiah 33</li> <li>• Masorah – Accents – 3 Servants</li> <li>• Masorah – Accents – 4 - Using the Accents – Part 1</li> <li>• Masorah – Accents – 5 – Using the Accents – Part 2</li> <li>• Using the Accents – Handout</li> <li>• Using the Accents – Worksheet</li> <li>• Masorah Minute – 5 – Textual Variants</li> <li>• Reading Hebrew – 8 – Isaiah 3 &amp; 4</li> <li>• Translation – 7 – Ezekiel 34</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exegesis to Exposition – Ch. 6</li> <li>• Textual Criticism – Ch. 5 and 7</li> </ul>
7	<p>July 13-17</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading Hebrew – 9 – Ezekiel 34</li> <li>• Masorah Minute – 7 – Masorah Gadolah</li> <li>• Masorah – Accents – 6 – Using the Accents – Part 3</li> <li>• Masorah – Accents – 7 – Using the Accents – Part 4</li> <li>• Mastering the Masorah – Quiz/Worksheet 1</li> <li>• Translation – 8 – Ezekiel 36</li> <li>• Reading Hebrew – 10 – Ezekiel 36</li> <li>• Masorah – Accents – 8 – Using the Accents – Part 5</li> </ul>	
8	<p>July 20-24</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review, review, review</li> </ul>	<p><b>Final Exam</b></p>

## Selected Bibliography

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- 2013 John A. Cook and Robert D. Holmstedt, *Beginning Biblical Hebrew: A Grammar and Illustrated Reader* (Grand Rapids: Baker).
- 2010 Christopher A. Rollston, *Writing and Literacy in the World of Ancient Israel* (Atlanta: SBL).
- Andrew E. Steinmann. *Intermediate Biblical Hebrew: A Reference Grammar with charts and exercises* (St. Louis: Concordia).
2009. Brian L. Webster. *The Cambridge Introduction to Biblical Hebrew* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).
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2005. Nava Bergman, *The Cambridge Biblical Hebrew Workbook: Introductory Level* (Cambridge University Press).
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1993. Bruce K. Waltke and M. O'Connor, *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax* (Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns).
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1959. Jacob Weingreen, *A Practical Grammar for Classical Hebrew* (New York: Oxford University Press).
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