



ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

**OTHB 6310, Adv. Hebrew Exegesis:
Book of Judges 6-9**

*New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Biblical Studies Division
Summer–July 18-22, SLI 2022 (NOLA2ULive)
M, 1-4; T-F, 8:30-11:30*

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I. SEMINARY MISSION

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Advanced Old Testament Exegesis (Hebrew) gives consideration to textual, grammatical, syntactical, literary, and historical issues through verse-by-verse and paragraph-by-paragraph analysis of the selected biblical text(s). The simple Hebrew narrative of the Gideon pericope (Judges 6-9) will constitute the focus of this one-week intensive. This course will emphasize proper methods for discovering the meaning of a text and applying it in teaching and preaching.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Knowledge (Cognitive)

Students who complete this course successfully should:

- Read Hebrew narrative with increasing competence and confidence
- Demonstrate an increased recognition of Hebrew vocabulary
- Understand the role of the Hebrew Verbal system, clause construction, and lexicography—to the point of leading Bible study via informed exegesis
- Recognize the difference between literal translation theories and those focused more on functional translation.
- Work with the textual apparatus of the standard critical edition of the Hebrew Bible, knowing the meaning of the various markings and notes
- Explain the role and significance of the Gideon narrative within the Book of Judges

Skills (Psychomotor)

Students who complete this course successfully should be able to:

- Explain the role of the biblical judges when teaching the Book of Judges
- Show improved Hebrew reading skills
- Show improved vocabulary acquisition skills
- Demonstrate via translation (both written or verbal) how the Hebrew text shapes the translation process
- Demonstrate a developing ability to analyze verbs, clauses, and lexical data as it relates to the final, smooth translation

Attitudes & Values (Affective)

Students who complete this course successfully should:

- Comprehend the importance of using verbs, clauses, and lexical data best to produce faithful translations
- Recognize the impact that the Hebrew language can have on Bible interpretation
- Consider how to integrate biblical Hebrew into the teaching and preaching of the Bible

IV. TEACHING METHODOLOGY:

The SLI intensive format seeks to engage the class in a seminar-style environment. Though traditional lectures will occur, the professor will call on students to read orally the Hebrew text. Likewise, students will be asked to parse, locate, or explain the grammatical constructions in the selected text for that class period.

The primary work of the class constitutes translation of Judges 6-9 from the BHS. This means that the homework notes, along with class notes and corrections, will be graded. Oral readings from the Hebrew Bible are graded for each student, as called upon. Daily quizzes on vocabulary may occur. The final exegetical paper serves as the capstone assignment for the class.

V. TEXTBOOKS:

Required

1. Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia
2. Any quality Hebrew lexicon
3. Trent Butler, Judges, vol. 8, Word Biblical Commentary (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2009).
4. Robert Alter, The Art of Biblical Narrative (New York: Basic Books, 1981).
5. Robert B. Chisholm, Jr., From Exegesis to Exposition (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998).

Recommended

1. Bruce K. Waltke and M. O'Connor, An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1990).
2. Bill T. Arnold and John H. Choi, A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax (New York: Cambridge, 2003).

3. Paul Jouon and T. Muraoka, *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*, 2 vols. (Rome: Editrice Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 1993).
4. Dan Block, *Judges, Ruth*, vol. 6, NAC (Nashville: B&H, 1999).

VI. OTHER RESOURCES

- Please refer to the Blackboard site for all lecture material.
- For NOBTS assistance with technology issues, call ITC (504-816-8180) or consult the following websites:
 - For online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.
 - selfserve.nobts.edu
 - selfserve@nobts.edu
 - For Blackboard Learning Management system:
 - nobts.blackboard.com
 - blackboardhelpdesk@nobts.edu
 - For general technical questions and support requests:
 - www.nobts.edu/itc
 - itcsupport@nobts.edu
- NOBTS maintains "The Write Stuff" Center (HSC 290B, x8193) to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information towards becoming a better writer. Email writingcenter@nobts.edu

VII. REQUIREMENTS IN THE COURSE:

- A. Complete the following pre-reading for the first day of class:
 1. Robert Alter's *The Art of Biblical Narrative*
 2. Trent Butler's *Judges* (only the Introduction)
- B. Complete daily assignments (have translations prepared before coming to class on day listed):
 1. Monday - Overview of pre-reading
 2. Tuesday - Judges 6:1-25
 3. Wednesday - Judges 7:1-25
 4. Thursday - Judges 8:1-25
 5. Friday - Judges 9:1-25
- C. Prepare parsing & locations of the above passages for daily reading in class
- D. Master vocabulary from Judges 6-9.
- E. Complete post-work as follows (due 2 weeks after class):
 1. Sermon Brief on a partial text from the Gideon narrative (approximately 10 verses or less). Include the following 8 components in your Sermon Brief:
 - A. **Literary analysis:** Use the Masorah to unlock how the Massorettes understood the flow of the Hebrew text. Develop your analysis of the literary structure of the entire discourse--highlighting, of course, the basic units (paragraphs).
 - B. **Syntactical analysis:** You must thoroughly study the role of the verb in the discourse--it's use with the "waw," as well as main verbs and verbals

(inf/part/impv). Compile lists of verb stems, frequency, and association with sentence structure.

- C. **Text Critical Analysis:** Check the Critical Apparatus for all the verses of the discourse. Identify which TC concerns are significant and briefly discuss solutions. This may directly relate to literary analysis or word studies.
 - D. **Word Studies:** These are short, but well thought out sketches of word meanings as constrained by the current context of the text selected for exposition. Be sure to note any significant issues; especially those highlighted by LXX or DSS data.
 - E. **Clause analysis:** Present a clausal study of the specific verses chosen for your sermon brief. Discuss the impact of noun clauses that interrupt verbal clauses. Attempt to construct the literary flow of the text in light of these clausal relationships.
 - F. **Genre Analysis:** Be as precise as possible in identifying all genre considerations in the entire discourse. Provide brief support for your analysis.
 - G. **Conjunctions:** Analyze every conjunction used in the passage of your sermon brief text. Be thorough! Be sure to use other scholarly material to assist in your assessment of how the conjunctions are functioning syntactically.
 - H. **Thematic Studies** (and their relationship to exegesis and exposition of your sermon brief): Reflect on the previous seven areas and determine if the text contains implicit or explicit themes and components. How do these implicit/explicit ideas impact the exegesis/exposition of your sermon brief idea?
2. Translation of entire Judges 6-9 Corpus (consisting of
- A. Literal/rough
 - B. Smooth

VIII. Grading

Daily participation	10%
Reading of assigned texts	10%
Oral reading	10%
Daily parsing, locating, lexical analysis, and/or grammatical awareness	10%
Rough and Smooth translations of selected corpus (due August 5)	20%
Eight components of the Sermon Brief (due August 19)	40%

IX. Fulfilling the Terms of the Syllabus:

No absences are permitted for the summer session courses. Any issues must be resolved with the Graduate Dean's office.

Unpreparedness through lack of reading or late arrival will significantly impact your participation grade. All assignments must be completed in order to receive a passing grade for the course. Excessive lateness or any absence will trigger automatic failure of the course in accordance with seminary policy.

Late assignment submissions will be accepted, but will have a maximum score of 60%. No submissions will be accepted once the semester ends according to the posted time of the final exam. No student will receive a passing grade in this course if all major assignments are not completed. Failure to submit any major assignment will result in failure of the course.

If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Live student, please note the following attendance policies:

1. The course on the New Orleans campus will be connected synchronously via Web conferencing with Internet students. These courses will require weekly attendance at the stated class meeting times.
2. Students are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in the graduate catalog. (See "Absences" category in the website catalog at: <https://catalog.nobts.edu/generalinfo/academicpolicies>.)
3. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a class session.

X. Course Schedule

Day	Time	Focus + Assignment	Time	2d Session
7/18	1-4 pm	Pre-Reading and the Book of Judges	6-9	Judges 6:1-10
7/19	8-11	Judges 6:11-25	1-4	6:26-40
7/20	8-11	Judges 7:1-14	1-4	7:15-25
7/21	8-11	Judges 8:1-21	1-4	8:22-38
7/22	8-12	Judges 9:1-25		No afternoon session

XII. Bibliography:

- Alter, Robert. *The Art of Biblical Narrative*. No City: Basic Books, 1981.
- Andersen, Francis I., and A. Dean Forbes. *The Vocabulary of the Old Testament*. Rome: Editrice Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 1989.
- Barton, John. *Reading the Old Testament: Method in Biblical Study*. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1984.
- Bergen, Robert D., ed. *Biblical Hebrew and Discourse Linguistics*. Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 1994.
- Berlin, Adele. *The Dynamics of Biblical Parallelism*. Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 1992.
- _____. *Poetics and Interpretation of Biblical Narrative*. Sheffield, England: The Almond Press, 1983.
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- Bodine, Walter R., ed. *Discourse Analysis of Biblical Literature: What it is and What it Offers*. Atlanta, Georgia: Scholars Press, 1995.
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- Caird, G. B. *The Language and Imagery of the Bible*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1980.
- Cowley, A. E. *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar: As edited and enlarged by the late E. Kautzsch*. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1983.
- Endo, Yoshinobu. *The Verbal System of Classical Hebrew in the Joseph Story: An Approach from Discourse Analysis*. The Netherlands: Van Gorcum and Comp., 1996.
- Fishbane, Michael. *The Garments of Torah: Essays in Biblical Hermeneutics*. Bloomington Indiana: University of Indiana Press, 1989.
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- Guerin, Wilfred L., Earle Labor, and others. *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature* 3rd Edition. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992.
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- Keil, C. F., and F. Delitzsch. *Commentary on the Old Testament in Ten Volumes: Joshua, Judges, Ruth, I & II Samuel*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1980.
- Kim, Jichan. *The Structure of the Samson Cycle*. Kampen, The Netherlands: Kok Pharos Publishing House, 1993.

- Miller, Cynthia L., ed. *The Verbless Clause in Biblical Hebrew: Linguistic Approaches*. Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 1999.
- O'Connor, M. *Hebrew Verse Structure*. Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 1997.
- Pratt, Richard L. Jr. *He Gave Us Stories: The Bible Student's Guide to Interpreting Old Testament Narratives*. Phillipsburg, New Jersey: P&R Publishing, 1990.
- Putnam, Frederick C. *A Cumulative Index to the Grammar and Syntax of Biblical Hebrew*. Winona Lake, Indiana: Eisenbrauns, 1996.
- _____. *Hebrew Bible Insert: A Student's Guide to the Syntax of Biblical Hebrew*. Hatfield, PA: Stylus Publications, 1996.
- Ryken, Leland. *Words of Delight: A Literary Introduction to the Bible* 2nd edition. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1992.
- Schokel, Luis Alonso. *A Manual of Hebrew Poetics: Subsidia Biblica 11*. Rome: Editrice Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 1988.
- Simon, Uriel. *Reading Prophetic Narratives*. Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 1997.
- Ska, Jean Louis. *Our Fathers Have Told Us: Subsidia Biblica 13*. Rome: Editrice Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 1990.
- Smith, Mark S. *The Origins and Development of the WAW-Consecutive: Northwest Semitic Evidence from Ugarit to Qumran*. Atlanta, Georgia: Scholars Press, 1991.
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