

Readings in Biblical Hebrew (JUDS0090B)

MWF 9-9:50am

163 George Street, Rm. 103

Kerry M. Sonia (kerry_sonia@brown.edu)

Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description:

This course is an introduction to translating different genres of text from the Hebrew Bible. We will begin by reviewing basic principles of Hebrew grammar and syntax. Next, we will read and translate selections of the biblical text, chosen to give students a sense of different genres, including prose, poetry, and law collections. This course is also designed to familiarize students with various reference tools used by scholars to translate and interpret the text. The goal of this course is to enable students to further explore the biblical text either on their own or in a graduate-level course.

Prerequisites:

JUDS0090A or permission of the instructor

Required Texts (available at the Brown Bookstore):

Hackett, Jo Ann. *A Basic Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*. Hendrickson Publishers, 2010.

Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia. German Bible Society, 1997.

F. Brown, S. Driver and C. Briggs, *The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Hendrickson Publishers, 1996.

Evaluation:

Evaluation will be based on participation (20%), 2 midterm examinations (25% each), and a final examination (30%). Participation includes attendance, involvement in class discussion, and completion of homework assignments. Three (3) unexcused absences will be permitted without penalty; however, any additional absences will negatively affect a student's participation grade at the instructor's discretion.

Tentative Schedule

Week One, January 22-25th: Introduction to the Course and Review

Week Two, January 27-31st: Weak Verbs and Derived Stems (Lessons 25-26)

Week Three, February 3-7th: Weak Verbs and Derived Stems (Lessons 27-28)

Week Four, February 10-14th: Weak Verbs and Derived Stems (Lessons 29-30)

Week Five,

No Class February 17th

February 19th: Midterm Review

February 21st: Midterm Exam #1

Week Six,

February 24th: Introduction to BDB & BHS

February 26-28th: Genesis 22:1-19

Week Seven, March 3-7th: Exodus 3:1-16; Exodus 34:11-18

Week Eight, March 10-14th: Exodus 34:19-26; Lev 19:1-19

Week Nine, March 17-21st: Deuteronomy 5:1-22 (19); 1 Kings 3:16-28

Spring Break—no class March 24-28th

Week Ten,

March 31-April 2nd: Review for Midterm

April 4th: Midterm Exam #2

Week Eleven,

April 7-11th: Isaiah 6:1-10; Jeremiah 1:1-10

No Class April 11th

Week Twelve, April 14-18th: Ezekiel 2-3:3; 2 Sam 1:17-27; Psalm 24

Week Thirteen, April 21-25th: Psalm 137; Lamentations 2:1-10; Proverbs 2:1-11

Week Fourteen, April 28-May 2nd: Proverbs 2:11-22; Nehemiah 13:15-31

May 9th, 2pm: Final Exam (Group 02)