

**REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
NEW YORK CITY**

**COURSE SYLLABUS
Hebrew II – 09OT5125**

Spring Semester, 2021

CLASS FORMAT

Synchronous Zoom Sessions 6:00-7:25 PM from Jan. 28-May 13. (No class April 1)
15 hours of Asynchronous Viewing.

All video lessons must be watched and assigned homework completed BEFORE the in-person meetings each week. In person sessions will be Thursday evenings.

INSTRUCTOR: Rev. William Fullilove, Ph.D.
bfullilove@rts.edu
703-581-2015

NOTE: Please do not email or text for questions on assignments or to request extensions. The following contacts should be via Canvas:

- 1) Extension requests must be made in the individual comment section where the student would submit that assignment on Canvas.
- 2) Questions about assignments should be made in the general comments section regarding that assignment (visible to all).
- 3) More general class questions should be made in the Professor/Student discussion forum in Canvas.

If the issue is not covered by these three categories, then please email me. You are welcome to have my cell phone, but please only text me for emergencies. The three categories above are not emergencies.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An introduction to the Hebrew language of the Old Testament Scriptures.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To glorify God by and while learning to read the Old Testament in its original language.
2. To enable the student to read and translate from portions of the Hebrew Old Testament.
3. To aid the student in preparation of teaching the Scriptures.
4. To equip the student to understand lexical aids and commentaries on the Old Testament.

REQUIRED Texts:

- Ellinger and Rudolph (eds.), *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*
- Fullilove, W. *Introduction to Hebrew: a Guide to Learning and Using Biblical Hebrew*. Philipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2017.
- Holladay, W. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.

REQUIREMENTS:

Online preparation: Students are required to read the textbook chapter, watch all videos, and complete all homework BEFORE class each week.

Student-to-Professor Interactions: There will be 7 graded student-to-professor discussion posts that require students to interact with and apply class topics. Students must post a response to the prompt on Canvas, and the professor will respond accordingly.

Student-to-Student Interactions: Students must post at least five substantial posts in the student-to-student discussion forum on Canvas.

Class Attendance: Students are required to attend class sessions with the professor each Thursday. If you know you cannot make it to a class session, you must notify the instructor **in advance**. Attendance will be taken, and multiple absences will result in a grade reduction. Failure to attend a significant number of classes (*with “significant” being defined at the discretion of the instructor*) may result in failure of the class.

If students miss class on a given week, they will be expected to not only make up the material covered but to also submit an extra assignment showing that they have successfully mastered the material they would have covered in class. This assignment will be established by the professor.

Tutoring Sessions: Course TA's will meet with the students to continue their practice. While the tutoring sessions are not strictly mandatory, they are **highly** encouraged. If a student's quiz average falls below 90, tutoring sessions will become mandatory.

Homework: Students are required to complete and hand in all assigned homework at class on the week a chapter is covered. (i.e.: The homework for Chapters 14 is due at class on Feb. 6.) Homework may or may not include all exercises in the textbook, so students should take care each week to note which exercises are assigned. After students have completed the homework working on their own, they should use the key (available at www.introductiontohebrew.com) to self-correct the homework. The self-corrections should be in a DIFFERENT COLOR from the homework done by the student. So long as the assignment has been reasonably completed and the corrections are all marked, the student will receive full credit for the homework done. Late homework is accepted up until the date of the midterm or final exam but will receive a maximum of half credit.

Quizzes: At each class students will be quizzed covering the **cumulative** grammar and vocabulary in the course. There will be **NO** “make up” quizzes if a student is absent. However, the lowest **three** quiz grades will be dropped.

Midterm and Final Exams: The midterm and final exam will include the same type of material included in the homework and/or quizzes.

TOTAL GRADE:

The final grade for the course will be the total of each of the required assignments listed above.

Homework (20%)

Thursday Class Performance (15%)

Attendance (10%)

Quizzes (20%)

Student to Professor Interactions (10%)

Student to Student Interactions (5%)

Midterm Exam (10%)

Final Exam (10%)

The instructor reserves the right to adjust grades based on each student's attendance at class and participation in classroom exercises.

NOTE!!!

- **Don't get behind!** A language course is by necessity cumulative. If you get behind, you will be simultaneously trying to learn old and new material. This is a recipe for disaster!
- **Be consistent!** Studying a language is much more effective if done daily. You did not learn English (or whatever your native tongue may be) by looking at it once per week. Do not expect to learn Hebrew that way either!
- **Take small bites!** Four half hour study sessions are noticeably more effective than one two hour session.
- **Ask questions!** Class time is meant to serve the students. Take advantage of the time you have. Don't just keep your head down and try to fake your way through if something does not make sense.
- **Contact the professor or teaching assistant for one-on-one help!** Do not hire an outside tutor, and don't merely look up the answer. Get help if you need it.
- **Trust in the Lord!** Generations of seminarians have successfully learned Hebrew. You can, too.

OFFICE HOURS:

Thursdays 3:00-4:00. I am always also available by appointment, including before or after class or by phone.

SCHEDULE:

Jan. 28

- Chapter 14 – Piel

Feb 4

- Chapter 15 – Pual

Feb. 11

- Chapter 16 – Hiphil

Feb. 18

- Chapter 17 – Hophal

Feb. 25

- Chapter 18 – Numbers and Counting

Mar. 4

- Chapter 19 – Niphal

Mar. 11

- Chapter 20 – Hithpael

Mar. 18

- Chapter 21 – Pronominal Suffixes on Verbs

Mar. 25

- Chapter 22 – I-Guttural Verbs

Apr. 1 – NO Class – Maundy Thursday

- **Midterm Exam taken on student's own schedule – due Apr. 6**

Apr. 8

- Chapter 23 – II-Guttural and III-נ/ע Verbs

Apr. 15

- Chapter 24 – III-נ Verbs

Apr. 22

- Chapter 25 – III-ח Verbs

Apr. 29

- Chapter 26 – Middle-Weak Verbs

May 6

- Chapter 27 – I-י Verbs

May 13

- Chapter 28 – Geminate Verbs and Minor Stems
- **Final Exam taken on student's own schedule – due May 18**

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u> <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> <i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		<u>Rubric</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong • Moderate • Minimal • None 	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Minimal	Language Class
Scripture	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.)	Strong	Cannot fully understand original meaning without language training
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Minimal	Reformed instructor, so will have some impact
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Students often struggle with fears, pastoral approach to teaching language
Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	Language Class
Winsomely Reformed	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.)	Moderate	Discussion and evaluation of contributions from other traditions in a respectful and honoring way
Pastoral Ministry	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians.	Moderate	Exegetical work that forms the backbone of strong preaching; regular discussion of applications for preaching