

# Hebrew 1

## 01OT5100

Summer 2025  
June 21–August 15

### Instructor

Stephen J. Smith, Ph.D.  
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Monday – Friday: 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Classroom: TBD

### Course Description

This course constitutes an introduction to the language of Biblical (Classical) Hebrew, including basic phonology, morphology, syntax, and vocabulary. Hebrew 1 counts for three (3) credit hours and Hebrew 2 counts for three (3) credit hours. The total for the summer course sequence is six (6) credit hours. No prerequisites.

### Course Protocols

1. **Grading Schedule.** The letter grading scale for this course is summarized below.

95-100%	A	83-85%	B
90-94%	A-	80-82%	B-
86-89%	B+	0-79%	F

2. **Attendance and Late Assignments.** Language acquisition can be a difficult task and requires constant vigilance in the beginning stages. Students are required to be ready and in their seats by 12:55 PM. If you miss a quiz, it may not be made up. You may, however, take a quiz early if you need to miss a day. In the instance of a missed quiz, it is helpful to know that students will drop their two lowest quiz scores during the summer term.
3. **Method of Instruction.** The emphasis in this class is student performance. Students must come to class each day prepared and ready to participate in the instructional process. This means that all of the assigned reading from the grammar and all of the assigned homework from the workbook must be completed by the beginning of the class period for which it is assigned. Failure to comply will inhibit acceptable performance and impede the benefit of the classroom experience for other students.
4. **Special Needs.** In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a condition requiring special accommodations (e.g. voice recorders, special adaptive equipment) is strongly encouraged to contact the professor at the beginning of the course.
5. **Electronic Aids.** No computers, recording devices, or electronics are permitted in class.
6. **Disclaimer.** This syllabus is intended to reflect the learning objectives, instructional format, and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. However, during the course of the semester, the instructor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus if deemed necessary for the improvement of the class.

## Course Requirements

1. **Homework.** Homework will be assigned each night. Students are expected to complete all assigned work each day in order to be prepared for class. Homework is not collected or graded. The completion of homework is, however, essential for achieving proficiency in the language.
2. **Quizzes.** There will be a quiz each day of the week (except during scheduled exams). These quizzes will focus on the information learned during the previous day. However, due to the very nature of learning a language, quizzes are cumulative. There are no make-up quizzes, but the lowest two quizzes will be dropped. Total quiz scores constitute 80% of the term grade.
3. **Tests.** There will be two major examinations this summer term (see schedule below). All exams are cumulative. Total exam scores constitute 30% of the term grade (Exam 1 = 5%; Exam 2 = 15%).
4. **Class Attendance.** Attendance is required. Regular absence or chronic lateness to class will result in the reduction of the course grade.

## Course Resources

### Required Resources

Pratico, Gary D. and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Grammar*, 3rd edition. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2019.

Pratico, Gary D. and Miles V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew: Workbook*, 3rd edition. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2019.

### Recommended Resources

Van Pelt, Miles V. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Video Lectures: A Complete Course for the Beginner*, 2nd edition. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2019.

Van Pelt, Miles V. and Gary D. Pratico. *The Vocabulary Guide to Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic*, 2nd edition. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2019.

Van Pelt, Miles V. and Gary D. Pratico. *Old Testament Hebrew Vocabulary Cards*, 2nd edition. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2019.

Van Pelt, Miles V. *English Grammar to Ace Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2010.

Van Pelt, Miles V. *Biblical Hebrew: A Compact Guide*, 2nd edition. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2019.

Pratico, Gary D. and Miles V. Van Pelt. Pratico. *Zondervan Get an A! Study Guides: Biblical Hebrew*, revised edition. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2019.

# Course Schedule

July	21	Introduction, Syllabus, the Alphabet
	22	BBH 1 Homework and Quiz
	23	BBH 2 Homework and Quiz
	24	BBH 3 Homework and Quiz
	25	<b>Exam 1: BBH 1-3</b>
	28	BBH 4 Homework and Quiz
	29	BBH 5 Homework and Quiz
Aug	30	BBH 6 Homework and Quiz
	31	BBH 7 Homework and Quiz
	1	BBH 8 Homework and Quiz
	4	BBH 9 Homework and Quiz
	5	BBH 10 Homework and Quiz
	6	BBH 11 Homework and Quiz
	7	<b>Exam 2: BBH 1-11</b>
	8	Lecture 12-13 (no homework or quiz due)
	11	BBH 12-13 Homework and Quiz
	12	BBH 14 Homework and Quiz
	13	BBH 15 Homework and Quiz
	14	BBH 16a Homework and Quiz
	15	BBH 16b Homework and Quiz

## Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Hebrew 1 (01OT5100)  
 Professor: Stephen J. Smith  
 Campus: Jackson  
 Date: Summer 2025

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></b>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b>	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></b>
<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>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong</li> <li>• Moderate</li> <li>• Minimal</li> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	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	Provides a foundation for biblical and theological studies.
<b>Scripture</b>	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	Learning Hebrew is a fundamental skill for understanding the original meaning of Scripture.

<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Minimal	WCF 1.8
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Strong	Studying Hebrew is a way to demonstrate love for God.
<b>Worldview</b>	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.	Moderate	Allows to the better application of Scripture to life.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	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.)	None	
<b>Pastoral Ministry</b>	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	Fundamental tool for the pastor/teacher to rightly interpret and apply Scripture