

Beginning Biblical Hebrew



**Dr. Mark D. Futato
Reformed Theological Seminary
020T5125
Spring 2026**

Instructor: Dr. Mark D. Futato

Email: mfutato@rts.edu

Dates: January 29 to May 5

Office Hours: By Appointment via [Calendy](#)

PURPOSE

- To encourage you in living an abundant life to the glorify of God!

GOAL

- To facilitate your success in acquiring
 - A thorough knowledge of Hebrew grammar and
 - Essential skills in the use of Hebrew,
 - So that you can study and teach the Hebrew Bible with greater depth and accuracy and enjoy a richer life.

Objective

- To master lessons 24-40 in *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*.
- To begin to use original language resources: *Biblica Hebraica Stuttgartensia*, *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*, and *Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar*.
- To read the Hebrew text of Genesis 1:1-13.

REQUIRED RESOURCES

Hebrew Grammar: BBH

- Futato, Mark D. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 2003.

Hebrew Reference Grammar: BHRG

- van der Merwe, Christo H. J., and Jacobus A. Naudé. *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar: Second Edition*. London; New York: T&T Clark, 2017.

Hebrew Bible: BHS

- Elliger, Karl, and Wilhelm Rudolph, eds. *Biblica Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. German Bible Society, 2006. (Standard edition)
- Elliger, Karl, and Wilhelm Rudolph, eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. German Bible Society, 1997. (Compact edition)
- Elliger, Karl, and Wilhelm Rudolph, eds. *Biblica Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. German Bible Society, 2006. (Paperback edition)

Hebrew Lexicon: CHALOT

- Holladay, William L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1988.

Hebrew Vocabulary

- Van Pelt, Miles V. *Old Testament Hebrew Vocabulary Cards*. 2nd. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2019.
 - Make sure you get the 2nd edition.
 - ISBN: 978-0-310-53418-1.
- Note #1: The vocabulary in *Beginning Biblical Hebrew* is keyed to the Dillard vocabulary cards, which are out of print. On Canvas > Course Resources you will

find a key that will enable you to go from the vocabulary in *Beginning Biblical Hebrew* to the Van Pelt cards.

- Note #2: For each lesson you will have four additional vocabulary words taken from the Van Pelt cards. The Schedule below will indicate which words you are responsible for on each quiz.

Hebrew Accents

- Futato, Mark D. *A Basic Introduction to the Hebrew Accents*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2020.

REQUIREMENTS

QUIZZES

- There are 17 quizzes.
- The quizzes cover the lessons in *Beginning Biblical Hebrew* and are worth 10 points each and total 170 points and = 43% of the course grade.

TESTS

- There are 5 tests, including the final exam.
- Tests 1-4 are cumulative. The majority of each exam will be on the new chapters.
- Test 1 is worth 40 points \approx 10% of the course grade.
- Tests 2 and 3 are worth 50 points each and total 100 points \approx 26% of the course grade.
- Test 4 is worth 30 points \approx 8% of the course grade.
- Test 5 is the final exam, covering the readings in Genesis and BHRG §§1-9, and is worth 50 points \approx 13% of the course grade.
- For each test, you are required to know the books of the Bible according to their order in the Hebrew canon.

TRANSLITERATION

- There are 5 transliteration assignments.
- The transliteration assignments are worth 2 points each, totaling 10 points, and = 3% of the course grade.

GRADING

- I use the Seminary's published grading scale.
- There is an automatic penalty of one letter grade per day for late work (without excuse).

CLASS SCHEDULE

January 29 Lesson 24 <i>BHS</i> <i>CHALOT</i>	March 5 Quiz 09 32 + VP 466-469 Lesson 33	April 14 Quiz 16 39 + VP 498, 499, 501, 504 Lesson 40
February 3 Quiz 01 24 + VP ##423-426 Lesson 25	March 10 Test 02 28-32	April 16 Quiz 17 40 + VP 505-506 BHRG §9 Genesis 1:1-2 Transliteration 01
February 5 Quiz 02 25 VP 427-233 Lesson 26	March 12 Quiz 10 33 + VP 470, 472, 473, 474 Lesson 34	April 21 Test 04 38-40
February 10 Quiz 03 26 VP 434-437 Lesson 27	March 17 <i>Spring Break</i>	April 23 BHRG §§1-3 Genesis 1:3-5 Transliteration 02
February 12 Quiz 04 27 + VP 438-439, 442, 443 Lesson 28	March 19 <i>Spring Break</i>	April 28 BHRG §§4-6 Genesis 1:6-8 Transliteration 03
February 17 Test 01 24-27	March 24 Quiz 11 34 + VP 475-478 Lesson 35	April 30 BHRG §§7-8 Genesis 1:9-10 Transliteration 04
February 19 Quiz 05 28 + VP 445-446, 448, 450 Lesson 29	March 26 Quiz 12 35 + VP 480-483 Lesson 36	May 5 Genesis 1:11-13 Transliteration 05
February 24 Quiz 06 29 + VP 451-4554 Lesson 30	March 31 Quiz 13 36 + VP 484, 485, 486, 489 Lesson 37	
February 26 Quiz 07 30 + VP 455, 457, 459, 461 Lesson 31	April 2 Quiz 14 37 + VP 490-493 Lesson 38	
March 3 Quiz 08 31 + VP 462-465 Lesson 32	April 7 Test 03 33-37	
	April 9 Quiz 15 38 + VP 494-497 Lesson 39	

THE HEBREW CANON

Law

תּוֹרָה

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

Prophets

נְבִיאִים

Former

Joshua
Judges
Samuel
Kings

Latter

Major

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Ezekiel

Minor

Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

Writings

כְּתוּבִים

Psalms
Job
Proverbs
Ruth
Song of Songs
Ecclesiastes
Lamentations
Esther
Daniel
Ezra
Nehemiah
Chronicles

THE ENGLISH CANON

Law

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

History

Joshua
Judges
Ruth
Samuel
Kings
Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther

Poetry

Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Songs

Prophecy

Major

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel

Minor

Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

HEBREW SCRIPTURE SONGS

#1 Hezekiah 1:1

הָבִינוּ שְׁלוֹם עֲלֵיכֶם

We have brought peace to you.

#2 Deuteronomy 6:4

שִׁמְעַיִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה אֶחָד

Here, O Israel, the LORD is our God, the LORD alone.

#3 Psalm 121:4

הֲנֵה לֹא־יָנוּם וְלֹא יִישָׁן שׁוֹמֵר יִשְׂרָאֵל:

Look, he does not sleep
And he does not slumber—
The guardian of Israel.

#4 Psalm 133:1

הֲנֵה מִה־טוֹב וּמִה־נָּעִים שָׁבַת אֲחִים גַּם־יַחַד

Look, how good and how pleasant—
The dwelling of brothers together.

#5 Isaiah 35:10 //51:11

וּבָאוּ צִיּוֹן בְּרִנָּה וְשִׂמְחַת עוֹלָם עַל־רֹאשָׁם שִׁשּׁוֹן וְשִׂמְחָה יִשְׂגּוּ

They will come to Zion with a shout,
and eternal gladness will be on their heads;
happiness and gladness will overtake them.

#6 Isaiah 61:10

שׁוֹשׂ אֲשִׁישׁ בַּיהוָה תִּגַּל נַפְשִׁי בַּאֱלֹהֵי

I will be exceedingly happy in the LORD;
Let my soul rejoice in my God.

#7 Psalm 118:24

זֶה־הַיּוֹם עָשָׂה יְהוָה נִגִּילָה וְנִשְׂמְחָה בּוֹ

This is the day the LORD has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

#8 Psalm 95:1-2

לְכוּ נִרְנְנָה לַיהוָה
נִרְיֶעָה לְצוּר יִשְׁעֵנוּ
נִקְדָּמָה פָּנֵינוּ בְּתוֹדָה
בְּזִמְרוֹת נִרְיֶעַ לוֹ:

Come let us shout! Come let us shout! Come, come, let us shout to the LORD!
Let us shout—let us shout to the Rock of our salvation!
Let us approach him with thanksgiving!
Let us shout, let us shout to the Rock of our salvation!
With psalms let us shout to him!

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: 02OT5125 Hebrew 2
 Professor: Futato
 Campus: Orlando
 Date: Spring 2026

<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> ➤ 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.	Minimal	Uses key texts from the Old Testament in the practice exercises.
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	Teaches the skills to research further into the original meaning of Scripture, including Hebrew grammar and computer technology.
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	None	
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Uses key texts from the Old Testament in the practice exercises.
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Minimal	Uses key texts from the Old Testament in the practice exercises.
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.)	Minimal	Discussion forums are moderated to ensure that students communicate winsomely.
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	None	
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	None	
Shepherd	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	None	
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	None	