

Hebrew Bible Beginning Biblical Hebrew II

Professor	Daniel R. Driver, PhD	Course	Version 3.6
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Email	daniel.driver@astheology.ns.ca	When	9:00–11:30 AM
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Hours	Tuesdays, 1:00–3:00 PM	Website	danieldriver.com

1 Course Description

The natural continuation of HB 2201, this course is for those who wish to have a complete introduction to the basics of biblical Hebrew. Students will progress through encounters with less regular paradigms and more complicated syntax, building confidence as they master select readings from Genesis. The goal of the full course series, in two parts, is a proficiency in the rudiments of Hebrew that is sufficient for the independent reading of biblical books.

Prerequisites: HB 2201.

2 Learning Objectives

The basic goal of this course is for students to become proficient in the rudiments of biblical Hebrew, sufficient for the independent reading of biblical books in this language. Students will be given support as they continue to develop their ability to learn Hebrew independently. Building on their initial study in HB 2201 or elsewhere, they will read and translate a passages from Genesis (the Joseph Story) as they advance in their ability to read the Hebrew Bible with confidence and understanding.

3 Required Texts & Materials

The following texts are required. Students are strongly encouraged to purchase their own copies. Digital copies are available within [Logos](#). A hard copy of the workbook at least is preferable, since it is filled with worksheets on which you will want to write.

- [Grammar] Karl V. Kutz and Rebekah Josberger. *Learning Biblical Hebrew: Reading for Comprehension: An Introductory Grammar*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham, 2018. ISBN 978-1683590842. Note that LBH has a [companion site with resources for teachers and students](#).
- [Workbook] Karl V. Kutz and Rebekah Josberger. *Learning Biblical Hebrew: A Graded Reader with Exercises*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham, 2019. ISBN 978-1683592440.

4 Supplementary Texts

The following works are worth owning and consulting, especially [\[BHS\]](#) and [\[BDB\]](#). [\[Making Sense\]](#) contains sound advice on core skills like reading religious texts, writing essays and reviews, revising essays, making presentations, and learning languages.

- [BHS] *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1997. ISBN 978-1598561630. This remains the standard critical edition, though it is gradually being replaced by the BHQ. A paperback edition, marketed to students, is also available; the hardback is much more durable.
- [BDB] Francis Brown, S. R. Driver and C. A. Briggs. *The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Peabody, Mass: Hendrickson, 2004 (orig. ed. 1906).
- [Making Sense] Northey, Margot, Bradford A. Anderson, and Joel N. Lohr. *Making Sense in Religious Studies: A Student's Guide to Research and Writing*. 3rd ed. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 2019. ISBN 978-0199026838.
- [SBL₂] Collins, Billie Jean, et al. *The SBL Handbook of Style*. 2nd ed. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2014. ISBN 978-1589839649. See the free [Student Supplement](#).

5 Course Outline

We will adhere to the schedule in [Table 1](#) as closely as possible, though the professor reserves the right to adjust it to suit the needs of the class.

See the AST website for a list of other [important dates](#).

Ch. Learning Biblical Hebrew: Grammar	Workbook	Date
11. Review Chs. 1–10; Intro to Hebrew Verbs		13 Sep
12. Vowel Changes in Verbs	R11–12	20 Sep
13. Qal Perfects	E13, R13	27 Sep
14. Qal Imperfects	E14, R14	4 Oct
15. Qal Volitionals	E15, R15	11 Oct
16. Qal Participles and Infinitives	E16, R16	18 Oct
~. No Class: Reading Week (AST Open)		25 Oct
17. Qal Waw Consecutives	R17	1 Nov
18. Niphal	E18, R18	8 Nov
19. Piel, Pual, and Hithpael	E19, R19	15 Nov
20–21. Hiphil and Hophal; Rare Verb Stems	E20, R20	22 Nov
22. Verbs with Object Suffixes	R22–	29 Nov
23. Irregular Features with Object Suffixes	E23, R22–23	6 Dec
👉 End of Term: Final marks are due for all courses		15 Dec

Table 1: Schedule of Lessons by Chapter, Exercise (E) & Reading (R)

6 Evaluation

The grade structure for HB 2202 has the following elements.

1. Students are expected to read and study all **lessons** in Chapters 11–23 of the [Grammar], and to complete the accompanying **exercises** and Hebrew **readings** in the [Workbook]. Students should use the answer key to correct and evaluate their own work. Assignments will be assessed at the end of each week for completeness only. Students who are taking the course for credit should be prepared to show evidence of their efforts and, if requested, to upload scans (PDFs) or photos of any relevant pages from the [Workbook] to the course website.
2. **Quizzes** are based on the [Grammar] and [Workbook] assignments. Between six and ten quizzes will be set throughout the twelve-week course. All quizzes are closed book. Students must take opportunities accurately to assess what they have learned and retained. Continuing education students and auditors are encouraged to participate in these exercises fully by scoring and correcting their own work.

The breakdown for the semester’s total work is shown in Table 2.

Workbook	40%
Quizzes	60%

Table 2: Distribution of Grades

AST’s **Academic Calendar** provides guidelines and detailed criteria for academic assessment. Marks are assigned by letter grade using these benchmarks (summarized in Table 3). Note that, at AST, a grade of “C” is deemed “Unsatisfactory.”

A+	94–100	Exceptional
A	87–93	Outstanding
A–	80–86	Excellent
B+	77–79	Good
B	73–76	Acceptable
B–	70–72	Marginally Acceptable
C	60–69	Unsatisfactory
F	0–59	Failure
FP	0	Failure due to Plagiarism

Table 3: Outline of Grades at AST

7 Other Course Policy

Late work will not be accepted, except in genuinely extenuating circumstances. Students must submit something before the deadline if they wish to receive credit. Unless I state otherwise, assignments are to be uploaded by 11:59 PM (Atlantic) on the date indicated.

Essay submissions must be typewritten and double-spaced. They should be free from error. In this course they should follow SBL Style (see [SBL2] in [section 4](#), above). As a reminder, AST upholds an Inclusive Language Policy. Please use gender-inclusive language when referring to human beings. Our traditions have different norms for speech about God; you are of course free to follow and explore those traditions when referring to God.

Plagiarism is the **failure to attribute** (by means of footnotes when writing or aloud when speaking) any ideas, phrases, sentences, materials, syntheses, et cetera, that another author has composed and that you have borrowed for your own work. Plagiarism is unethical. Academic penalties for plagiarism at AST are serious, and may include failure of the course or even suspension of further studies. Unintentional plagiarism is considered plagiarism. AST's Plagiarism Policy is found under that heading in the Academic Calendar.

Students should request permission to record a class or lecture. If permission is granted, or if recordings are provided (as in the case of an online or hybrid course), I stipulate that all recordings be for personal use only. They may not be shared or distributed.

If you have needs that require modifications to any aspect of this course, please consult with the instructor as soon as possible. Any documentation regarding disabilities that you wish to divulge to AST should be provided to the Registrar's Office, where it will be kept in a confidential file.

Finally, I encourage the conscientious use of laptops, tablets, and other technology in my classes. In classroom settings, realize that, as **cognitive psychologists have demonstrated**, "laptop multitasking hinders classroom learning for both users and nearby peers." Do your part to foster an environment for dialogue by honouring the presence of your classmates. In online and hybrid settings, consider both the physical environment in which you choose to work and the virtual environment that you help create through your participation in various forums. Let your engagement in this course be marked by rigour and charity alike.

8 Bibliography

Among the many Hebrew grammars and resources, note the following especially:

- Guides & Aids

- Van Pelt, Miles. *English Grammar to Ace Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010. At AST: PE 1130 H5 V35 2010
- Einspahr, Bruce. *Index to Brown, Driver & Briggs Hebrew Lexicon*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1976. At AST: PJ 4833 B683 E35
- Landes, George M. *Building Your Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary: Learning Words by Frequency and Cognate*. Atlanta: SBL, 2001. At AST: PJ 4845 L25 2001
- Scott, W. R., and H. P. Rüger. *A Simplified Guide to BHS: Critical Apparatus, Masora, Accents, Unusual Letters & Other Markings*. 3rd edition. N. Richland Hills, TX: BIBAL, 2007. At AST: BS 715 1977f
- Kelley, Page H., Daniel S. Mynatt, and Timothy G. Crawford. *The Masorah of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia: Introduction and Annotated Glossary*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998. At AST: BS 718 K38 1998
- Introductory Grammars
 - Cook, John A. and Robert D. Holmstedt. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew: A Grammar and Illustrated Reader*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2013. Study aids are available at bakeracademic.com. At AST: PJ 4567.3 C66 2013
 - Kittel, Bonnie, Vicki Hoffer, and Rebecca Abts Wright. *Biblical Hebrew: Text and Workbook* [and Audio CD]. 2nd edition. New Haven: Yale, 2004.
 - Martin, J. D. *Davidson's Introductory Hebrew Grammar*. 27th edition. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1993. At AST: PJ 4567 D37 1962
 - Muraoka, Takamitsu. *A Biblical Hebrew Reader: With an Outline Grammar*. Leuven: Peeters, 2017. At AST: PJ 4567.3 M87 2017
 - Pratico, Gary and Miles Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001. At AST: PJ 4567.3 P73 2007
 - Seow, C. L. *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1995. At AST: PJ 4567 S424 1995
 - Weingreen, J. *A Practical Grammar for Classical Hebrew*. Oxford: Clarendon, 1959. At AST: PJ 4567 W4 1959
- Syntaxes & Reference Grammars
 - Arnold, Bill T., and John H. Choi. *A Guide to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2003. At AST: PJ 4701 A76 2003
 - Waltke, Bruce K., and M. O'Connor. *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1990.
 - Williams, Ronald J., and Beckman, John C. *Williams' Hebrew Syntax*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2007. At AST: PJ 4701 W5 2007
 - Gesenius, Wilhelm, E. Kautsch and A. E. Cowley. *Hebrew Grammar*. Oxford: Clarendon, 1910. **GKC** remains a standard Hebrew reference grammar in English, even though Cowley's translation – of the 28th German edition – is now over 100 years old. At AST: PJ 4564 G5 1910
 - Joüon, P., and T. Muraoka. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. 2nd edition. Subsidia Biblica 27. Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute, 2008. One of the most complete and up-to-date Hebrew grammars in English, **JM** (1st ed. 1991) was revised from a French work first published by Paul Joüon in 1923. At AST: PJ 4567 J7613 1993

- Lexicons

- Brown, Francis, S. R. Driver and Charles A. Briggs. *The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Peabody, Mass: Hendrickson, 2004. The **BDB** was originally published in 1906. On [archive.org](https://www.archive.org) and at AST: PJ 4833 B68 1996
- Köhler, Ludwig, and Walter Baumgartner. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Leiden: Brill, 1994–2000. At AST: PJ 4833 K61813 1994
- Holladay, William L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament, Based Upon the Lexical Work of Ludwig Koehler and Walter Baumgartner*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971. At AST: PJ 4833 H6 1971
- Clines, David J. A. *The Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1993–2011. At AST: PJ 4833 D53 1993