

# Intermediate Hebrew 2



Classics 338  
Macalester College  
Spring 2012

M-W-F 12:00-1:00 p.m.  
Old Main 011  
Nanette Goldman

**Office:** Old Main 314 **Phone:** 696 - 6659 (x6659) **Office Hours:** MWF 11:00 - 12:00, 3:30 - 4:30 **and** by appointment.  
**Email:** GOLDMAN@macalester.edu **Course Web Page** moodle.macalester.edu (Intermediate Hebrew II)

## Major programs in Classics:

The sequence of Hebrew language classes is a component of the major concentrations that our department offers. For complete details about the Classics major and information about a Classics minor consult the Macalester course catalog, the Classics department webpage, <http://www.macalester.edu/classics/>, Classics faculty and your academic advisor.

Hebrew in the Major Tracks: Classical Civilization: Latin, Greek, Arabic or **Hebrew** at intermediate level plus other specified civilization classes (9 total)

Archaeology: Latin, Greek, Arabic or **Hebrew** at intermediate level plus other specified archaeology classes (11 total)

Near Eastern Languages: 7 courses combined of Greek, **Hebrew** and/or Arabic including one at the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester intermediate level, plus other specified supporting classes (including *Intro to Hebrew Scriptures*, *Islam*, *Greek World*, *Intro to New Testament*, and *Pagans, Christians and Jews*) (10 total)

Hebrew in the Minor Track: Near Eastern Languages: 4 courses combined of Greek, **Hebrew** and/or Arabic including one at the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester intermediate level, plus one specified supporting class (including *Intro to Hebrew Scriptures*, *Islam*, *Greek World*, *Intro to New Testament*, and *Pagans, Christians and Jews*) and one other course from the offerings of the department. (6 total)

## **SECTION I: Biblical Poetry**

In this section of our survey of the Hebrew language, we will focus on the poetry found in Tanach. We will attempt to identify the hallmarks of Biblical prosody, become familiar with technical terms, styles, vocabulary, Akkadian, Ugaritic and Egyptian antecedents. We will do close stylistic and grammatical readings of several passages, utilizing research tools such as the critical apparatus, commentaries, literary-critical studies. Before mid-semester each of you will lead the class through an analysis of a Psalm of your choosing, completed by a formal written version of your analysis. There will be one quiz, several written and reading assignments and a **comprehensive one-hour exam on February 29.**

## **SECTION II: Dead Sea Scrolls and Mishnah**

For the week and a half prior to the mid-semester break we will translate selections from the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Mishnah. These represent intermediate stages of Hebrew and bear some grammatical and orthographical similarity to Modern Hebrew. A short quiz on the DSS and Mishnah selections will cap off our study of ancient Hebrew. The final 7 weeks of this semester will be devoted solely to reading, writing and speaking Modern Hebrew. The syllabus for this second section will be distributed just after mid-semester break.

### SECTION III: Modern Hebrew

After mid-semester break we will work exclusively with our textbook *Modern Hebrew for Beginners A Multimedia Program for Students at the Beginning and Intermediate Levels*. Before mid-semester break we will continue our practice of devoting the last 10-15 minutes of most class periods to work on Modern Hebrew. Please bring your Modern Hebrew textbook to class every day.

#### Required Texts (for 1<sup>st</sup> half of the semester):

1. Hebrew Bible: *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*, ed. R. Kittel (BHS/KBH/BH)  
**OR**  
*Horev Bible*. Horev Publishers, Jerusalem
2. Hebrew-English Lexicon: *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*, Holladay, W.L. Eerdmans  
**OR**  
*Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*, Brown, Driver, Briggs. Oxford (BDB)
3. *Modern Hebrew for Beginners: A Multimedia Program for Students at the Beginning and Intermediate Levels*. Esther Raizen

#### Recommended Texts (for 1<sup>st</sup> half of the semester):

1. English Bible: *HarperCollins Study Bible*. HarperCollins  
**OR**  
*Tanakh*. Jewish Publication Society
2. Supplemental Grammar: *The First Hebrew Primer for Adults*, 3rd ed., Simon et al. EKS Publishing (EKS)  
**OR**  
*Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*, Kelley, Page. Eerdmans  
**OR**  
*A Practical Grammar for Classical Hebrew*, Weingreen J. Oxford  
**OR**  
*Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar*, Kautsch/Cowley. Oxford  
**OR**  
*Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*, Lambdin. Prentice Hall



#### Course Requirements/Spring Semester: Biblical, Dead Sea Scrolls, Mishnah and Modern Sections combined

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| 1. Regular attendance and class participation and preparedness | 15% |
| 2. Quizzes   | 20% |
| 3. Written assignments   | 15% |
| 4. Two Mid-semester exams.                                     | 40% |
| 5. Project on Biblical poetry, oral and written. (Psalms)      | 10% |

Consistent absence from class and/or lack of advance preparation in daily translation and written assignments will result in significant point deductions, the result of which is usually a lower final grade than your test and quiz scores might indicate. Conversely, excellent attendance and preparation for class will likely raise your final grade to one higher than quizzes and tests scores predict.

**ROUTINELY CHECK YOUR EMAIL AND THE COURSE MOODLE PAGE** for additional information about assignments.

These are the best ways for me to contact you, especially if you have missed class. You are responsible for obtaining on your own all information disseminated in classes you have not attended.

## Grading Scale:

94-100	A	79-81	B-	67-68	D+
90-93	A-	77-78	C+	62-66	D
87-89	B+	72-76	C	58-61	D-
82-86	B	69-71	C-	0-57	F

## Library 2 - hour Reserve:

### Studies and Commentaries

- Alter, Robert. *The Art of Biblical Poetry*. Basic Books. 1985
- Holtz, Barry, ed. *Back to the Sources: Reading the Classic Jewish Texts*. Touchstone. 1992
- Knight, D.A. and G.M. Tucker, eds. *The Hebrew Bible and Its Modern Interpreters*. Fortress. 1993
- Kugel, James. *The Idea of Biblical Poetry: Parallelism and Its History*. Yale. 1981
- Miller, Patrick D. *Interpreting the Psalms*. Fortress. 1986
- Orton, David, ed. *Poetry in the Hebrew Bible : selected studies from Vetus Testamentum*. Brill. 2000.
- Watson, Wilfred G. E. *Classical Hebrew Poetry: A Guide to Its Techniques*. JSOT 26. 1984
- Anchor Bible Commentaries: Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Lamentations, Psalms

### Bibles

- Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*, ed. R. Kittel (BHS/KBH/BH) (Hebrew)
- Koren Bible*. Koren Publishers, Jerusalem (Hebrew)
- HarperCollins Study Bible*. HarperCollins (English)
- Tanakh*. Jewish Publication Society (English)

### Grammars and Primers

- Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*, Kelley, Page. Eerdmans
- A Practical Grammar for Classical Hebrew*, Weingreen J. Oxford
- Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar*, Kautsch/Cowley. Oxford
- Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*, Lambdin. Prentice Hall
- Biblical Hebrew: A Text and Workbook*, Kittel, Hoffer, and Wright. Yale

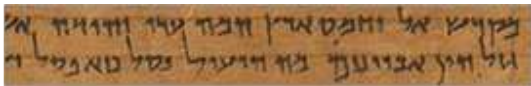
## Reference Collection:

### Dictionaries (available for library use only)

- A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*, Holladay, W.L. Eerdmans
- Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*, Brown, Driver, Briggs. Oxford (BDB)



**Schedule of readings:** Hebrew passages and articles listed are to be prepared **in advance** of the specified class date. All secondary readings can be found on Moodle. Written assignments are due at the beginning of class on the specified date unless otherwise noted. Late assignments will be accepted up to one elapsed class period only and will receive a 20% point deduction. Assignments from your Modern Hebrew textbook will be given in class and posted on Moodle.

Jan.23 - 27	Week 1	<p><b>Mon.</b> Introduction. The Idea of Biblical Poetry: Read "Reading Biblical Poetry", Adele Berlin from <i>The Jewish Study Bible</i>, JPS, pp. 2097-2104</p> <p><b>Wed.</b> The Parallelistic Line. Proverbs 3.13-18. Read "Parallelism", Chapter 2 in <i>Interpreting Hebrew Poetry</i>. Petersen and Richards</p> <p><b>Fri.</b> Proverbs 3.19-26. Read "Wisdom Literature", Katharine Dell, from <i>The Blackwell Companion to the Hebrew Bible</i>", Chapter 25, pp. 418-429</p>
Jan.30 – Feb.3	Week 2	<p><b>Mon.</b> Ecclesiastes 1.1-11. <b>Hand in written assignment on parallelism.</b></p> <p><b>Wed.</b> Ecclesiastes 3.1-17. Read "Meter and Rhythm", Chapter 3 in <i>Interpreting Hebrew Poetry</i>. Petersen and Richards</p> <p><b>Fri.</b> Song of Songs 1.1-11.</p>
Feb. 6 – 10	Week 3	<p><b>Mon.</b> QUIZ. <b>Hand in commentary exercise 5:00 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>Wed.</b> Song of Songs 1.12-17. Read "Poetic Style" Chapter 4 in <i>Interpreting Hebrew Poetry</i>. Petersen and Richards</p> <p><b>Fri.</b> Lamentations 5 and modern poetry of occupation</p>
Feb. 13 - 17	Week 4	<p><b>Mon.</b> Lamentations 5. <b>Hand in comparative exercise</b></p> <p><b>Wed.</b> Psalms 1 and 15. Read pp.81-89 in <i>Interpreting Hebrew Poetry</i>. Petersen and Richards</p> <p><b>Fri.</b> Psalm 23, 29. Read pp.89-97 in <i>Interpreting Hebrew Poetry</i>. Petersen and Richards.</p>
Feb. 20 – 24	Week 5	<p><b>Mon.</b> Psalm 82, 150. Read "Current Issues in the Interpretation of the Psalms", Chapter 1 in <i>Interpreting the Psalms</i>. Miller, P.D. <b>Hand in cantillation mark exercise.</b></p> <p><b>Wed.</b> Catch up. Student Presentations</p> <p><b>Fri..</b> Student Presentations. <b>Hand in critical apparatus exercise</b></p>
Feb. 27 – Mar.2	Week 6	<p><b>Mon.</b> Student Presentations</p> <p><b>Wed.</b> <b>MID-SEMESTER EXAM</b></p> <p><b>Fri.</b> Dead Sea Scrolls Selections.</p>
Mar.5 - 9	Week 7	<p><b>Mon.</b> Dead Sea Scrolls Selections. <b>Written Psalm Project Due 5:00 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>Wed.</b> Mishnah Selections</p> <p><b>Fri.</b> <b>Quiz on Mishnah and Dead Sea Scrolls</b></p>
		
Mar. 12 – 16	Week 8	<b>MID-SEMESTER BREAK</b>
Mar. 19 – 23	Week 9	<p><b>Mon.</b> <b>Modern Hebrew section.</b> SYLLABUS for Modern Hebrew distributed . <i>Modern Hebrew for Beginners A Multimedia Program for Students at the Beginning and Intermediate Levels.</i> Esther Raizen</p>