

Rapid Hebrew Reading, 9149  
 Instructor: R. V. McCabe, Th.D.  
 Course Outline

Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary  
 Fall Semester  
 2008 (Revised)

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

A course designed to increase the student's ability in translating the Hebrew text. Emphasis is given to translating extended sections from various genres found in the Old Testament. Attention is also given to learning all words that occur ten or more times in the Hebrew text, while also learning words that occur less than ten times when they are associated with a cognate word occurring more than ten times.

### **OBJECTIVES:**

In this course, the student's proficiency in translation will increase by

1. translating selections from various genres in the Hebrew Bible and
2. memorizing an extended number of Hebrew lexemes, approximately 2,150.

### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. **Quizzes:** Weekly vocabulary quizzes will be administered over the assigned vocabulary lessons. There are 13 lessons that average 165 words per lesson. Each of the 13 quizzes will contain 20 words that are primarily taken from the corresponding lesson, though previously covered words may also appear on the quiz. In short, the quizzes will be cumulative—**35% of grade.**
2. **Translation:**
  - a. *Checked homework.* At the beginning of each class period, the completion of each assigned translation will be checked on a specified sheet with the student's name and a list of the translation assignments. Next to each assignment will be three boxes. The first box will be labeled "yes," the next box "half," and the final box "no." The student will check whichever box accurately reflects how much of the work he actually did. The student starts with a 100% for this portion of his semester grade. For every no response that he places on his homework record sheet, he will lose 2% from his 100% grade; and for every half response, he will lose 1% from his 100% grade—**10% of grade.**
  - b. *Graded translation.* A student's daily translation will be graded in class when the student is called upon to orally participate in class—**55% of grade.**

The following is the schedule for vocabulary quizzes and translation assignments:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Vocabulary Quiz</b>	<b>Translation Assignment</b>
Sep 4	Lesson 1	Gen 1:1–3:7 (63 verses)
11	Lesson 2	Gen 3:8–24; Ruth 1:1–2:23 (62 vv.)
18	Lesson 3	Ruth 3:1–4:22; 2 Sam 6:1–23 (63 vv.)
25	Lesson 4	2 Sam 7:1–8:18; Exod 19:1–25 (72 vv.)
Oct 2	Lesson 5	Exod 20:1–21:37 (63 vv.)
9	Lesson 6	Exod 22:1–23:33 (63 vv.)
23	Lesson 7	Exod 24:1–18; Jon 1:1–4:11 (66 vv.)

	30	Lesson 8	Isa 50:1–53:12 (61 vv.)
Nov	6	Lesson 9	Amos 1:1–2:16; Zech 9:1–11:5 (65 vv.)
	13	Lesson 10	Zech 11:6–14:21; Prov 1:1–9 (65 vv.)
	20	Lesson 11	Prov 1:10–3:18 (64 vv.)
Dec	4	Lesson 12	Prov 3:19–35; Pss 11:1–7; 20:1–10; 27:1–14; 48:1–15 (63 vv.)
	11	Lesson 13	Pss 34:1–23; 47:1–10; 81:1–17; 137:1–9; 146:1–10 (69 vv.)

### ABSENCES:

1. **No unexcused absences:** There are no unexcused absences in this class. An unexcused absence will have two consequences. First, the student will receive a zero for that class period's vocabulary quiz and translation grade, and will have a "No" response recorded for his translation homework. Second, the student's final semester grade will be reduced by 1%.
2. **Excused absences:** If a student has an excused absence, he must make up the vocabulary quiz and be graded on his translation assignment no later than 4:00 P.M. on the day that he returns to seminary. After this 4:00 P.M. deadline, a late penalty of 10% per day begins accruing for each day that he goes beyond my 4:00 P.M. deadline. It should also be noted that if his "checked homework" is not finished by the 4:00 P.M. on the day that he returns to seminary, his assignment sheet will have a "No" response recorded on it. Any penalty that begins accruing after my 4:00 P.M. deadline will be subtracted from the student's grade for both his vocabulary quiz and translation assignment. The maximum number of excused absences allowed in this class is three week (6 hours). Anyone who is absent from class beyond this will receive an "F" for this course, except by vote of the faculty in extenuating circumstances.

### TEXTBOOK:

1. Armstrong, Terry A., Douglas L. Busby, and Cyril F. Carr. *Reader's Hebrew-English Lexicon*. 4 vols. in 1. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1989.
2. Brown, A. Philip, II, and Bryan W. Smith. *A Reader's Hebrew Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008.
3. Elliger, K. and W. Rudolph. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelstiftung, 1976.
4. Koehler, Ludwig, and Walter Baumgartner. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. 2 vols. Rev. W. Baumgartner and J. J. Stamm, study ed. Leiden: Brill, 2001.
5. McCabe, Robert V. "Rapid Hebrew Reading: Hebrew Vocabulary." Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary, 2008.

### GRADING SYSTEM:

96–100	A	86–87	B-	76–77	D+
94–95	A-	84–85	C+	72–75	D
92–93	B+	80–83	C	70–71	D-
88–91	B	78–79	C-	69 & below	F