

Elementary Hebrew Grammar, 121
 Instructor: R. V. McCabe, Th.D.
 Course Outline

Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary
 Fall Semester
 2010

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A study of the essential elements of biblical Hebrew grammar (chapters 1–20 in Ross’s text). The intent of this course is to focus on the basic principles of Hebrew phonology, morphology, syntax, and vocabulary.

OBJECTIVES:

In Elementary Hebrew Grammar the student

1. should become conversant with Hebrew phonology;
2. should become acquainted with the fundamental principles of Hebrew morphology;
3. will be introduced to Hebrew syntax; and
4. will memorize a foundational core of Hebrew vocabulary.

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. **Tests:** There will be four major tests. The first exam is on **Wednesday, Sept 29** (covering lessons 1–5), the second on **Wednesday, Oct 27** (lessons 6–11), the third on **Wednesday, Nov 17** (lessons 12–16), and the final on **Wednesday, Dec 15** (lessons 17–20)—**60% of grade.**

Tests must be taken at the time the exam is officially scheduled, unless a student has an excusable absence. If a student has an excusable absence, he must take the exam no later than 4:00 P.M. on the following day, Thursday, or whatever day that he returns to seminary. After this 4:00 P.M. deadline on Thursday, a late penalty of 5% will be deducted and another 15% for turning it in on Thursday after 4:00 P.M. Then beginning Friday after 4:00 P.M., 20% for that day will be penalized. For each day beyond Friday after 4:00 P.M., he will be penalized 20% for each subsequent day. This penalty will be subtracted from the student’s earned grade for the test.

If a student has an inexcusable absence, he will receive a 5% penalty for not having an excusable absence. He must then take the test no later than 4:00 P.M. on the exam’s scheduled day to avoid any daily late penalties. If he turns in the exam after 4:00 P.M. on the exam’s scheduled day, his daily penalties begin accruing after 4:00 P.M. of that same day. The penalties breakdown like this: 5% for the unexcused tardy, 15% for taking the exam after 4:00 P.M., 20% for all subsequent days until Sunday at which point after 4:00 PM, the student gets 0%. For example, if a student misses a class when a specific test was scheduled without having an excusable absence and if he takes the exam no later than the 4:00 P.M. deadline on the same day as the scheduled exam, he will lose 5% as a penalty for not having a legitimate excuse. However, if this student would turn in the test after 4:00 P.M. on the same day, but no later than 4:00 P.M. on the following day, he will lose 20% from his earned grade. He loses 5% for not having a legitimate excuse and 15% as a late penalty for not having turned in the exam by 4:00 P.M. of the exam day. If the student would turn in the test on Thursday after 4 PM, he would lose 40%: 5% for not having a legitimate excuse, 15% for turning the exam in after 4:00 P.M. for Wednesday and 20% for turning it in after 4:00 P.M. on Thursday.

If a student has an excusable absence, he must take the exam no later than 4:00 P.M. on the day he **returns to seminary**, and not simply this class. After this 4:00 P.M. deadline on the day he returns to seminary, the student will be penalized 20% for that day and each consecutive day thereafter. This penalty will be subtracted from the student's earned grade for the exam.

In addition, tardies are unacceptable when a test has been scheduled. A tardy may result in a 5% or more as penalty for the exam.

2. **Daily quizzes:** The student will take approximately 22 quizzes. When a lesson is completed, a quiz will be given to conclude that lesson. With the exception of the first lesson, there will be one quiz per lesson. Each quiz will be potentially cumulative and will primarily focus on the grammatical and vocabulary items covered in the completed lesson. After the first few quizzes, every quiz will have anywhere from 5 or more vocabulary words taken from that lesson, with at the very minimum one vocabulary word taken from an earlier lesson. The quiz will be administered during the first 15 minutes of each class—**20% of grade.**

The student will be permitted to take two quizzes on the *following* weekday without penalty and with no questions asked. After this grace period, the same guidelines that govern making up tests will be applied here.

3. **Homework:**

- a. *Checked homework.* The completion of each assignment will be checked in class on a specified sheet with the student's name and a list of each of assignment. 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 receives an automatic 98% grade for this phase of his homework grade. For every no response that he places on his homework record sheet, he will lose 2% from his 98% grade; and for every half response, he will lose 1% from his 98% grade—**10% of grade.**
- b. *Graded homework.* The student's homework may be collected and graded after the homework has been orally covered in class—**10% of grade.**
- c. *Late homework.* On two occasions for the checked homework and twice for the graded homework, the student will be permitted to respond to the homework assignment on the *following* weekday without penalty and with no questions asked. After this grace period, the same guidelines that govern making up tests and quizzes will be applied here. The student is responsible both to let the instructor know that he has completed his assignment and to make arrangements with the instructor so that he will be able to give him a grade.

CLASS ABSENCES:

The policy for absenteeism at Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary is as follows. A student is allowed one week of unexcused absences and three weeks of excused absences. The

maximum number of absences is four weeks for a class. Anyone who is absent from class beyond this will receive an “F” for that course, except by vote of the faculty in extenuating circumstances.

When a student has consumed his one week of permissible unexcused absences for a given course, his final grade will be penalized by 1% per hour of class that he has gone beyond this limit and extending until he has missed four full weeks of class. After this, he will receive an “F” for the course.

An excused absence is one where the student’s absence is beyond his control. In order to have his absence excused, the student must submit to the course instructor a **written explanation** for his absence. Based upon this the instructor will then determine whether or not the absence should be excused.

Three periods of tardiness will be counted as one unexcused absence.

TEXTBOOK:

Ross, Allen P. *Introducing Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

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