



Queensland  
Theological College



# LA003B

# Biblical Hebrew B

## Unit Outline

### About this Unit Outline

This unit outline contains information essential to finding your way around the unit **Biblical Hebrew B**. It provides a structure for your learning, giving details of lecture topics, assessment requirements, and key resources.

SEMESTER 2 2017

## Important notice

While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the information given below, **it is the personal responsibility of each student to check the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook**, copies of which may be found in the Library or online at [www.actheology.edu.au](http://www.actheology.edu.au)

It is very important that students plan their time carefully to ensure that reading and especially assignments receive adequate attention and so as to prevent a bottleneck of work at the end of the semester.

It is very important that all quoted material in assignments be properly footnoted and acknowledged. The attention of students is drawn to the section in the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook, headed "**Academic Misconduct**". Failure to comply with the standards required will incur penalties as outlined in the ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook.

The attention of students is also drawn to the section in the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook, headed "**Guidelines for Essays.**" (see also the QTC Student Handbook) All essays should comply with these standards.

## Information about this unit

### Unit description

This unit continues the introduction to Biblical Hebrew begun in LA003A. The first half of the course will be devoted to further study of morphology and syntax and the completion of a first-year Hebrew grammar. The second half of the course will comprise an orientation to the Hebrew Bible and translation of selected texts. Satisfactory completion of LA003A Biblical Hebrew A is a prerequisite.

### Learning outcomes

On completion of the unit, students will:

#### Know and understand:

- Hebrew grammar and syntax through completing one standard grammar of Biblical Hebrew
- About 200–400 words of Hebrew vocabulary
- Grammatical issues that influence translation and the meaning of the text

#### Be able to:

- Apply grammatical discussions of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament
- Translate about three chapters of the Hebrew Old Testament into English
- Discuss translation issues that influence exegesis

#### Be in a position to:

- Continue translation of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament
- Identify the interplay between translation and interpretation
- Commence exegesis of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament

## How this Unit Contributes to the Course

This course prepares students for a lifetime of studying the Old Testament in its original language, through completion of a first-year grammar and hands-on experience working through the complete Hebrew text of Ruth. Our aim is to build skills in original language exegesis through application of Hebrew grammar, increase of vocabulary, and the introduction of advanced topics and employment of intermediate level tools. Students will be encouraged to embrace the lifelong study of the Old Testament in Hebrew as an act of Christian discipleship, for the glory of Christ and the good of his church.

## Pre-requisites and Co-requisites

This is an elective unit.

Students taking this unit need to have successfully completed LA003A.

Students taking this unit cannot also take LA001 with or after this unit.

## How this unit is organized & what we expect of you

### Pre-work

Students are expected to have revised their coursework from Hebrew A over the Semester break. The first two weeks of Hebrew B course will revise and answer any remaining questions, but should not be regarded as adequate substitute for revising over the break. The first two quizzes will correspondingly examine Semester 1 material on Nouns and Verbs.

### Weekly classes

The unit is taught over a 13-week semester. Biblical Hebrew B meets for three 50 minute classes each week for all 13 weeks of the semester. Each week during semester will begin on Wednesday with a brief Question and Answer on any material covered in the previous week. The remainder of each Wednesday class will comprise a brief overview of the next chapter. Thursdays will comprise further review of the week's material and review of exercises. Unless otherwise specified in class, students are expected to complete all of the set exercises at the end of the unit in the textbook. Further instructions will be provided for translation and vocabulary in class and on Moodle after we have finished the textbook.

This unit is worth 4 credit points towards your degree at either Bachelor or MDiv level,

Students are required to attend all lectures, complete any set pre-reading and complete all assessment tasks by the relevant due dates.

## Teaching staff

LECTURER

Rev. Weber Hsu

E: [whsu@qtc.edu.au](mailto:whsu@qtc.edu.au)

Please feel free to contact me if you have any problems or concerns about the unit.

## Other Key Contacts

### Registrar's office

Contact the Registrar's office for any queries about which unit to enrol in next, if you wish to change your enrolment, defer due to illness, family circumstances etc., or request an extension for your assessment (criteria apply).

E [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

P 07 3062 6939, extension 2

### Moodle functions and queries

Contact the Registrar or the Assistant Registrar for help if something on Moodle is not working, if you need help using Moodle etc.

E [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

P 07 3062 6939, extension 2

### Library/Resources

Contact the Librarian for help with finding resources for your assessment, finding full-text database articles, for help with logging into the library databases and catalogue, and for help with how to renew a book for longer or place a hold on a book currently out to another person.

E [library@qtc.edu.au](mailto:library@qtc.edu.au)

P 07 3062 6939, extension 3

## Unit timetable: topics & teaching and learning activities

### Pre- Semester Tasks:

Students are expected to have revised their coursework from Biblical Hebrew A over the Semester break. During the first two weeks of the Hebrew B course, we will include revision and answering of any remaining questions, but this should not be regarded as an adequate substitute for revising over the break. The first two quizzes will examine Semester 1 Nouns.

Week	Text Book / Class notes	Quizzes
Week 1	Semester 1 Review; introduction to BHS.	NO QUIZ
Week 2	Ch 20 - weak verbs; Masorah	Semester 1 review quiz - <b>26 July</b>
Week 3	Ch 21 - weak verbs; Masorah	Weak verbs I – <b>02 Aug</b>
Week 4	Ch 22 - weak verbs; Masorah	Weak verbs II – <b>09 Aug</b>
Week 5	Ch 23 - weak verbs; Text-linguistics - Narrative	Weak verbs III – <b>Fri 18 Aug</b>
	Mission/Holidays	No Classes
Week 6	Ch 24; Text-linguistics - Discourse	Weak verbs IV – <b>30 Aug</b>
Week 7	Text history & textual criticism	NO QUIZ
Week 8	Ruth 1; Masoretic Accents + vocab	<b>REVIEW TEST – 13 September</b> (26% of Semester marks)
Week 9	Ruth 2; Advanced Syntax + vocab	NO QUIZ
Week 10	Ruth 2; Discourse Analysis + vocab	Translation; Vocab 120x or more <b>11 Oct</b>
Week 11	Ruth 3; Textual Criticism	Translation; Vocab 119–100x <b>18 Oct</b>
Week 12	Ruth 3–4; Poetry (Ch. 25)	Translation; Vocab 89–99x <b>25 Oct</b>
Week 13	Ruth 4; Review	NO QUIZ
Assessment Block (3 weeks)		Exam 50% - COMPREHENSIVE

## LA003B Assessments

**Assessments are submitted online via Moodle.**

**In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.**

Late submission of assessment, without prior permission will be taken into account in determining your mark.

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Late Penalty Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 3% of the total possible marks for the Assessment item per calendar day, up to 14 days late.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>8 Quizzes</b></p> <p><b>24% of final grade</b></p>	<p>Eight grammar and vocabulary quizzes (3% each), with the dates advertised in the unit outline.</p> <p>These quizzes will be administered on Wednesday mornings according to the schedule above. While the focus will be on immediately preceding material, students may expect earlier material to be included.</p>
<p><b>Review Test</b></p> <p><b>26% of final grade</b></p>	<p>A one-hour exam covering Chapters 20-24 of Athas and Young, along with other material covered in the first 7 weeks of the unit. This test will be held in Week 8 of semester.</p>
<p><b>Final Exam</b></p> <p><b>50% of final grade</b></p>	<p>This comprehensive two-hour exam will cover translation of a mix of seen and unseen Hebrew passages, with questions on parsing, syntax and exegesis, as well as small sections examining students' understanding of the Masorah, textual criticism, text-linguistic analysis and poetry analysis.</p> <p>Within this final examination, the allocation of marks will be 45% for translation (of studied passages), 35% for exegesis (of studied passages), and 20% for translation of an unseen passage (with unknown vocabulary supplied where appropriate).</p>

## **Guide to Assessments**

### ***Weekly Quiz***

The weekly quiz will aim to test your understanding of the material covered in the past week, with a small section testing material from the week(s) prior to that. The purpose is to diagnose potential areas of misunderstanding and to flag material that requires more work.

### ***Review Test***

The one-hour Review Test will cover Chapters 20-24 of the text book, along with other material covered in the first 7 weeks.

### ***Final Exam***

The two-hour End-of-Semester exam will cover all the material in Semester 2, with a vocabulary section examining vocabulary that occurs 100 times or more in the Hebrew Old Testament, weak verb paradigms and translation of seen and unseen Hebrew passages, and with questions on parsing, syntax, and exegesis. Students will be able to bring in a hard copy of *Scott* to help them interact with the Masorah and critical apparatus.



## Learning Resources

### Textbooks

Students should purchase:

Athas, G and Young I. M. *Elementary Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. 4<sup>th</sup> rev. ed. Croydon Park, NSW: Ancient Vessel Press.

Kittel, Rudolf, et al., eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. 5th ed. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1997. (Both compact & standard editions are suitable.)

### Recommended Books

Brotzman, Ellis R., *Old Testament Textual Criticism: A Practical Introduction* (Grand Rapids, Mich: Baker Books, 1994).

Holmstedt, Robert D. *Ruth: A Handbook on the Hebrew Text*. Baylor Handbook on the Hebrew Bible. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2010.

Merwe, Christo H. J. van der, et al. *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar*. Biblical Languages: Hebrew 3. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic, 1999.

Scott, William R., *A Simplified Guide to BHS: Critical Apparatus, Masora, Accents, Unusual Letters & Other Markings*, 4th ed. (North Richland Hills, TX: Bibal Press, 2007).

Van Pelt, Miles V. and Gary D. Pratico. *The Vocabulary Guide to Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.

Wegner, Paul D. *A Student's Guide to Textual Criticism of the Bible - Its History, Methods and Results* (IVP, 2006)

## ACT Standards: Grades

Grades in assessment instruments are awarded in the following categories-

Grade	Score	GPA
Fail (F)	0-49%	0
Pass (P)	50-57%	1
Pass+ (P+)	58-64%	1.5
Credit (C)	65-74%	2
Distinction (D)	75-84%	3
High Distinction (HD)	85+%	4