



LA003-612 & LA003-812

Biblical Hebrew A

Unit Outline

About this Unit Outline

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

SEMESTER 1 2023

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 Handbook**, copies of which may be found in the Library or online at 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 ACT's **Academic Misconduct Policy**, as well as ACT **Late Penalties Policy** and **Extensions Policy**, all of which are available on the ACT website. Failure to comply with the standards required will incur penalties as outlined in the relevant ACT Policies.

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

Students should be aware that the delivery of this unit and results awarded are moderated by the ACT. See the ACT "Moderation Policy" and "Moderation Procedure" at www.actheology.edu.au/documents/ for full details.

Information about this unit

Unit description

This unit comprises an introduction to Biblical Hebrew which will be continued in LA004-612/812 in Semester 2. The unit will be devoted to study of morphology and syntax and completion of approximately half of a first-year Hebrew grammar.

ACT Census date

17 March 2023

Students must confirm their enrolment in this unit with the QTC Registrar by Friday 17 March 2023. This is the last day on which you may withdraw from the unit without academic penalty (a Fail), or without being liable for the tuition fees. To make a change in your enrolment you must contact the QTC Registrar in writing at: registrar@qtc.edu.au.

Learning Outcomes

LA003-612 Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, the student should have achieved the following learning outcomes:

Know and understand:

1. Common terminology and grammatical descriptions used in grammars, lexicons and commentaries
2. Hebrew grammar and syntax up to at least halfway through one standard grammar of Biblical Hebrew
3. About 100-200 words of Hebrew vocabulary
4. Essential grammatical issues that influence understanding and translation of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament

Be able to:

1. Understand common grammatical terminology and descriptions used in grammars, lexicons and commentaries
2. Utilise foundational paradigms, constructions and vocabulary

Be in a position to:

1. Begin translation of simple Biblical Hebrew texts

LA003-812 Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, the student should have achieved the following learning outcomes:

Know and understand

1. Demonstrate an advanced technical knowledge and understanding of Biblical Hebrew grammar and syntax (up to one-half to two-thirds through one standard grammar of Biblical Hebrew)
2. Develop a highly competent analytical perspective and clear understanding of the essential features of Biblical Hebrew grammar and syntax

Be able to:

1. Utilise and work towards a mastery of foundational paradigms, constructions and vocabulary
2. Read simple blocks of Biblical Hebrew text and examine them grammatically, with a view to clearly explaining and analysing relevant exegetical elements of the text

Be in a position to:

1. Begin to read Biblical Hebrew for oneself, applying grammatical insights to one's reading and understanding of a Hebrew text, evaluating Hebrew syntactical structures, and explaining such insights to others
2. Undertake some advanced language and translation skills – e.g., translating simple sentences and phrases from English into Hebrew, beginning to evaluate translation options, utilising the textural apparatus, diagramming of simple sentences

How this unit contributes to the course

This unit prepares students for a lifetime of studying the Old Testament in its original language. Hebrew is indispensable to a deep understanding and exposition of fully three quarters of our Christian Bible. Consider what Martin Luther once wrote:

“And let us be sure of this: we will not long preserve the gospel without the languages. The languages are the sheath in which this sword of the Spirit [Eph. 6:17] is contained; they are the casket in which this jewel is enshrined; they are the vessel in which this wine is held; they are the larder in which this food is stored; and, as the gospel itself points out [Matt. 14:20], they are the baskets in which are kept these loaves and fishes and fragments.”¹

¹ Martin Luther, “To the Councilmen of all Cities in Germany that they Establish and Maintain Christian Schools,” in *The Christian In Society II*, ed. William I. Brandt, vol. 45 of *Luther's Works*, American ed., ed. Helmut T. Lehmann (Philadelphia, PA: Muhlenberg, 1962), 360.

Pre-requisites and Co-requisites

There are no pre or co-requisites for this unit.

How this unit is organised & what we expect of you

Hebrew Students,

Welcome to the study of Biblical Hebrew! Each of us will be coming to this endeavour with differing degrees of interest, excitement, fear and uncertainty, but we're in this together! My hope is that learning Hebrew will benefit your own growth in love for God; helping you to slow down, notice and enjoy God's word in your own life. I also trust that learning to study the Hebrew Scriptures will provide depth and confidence in your handling of God's word, as you minister through it to God's people. Learning Hebrew will take some hard work, but ultimately you are not just studying a language - you are equipping yourself to study the Word of the living God and to pass these words on faithfully to God's church. So, let me encourage you to invest the time to learn Hebrew well this year. Investing regular time into learning content and vocabulary as we go, rather than cramming later, will set you up to learn and keep your Hebrew far more effectively. The regular quizzes and homework checks are designed to support you to keep a consistent discipline in your learning.

Looking forward to learning with you, *Megan Walsh*

Language Intensive Week

The Intensive for Biblical Hebrew A will be held from Tuesday 7 to Friday 10 February 2023, from 9.30am to 3:30pm each day. It will cover Chapters 1-5 of the textbook.

This Intensive is compulsory for everyone enrolled in LA003. If you are a part-time student, you should arrange to take leave from your work Tuesday-Friday of that week so that you can attend. You will find this week extremely beneficial as it will prepare you for the semester to come.

Weekly classes

Biblical Hebrew A meets for 3 hours each week for all 13 weeks of the semester. There will be a lecture held each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8.30am – 9.20am. Each week during semester will begin with a brief Question and Answer session on any material covered in the previous week. The Wednesday classes will include a class quiz covering material from the previous week/s. Unless otherwise specified in class, students are expected to complete all of the exercises at the end of the chapter in the text. Supporting material may be made available in class and on Moodle.

Students are expected to attend all lectures, complete any set pre reading and complete any assessment tasks by the relevant due date. Please do be in touch as soon as you can if you anticipate having any difficulties with your assessments, and if you require an extension for one of your assessments please contact the QTC Registrar as early as possible.

Hebrew Language Intensive 2023-1

	Tuesday 7 th February	Wednesday 8 th February	Thursday 9 th February	Friday 10 th February
Session 1	Welcome and Orientation On the Alphabet 1	On the Alphabet 4	<i>EBH</i> Ch. 2-3	<i>EBH</i> Ch. 4-5
	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea	Morning Tea
Session 2	On the Alphabet 2	<i>EBH</i> ² Ch. 1	<i>EBH</i> Ch. 3	<i>EBH</i> Ch. 5
	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Session 3	On the Alphabet 3	<i>EBH</i> Ch. 2	<i>EBH</i> Ch. 3-4	<i>Meet if needed</i>

² *Elementary Biblical Hebrew* – your text for the year. Athas, G and Young I. M. *Elementary Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. 5th ed. Croydon Park, NSW: Ancient Vessel Press, 2016.

Teaching staff

UNIT COORDINATOR & LECTURER

Megan Walsh

E mwalsh@qtc.edu.au

Please feel free to contact Megan 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).

P 07 3062 6939

E registrar@qtc.edu.au

Moodle and Turnitin functions and queries

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

P 07 3062 6939

E registrar@qtc.edu.au

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. Also contact the library for any queries about audio recordings of your class on Moodle.

P 07 3062 6939

E library@qtc.edu.au

Unit timetable: topics & teaching and learning activities

Pre-work

In preparation before Intensive Language Week, please work through *Elementary Biblical Hebrew** Chaps. 1–3. Don't worry if you need concepts explained, the most important thing to get started is to memorise the Hebrew alphabet and to attempt the homework exercises. It pays to 'put in the hard yards' early and learn the fundamentals like the alphabet, so you don't fall behind.

Week	Topic and Homework	Quizzes
Language Intensive Week 7-10 February 2023	Chs. 1–5	NO QUIZ
Week 1	Ch. 6	Quiz 1: Chs. 1-4 15 Feb
Week 2	Ch. 7	Quiz 2: Chs. 5-6 22 Feb
Week 3	Chs. 8-9	Quiz 3: Ch. 7 1 Mar
Week 4	Ch. 10	Quiz 4: Chs. 8-9 8 Mar
Week 5	Ch. 11 and Review	Quiz 5: Ch. 10 15 Mar
Week 6	Ch. 12	Review Test Chs. 1-11 22 Mar
Week 7	Ch. 13	NO QUIZ
MID-SEMESTER BREAK: 1 April – 16 April		
Week 8	Chs. 14-15	Quiz 6: Chs. 12 -13 19 Apr
Week 9	Ch. 16	Quiz 7: Chs. 14-15 26 Apr
Week 10	Ch. 17	NO QUIZ
Week 11	Ch. 18	Quiz 8: Chs. 16-17 3 May
Week 12	Ch. 19	Quiz 9: Ch. 18 10 May
Week 13	Review and Practice	Quiz 10: Ch. 19 17 May
ASSESSMENT WEEKS: 29 May – 16 June		

* Athas, G and Young I. M. *Elementary Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. 5th ed. Croydon Park, NSW: Ancient Vessel, 2016.

LA003-612 Assessments

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.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
10 Quizzes 27% of final grade	<p>Ten grammar and vocabulary quizzes, with the best nine results to count towards the semester total. (3% each). So, these tests will be worth 27% of the total marks for the semester. The dates and examinable content are listed in this outline.</p> <p>These quizzes will be administered on Wednesday mornings.</p>
Review Test 13% of final grade	<p>A 45-minute test conducted at 8am on Wednesday 22 March, testing topics covered in Chapters 1-11 of Athas and Young. This test will be worth 13% of the total marks for the semester.</p>
Workbook Audits 10% of final grade	<p>Five Random Audits of Student Hebrew Exercise Workbooks (2% for each). Students will be required to hand in their Hebrew Exercise Workbooks without prior notice on five occasions during the semester, at the end of a regular lecture. The dates of these audits will not be disclosed beforehand. Exercises set since the preceding audit will be checked for completion, not accuracy. The previous weeks' exercises will be checked, and the workbooks will be returned to students by lunch time. There will be no opportunity to complete previously missed homework.</p> <p>One A4 ruled workbook is to be used for the exercises at the end of each chapter.</p>
Final Exam 50% of final grade	<p>Two-hour examination with questions covering Chapters 1-19 of Athas and Young. The exam will include vocabulary, paradigms, grammar, syntax and translation, and will be similar in style but different in content from that in the weekly quizzes and the Review Test. This exam will be worth 50% of the total marks for the semester.</p> <p>Within this final examination, the allocation of marks will be 15% for Vocabulary, 40% for General Grammar and Morphology, and 45% for Translation and Integration.</p>

LA003-812 Assessments

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.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
10 Quizzes 27% of final grade	<p>Ten grammar and vocabulary quizzes, with the best nine results to count towards the semester total. (3% each). So, these tests will be worth 27% of the total marks for the semester. The dates and examinable content are listed in this outline.</p> <p>These quizzes will be administered on Wednesday mornings.</p>
Review Test 13% of final grade	<p>A 1 hour test conducted at 8am on Wednesday 22 March, testing topics covered in Chapters 1-11 of Athas and Young. This test will be worth 13% of the total marks for the semester.</p>
Workbook Audits 10% of final grade	<p>Five Random Audits of Student Hebrew Exercise Workbooks (2% for each). Students will be required to hand in their Hebrew Exercise Workbooks without prior notice on five occasions during the semester, at the end of a regular lecture. The dates of these audits will not be disclosed beforehand. Exercises set since the preceding audit will be checked for completion, not accuracy. The previous weeks' exercises will be checked and the workbooks will be returned to students by lunch time. There will be no opportunity to complete previously missed homework.</p> <p>One A4 ruled workbook is to be used for the exercises at the end of each chapter.</p>
Final Exam 50% of final grade	<p>2.5 hour examination with questions covering Chapters 1-19 of Athas and Young. The exam will include vocabulary, paradigms, grammar, syntax and translation, and will be similar in style but different in content from that in the weekly quizzes and the Review Test. This exam will be worth 50% of the total marks for the semester.</p> <p>Within this final examination, the allocation of marks will be 5% for Vocabulary, 40% for General Grammar and Morphology, 40% for Translation and Integration and 15% for Evaluation/Application of grammar in the text.</p>

Guide to Assessments

Weekly Quiz

The weekly quiz will aim to test your understanding of the material covered in the past week. The purpose is to diagnose potential areas of misunderstanding and to flag material that requires more work.

Review Test

The mid-semester review test will assess vocabulary and content from chapter 1-11 of the textbook. It will be similar in style but different in content from that in the weekly quizzes. Technical knowledge of the grammar and syntax will be more heavily weighted at the LA003-812 level.

Homework

The weekly homework will consist of exercises at the end of each chapter of the textbook covered that week. You will find it useful to purchase a Year 3/4 school exercise book to complete homework exercises in – this will give you space to write the vowels above and below the consonants.

Final Exam

The exam at the end of Semester 1 will assess vocabulary, paradigms, grammar, syntax, and some translation and integration. It will cover all the chapters studied in the semester (i.e., up to Chapter 19 of the textbook, including all the vocabulary covered). Evaluation and application of grammar and syntax to the Biblical text will be more heavily weighted at the LA003-812 level.

Learning Resources

Essential References – Textbook/s

Every student will require a copy of the textbook – order through QTC:

Athas, G and Young I. M. *Elementary Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. 5th ed. Crofton Park, NSW: Ancient Vessel, 2016.

Reference works

Brown, F., G. A. Driver and S. Briggs, *A Hebrew & English Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Lafayette, IN: Associated Publishers, 1974. Repr., Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1996.

Clines, D. J. A. *The Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*. 8 vols. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix, 1993–. [Vols. 7-8 forthcoming].

Joüon, P. and T. Muraoka. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. Rev. ed. Rome: Editrice Pontificio Instituto Biblico, 2006.

Koehler, L. and W. Baumgartner, Johann JaKob Stamm, Benedikt Hartmann, Ze'ev Ben-Hayyim, Eduard Yechezkel Kutscher and Philippe Reymond. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Study ed. 2 vols. Leiden: Brill, 2001.

Scott, W. R. *A Simplified Guide to BHS: critical apparatus, Masora, Accents, Unusual letters and other markings*. 4th ed. North Richland Hills, TX: Bibal, 2007.

Wonneberger, R. *Understanding BHS: A Manual for the Users of Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Rome: Pontifical Biblical Institute, 1990.

Recommended readings

Chisholm, R. B. Jr. *From Exegesis to Exposition: A Practical Guide to Using Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1998.

Cook, J. A. and R. D. Holmstedt. *Beginning Biblical Hebrew: a grammar and illustrated reader*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2013.

Cook, J. A. and R. D. Homstedt. *Intermediate Biblical Hebrew: an illustrated grammar*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2020.

Howell, Adam J., Benjamin L. Merkle and Robert L. Plummer. *Hebrew for Life: Strategies for learning, retaining and reviving Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2020.

Kelley, P. H. *Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1996.

Long, G. A. *Grammatical Concepts 101 for Biblical Hebrew*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2013.

Martin, J. D. ed. *Davidson's Introductory Hebrew Grammar*. 27th ed. Sheffield: Continuum, 1993.

Practico, G. D. and M. V. Van Pelt. *Basics of Biblical Hebrew and Workbook*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001.

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

Seow, C. L. *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Rev. ed. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 1995.

Van Pelt, M. V. *English Grammar to Ace Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2010.

ACT Standards: Grades

Grades in assessment instruments are awarded in the following categories-

Grade	Mark	Descriptor
Fail (F)	0-49%	Does not satisfy learning outcomes
Pass (P)	50-57%	Satisfies learning outcomes at a minimal level
Pass+ (P+)	58-64%	Satisfies learning outcomes at an adequate level
Credit (C)	65-74%	Satisfies learning outcomes at a high level
Distinction (D)	75-84%	Satisfies learning outcomes at a very high level
High Distinction (HD)	85+%	Satisfies learning outcomes at an exceptional level