

Prospectus **HEBI 90970**

Special Topics in Hebrew Bible and Literature of Early Judaism:
Intermediate/Advanced Hebrew

Three semester hours

Instructor:

Timothy J. Sandoval

Prerequisites:

Admission to Brite's BIIN Advanced Programs or Permission of Instructor; good reading knowledge of classical Hebrew.

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Description of Content:

Rapid reading and translation of the book of Ecclesiastes and Pirke Avot (Mishnah); Parsing of forms, discussion of syntax, and other matters; vocabulary building.

Class Procedures: Student reading and translation of assigned Hebrew texts; parsing and analyses of grammatical forms; student and instructor explanation of syntax and other matters.

Requirements:

Regular, on-time, full attendance and informed participation in class sessions; preparation of translations of weekly assigned Hebrew texts, including ability to parse and otherwise analyze grammatical forms; in-class reading and translation of Hebrew texts (with and *without* notes).

Four Short In-Class Translation and Vocabulary Quizzes: closed book, 5-10 minutes.

Midterm Translation and Vocabulary Exam: (Vocabulary exam of words that appear 100+ times in HB; translation exam 80% = translation of lines previously translated in class + analyses of forms; 20% = translation of lines that have not been previously translated in class + analyses of forms; students may use hardcopy lexicon for most translation components of the exam)

Final Translation and Vocabulary Exam: (Vocabulary exam of words that appear 50+ times in HB; 80% = translation of lines previously translated in class + analyses of forms; 20% = translation of lines that have not been previously translated in class + analyses of forms; students may use hardcopy lexicon for most translation components of the exam).

NB: To matriculate in the course students must be prepared to translate the first two chapters of Qohelet **PRIOR TO** the first-class meeting. In addition, students should read the article by Aaron Hornkohl on “*Biblical Hebrew: Periodization*” (to be made available via TCU Online).

Texts:

Required:

The *BHS* or *BHQ* presentation of the Book of Qohelet (Ecclesiastes)

The Hebrew Text of Pirke Avot (To Be Provided on TCU Online); also available with translation and commentary in the Neusner volume noted below and online at

https://www.sefaria.org/Pirkei_Avot?lang=bi

M. V. VanPelt and G. D. Pratico. *Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary in Context*. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2019. (Below cited as *BHVC*)

Recommended:

Jacob Neusner, *Torah From Our Sages: Pirkei Avot—A New American Translation and Explanation* (Dallas: Rossel Books, 2001 [1984]) (copies available through online booksellers)

Paul Jouon, Takamitsu Muraoka, *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. 2nd ed. Gregorian and Biblical Press, 2011. ISBN: 8876536299. \$88.20

Miguel Perez Fernandez, *An Introductory Grammar of Rabbinic Hebrew* (Brill, 1999)

Or

M. H. Segal, *A Grammar of Mishnaic Hebrew* (rprt. Wipf and Stock 2001 [1927])

A single volume hard-copy lexicon of your choice, e.g.,

- a. *Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Hendricksons
ISBN: 1565632060; ISBN-13: 9781565632066; \$34.95
- b. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* by
William L. Holladay. ISBN: 978-0-8028-3413-3; \$40.00

Kruger, Thomas. *Qoheleth: A Commentary on the Book of Qoheleth* ISBN:
9780800660369 \$55 [Available as E-book via TCU Library]

Other material provided by the instructor.

Grading Procedures:

Class Participation: 10%

In Class Hebrew Reading: 10%

Quizzes: 20%
Midterm: 25%
Final: 35%