

OL501 Semlink: Hebrew I | Spring 2020

Dr. Donna Petter

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Credit Hours: 3

This course occurs completely online with no scheduled classroom time. This course follows a weekly schedule that runs for 14 Weeks from Monday, January 27, through Monday, May 4, 2020. A week in this course begins on Tuesday and ends on Monday, with the exception of the first week, which runs from Monday through Monday. You will have required activities due on certain days each week.

Course Information

Office Hours

Your instructor is available for email correspondence. If you have a question about the course, you can contact your instructor via email.

Technical Support

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary offers technical support during regular business hours. If you have a technical issue with your course, please email servicedesk@gordonconwell.edu.

Course Description

Introduces basic grammar and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew, emphasizing the importance of Hebrew language for understanding the Old Testament.

Gordon-Conwell Mission

This course satisfies the following institutional learning objectives

- Article 1: To encourage students to become knowledgeable of God's inerrant Word, competent in its interpretation, proclamation and application in the contemporary world.
- Article 2: To maintain academic excellence in the highest tradition of Christian scholarship in the teaching of the biblical, historical and theological disciplines.

Course Learning Objectives

As a result of completing this course, students will achieve the following objectives:

1. See the text as language that carries and presents meaning rather than as simply the obscure and problematic basis for some English translation.
2. Read the Hebrew Bible with the aid of a dictionary (lexicon) by applying knowledge of Hebrew vocabulary and grammatical concepts.
3. Categorize and explain foundational grammatical concepts.

Weekly Lessons

Over 14 weeks, you will cover the following topics and lessons:

- Week 1: Alphabet and Vowels*
- Week 2: Syllabification
- Week 3: Nouns
- Week 4: Definite Article, Conjunction Vav, and Prepositions
- Week 5: Adjectives and Pronouns
- Week 6: Pronominal Suffixes
- Week 7: Construct Chain
- Week 8: Verbs Overview and Qal Perfect Strong Verbs
- Week 9: Qal Perfect Weak Verbs and Qal Imperfect Strong Verbs
- Week 10: Qal Imperfect Weak Verbs
- Week 11: The Wayyiqtol and the Weqatal
- Week 12: Qal Imperative, Cohortative, and Jussive
- Week 13: Qal Infinitive Construct and Infinitive Absolute
- Week 14: Qal Participle

*The course site will be published 10 days prior to the start of the term. It is strongly recommended that you take this opportunity to complete the lessons on the Alphabet and the Vowels.

You can follow this sequence of lessons and their accompanying assignments using the Modules tool.

Required Materials

Before enrolling in this course, you must ensure that you have regular access to the required materials you will use in this course.

Reading

Links to catalog items are provided. E-book editions may be available in GCTS collections, so check the library catalog item to see if electronic resources are available.

- Gary D. Pratico and Miles V. Van Pelt, [*Basics of Biblical Hebrew Grammar*](#) (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007). Second Edition. ISBN-13 (867-0-310-27020-10)
- Gary D. Pratico and Miles V. Van Pelt, [*Basics of Biblical Hebrew Workbook*](#) (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007). Second Edition ISBN-13 (867-0-310-27022-50)
- William L. Holladay, [*A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*](#) (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988). ISBN-13 (978-0802834133) Note that this course will make scans of selected pages from Holladay available to you as needed. If necessary, you may wait to purchase this book for Hebrew II.

- Psalm 119 in your native tongue. This Psalm contains 176 verses, organized as an acrostic of the Hebrew alphabet with 8 verses per letter. You will read the first 88 verses for this course devotionally, reading one letter of the Hebrew alphabet per week (Aleph through Kaph). This amounts to eight verses each week. You can read one verse per day plus an additional verse on one day, or all eight verses in one sitting.

You may be assigned other articles or selections, which will be available on the course site.

Technology

You will need the regular access to the following equipment to complete this course:

- A computer with high-speed internet and capable of downloading files and streaming multimedia presentations
- Microsoft Word or comparable word processor and PowerPoint or comparable software
- A Hebrew keyboard – you have a couple of options to set up your Hebrew Keyboard
 - Use the Hebrew Keyboard on your Windows PC or Mac.
 - Use an online Hebrew Keyboard at Gate2Home - <https://gate2home.com/Hebrew-Keyboard>.

Required Activities

To demonstrate achievement of course objectives, you will participate in various required activities. You will find detailed descriptions of these activities on your course site, but an overview of these requirements is given below:

Watch BBH Clips

Watch the assigned BBH Clips corresponding to the BBH chapters assigned for that week. The BBH Clips assume you have read the corresponding chapter summaries, so be sure to read these brief summaries in your textbook before watching the clips. You will also need to follow along with the Hebrew Helps Handout (HHH) provided on the course site. All clips are listed in the Pages tool.

Read BBH Textbook Chapters

Once you have viewed the BBH clips, read the assigned chapters in the BBH textbook. All readings are listed in the Pages tool.

Master New Vocabulary

The BBH Workbook exercises include new vocabulary from the chapter, so you will want to begin mastering any new vocabulary before starting on the workbook exercises. BBH Vocabulary are listed by Chapter as PowerPoint files in the Files tool.

Complete Workbook Exercises

Complete the assigned BBH Workbook Exercises corresponding to the assigned chapters. Most weeks, you will be assigned certain workbook exercises from the BBH Workbook. This document lists all of the exercises you are required to complete as part of this course. Be sure to review this document to determine which exercises you need to do in each chapter before you begin working on them. After completing the exercises, you may check your work against the BBH Workbook Answers available in the course site.

Contribute to Discussion

After you complete the assigned workbook exercises, you will contribute to class discussion by sharing a challenge you faced or an insight you gained in working through the exercises.

Attend Online Conferences

You and your peers will attend three Online Conferences with your instructor. These meetings will last for 1.5 hours and will take place at the beginning of the course, before your Midterm Exam, and before your Final Exam.

Take Quizzes and Exams

Quizzes and exams will be available in your course site at the beginning of the week in which they are due.

You will take each quiz or exam by downloading it as a Word document. On your computer or other capable device, you will fill in your answers in the spaces provided. The Word documents are locked, so you will only be able to write inside of the designated spaces. (We do this so that you don't have to worry about messing up the format of the quiz or exam.)

While taking these quizzes or exams, you are allowed to use any Hebrew typing helps you need to answer any questions requiring a Hebrew response. However, you may not use any other outside resources, helps, or aids of any kind when completing these quizzes or exams. If you use any other form of help, then you are not following the given rules for this activity and you are violating the seminary's Academic Integrity policy, which, if discovered, could result in disciplinary action.

Cumulative Quizzes

You will take nine cumulative quizzes as you progress through the course. The quizzes exist to hold you accountable for material, which you've engaged in previous weeks. Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.

Midterm Exam

The Midterm Exam will be cumulative and cover material from the beginning to the midpoint of the course. This exam is longer than the cumulative quizzes.

Final Exam

The Final Exam will be cumulative and cover material from the beginning to the end of the course. This exam is longer than the cumulative quizzes.

Grading

Your assignments are categorized and weighted for grading as follows

Course Assignment	% of grade
Quizzes*	20%
Discussion Participation	20%
Online Conference Attendance	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

* Your lowest quiz score will be dropped.

You must follow the criteria detailed in the Assignment instructions posted on your course site. Grading will be based on your work's alignment with the performance criteria in the Assignment instructions.

You must also submit work by the "due by" dates listed in the Course Summary on the Syllabus tool of the course site. Any work submitted after these "due by" dates will be penalized 5 points per day beyond the due date unless you make arrangements with your instructor ahead of time.

The grading scale will be as follows:

A 96, A- 94, B+ 92, B 91, B- 87, C+ 85, C 82, C- 80, D+ 79, D 76, D- 75, F below 75

Course Policies

Instructor Feedback

Your instructor will reply to email within 1-2 business days. He or she will give feedback on assignments within one week of submission and post grades and any additional comments in the course gradebook within two weeks of submission.

Writing Standards and Submitting Written Assignments

Papers must be double-spaced with 1" margins (side margins as well as top and bottom margins of each page), using Times New Roman or Arial 12-point font. Do not exceed page limits. Sources must be properly documented using notes and bibliography. Citations should be professionally formatted, meaning that they should adhere to either Turabian or APA style. Written assignments should be submitted as a Word or PDF file.

ADA accommodations

Gordon-Conwell is committed to creating a learning environment that meets the needs of its diverse student body. If you have a special need or disability, please refer to the ADA

Accommodations section of your home campus's Student Handbook for information about the accommodation process. Students who have a special need are asked to discuss the provisions of their accommodation with the appropriate office at their home campus as soon as possible.

Violations of Academic Integrity

The seminary considers all breaches of personal and academic integrity to be serious offenses. As such, the seminary has zero tolerance for such behaviors. Cheating involves, but is not limited to, the use of unauthorized sources of information during an examination. Duplication of course requirements involves the submission of the same (or substantially same) work for credit in two or more courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructor. Plagiarism involves the use of another person's distinctive ideas or words, whether published or unpublished, and representing them as one's own instead of giving proper credit to the source (taken from the *Hamilton Student Handbook 2018-2019* – please be sure you understand your campus's most current Academic Integrity Policies).

Discussion Posts

When quoting from or paraphrasing course readings, provide the author's name and page(s) in parentheses. If quoting from other sources, provide appropriate documentation. Similarly, when referring to a specific lecture, identify it using the title of the segment.

Netiquette

Gordon-Conwell does not tolerate disruptive or disrespectful behavior in the online communications in any course. Students should review the netiquette policy in the Student Handbook and this website: <http://www.albion.com/netiquette>.

Seminary Policies

You must be familiar with current seminary policies, which are in place for academic activities. Please refer to the Student Handbook for your home campus to familiarize yourself with policies pertinent to participating in academic activities at the seminary. Policies pertaining to this course would include those on Academic Integrity, Late Work, and Accessibility, among others.