

Biblical Hebrew 4 (CRST 332)

Syllabus Spring 2023 (preliminary)

Course descriptions

Applying principles of grammar, semantics and syntax to the translation and interpretation of Biblical Hebrew (i.e., the original language in which the Old Testament of the Bible was written). This course seeks to help students to read, translate and interpret the ancient Hebrew Old Testament.

Course goals

After these courses, successful students will be able to...

- know vocabulary and grammatical paradigms appropriate to intermediate students of Biblical Hebrew (particularly verbal stems and object suffixes).
- read and understand complex stories.
- converse about a variety of topics and events.
- compose stories.
- comment on the relation of a linguistic system to the meaning of a text.
- reflect on the role of language learning to promoting theological understanding in a religious community.
- maintain humility in working with biblical texts in their original language.
- cultivate interest in ancient texts, languages, and cultures.
- maintain and improve their Hebrew competency independently using grammars, dictionaries, and other resources.
- list a variety of language learning activities and identify those that they consider most effective for studying and teaching Biblical Hebrew.

FOUNDATIONAL
KNOWLEDGE

APPLICATION

INTEGRATION

HUMAN
DIMENSION

CARING

LEARNING HOW
TO LEARN

Instructor and class times

Instructor:

Daniel Lanz, Ph.D.

Email: daniellanz@fccollege.edu.pk (Note: I do not reply to emails on Sundays.)

Office hours: TBD

Office location: [G8FP+378 Lahore](#) (chapel building)

Class times:

Tue/Thu, 2:00–3:15 PM

Classroom E-229 (E-Block, 2nd floor)

Books

Textbooks

Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia. 5th edition. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1997.

Lanz, Daniel. *Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. Lahore: 2022.

Lanz, Daniel. *בִּיהוֹדָה: A Reader for Learning Biblical Hebrew*. Lahore: 2021.

Other recommended books

Lanz, Eddy. *Basic Old Testament Hebrew*. Rawalpindi: Eved Adonai, 2013. Available at <http://www.lanz.li/index.php/hebrew>.

Younas, Saleem. *بائبلی عبرانی کا اساسی تعارف Basic Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*. Gujranwala: Gujranwala Theological Seminary, 2012.

Grading

Attendance	10%
Participation	14%
Reading & conversation	10%
Other class activities	3.5%
Course feedback	0.5%
Homework	12%
Workbook א	3%
Workbook ב	3%
Workbook ג	3%
Workbook ד	3%
Capstone project (part 1)	16%
early drafts	4%
final draft	8%
presentation	4%
Learning reports	12%
Quizzes and exams	36%
Quizzes	12%
Mid-term exam	8%
Final exam (written)	16%

Note: Percentage-based grading systems tend to value quantity higher than quality. To compensate for this limitation, I do not generally use grades lower than 50%.

Important: To enter Hebrew Exegesis, students must achieve a grade of C or higher in Hebrew 4.

Letter grades correspond to percentage grades as follows:

A	93% and above	A-	90–92%
B+	87–89%	B	83–86%
B-	80–82%	C	73–76%
C+	77–79%	C-	70–72%
D+	67–69%	D	60–66%
		F	below 60%

Assessments

Attendance

After a student's second absence, each further absence reduces the *attendance grade* proportionally unless it is unavoidable due to serious illness or bereavement. It is the students' responsibility to communicate with the professor about missed class periods. **According to university policy, students who attend less than 67 percent of class periods will not be permitted to take the final exam.**

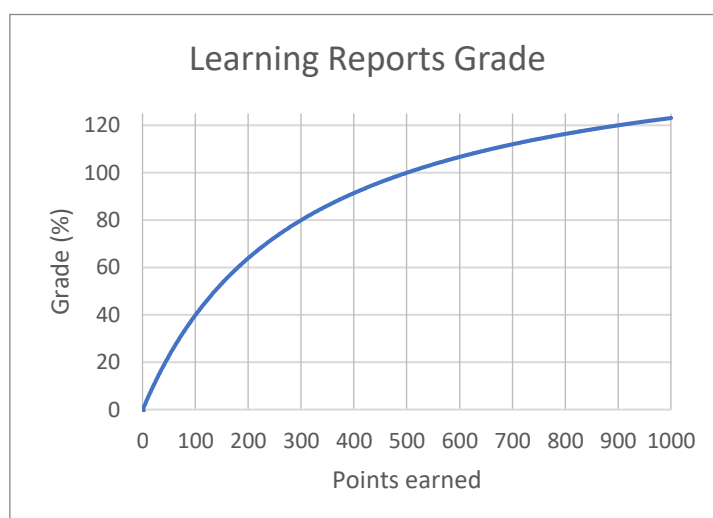
Workbooks

Students will complete four workbooks over the course of the semester. Due dates are mentioned in the schedule below.

Learning Reports

Students should practice Hebrew regularly on their own. Recommended learning activities include practicing vocabulary and studying *Aleph with Beth* lessons (on YouTube). Students should report how they have been learning via the online form linked on Moodle.

The grade for learning activities is based on a point system: Points are earned for the activities mentioned in each learning report. At the end of the semester, the total number of points is converted to a percentage grade according to the graph below. Grades above 100 percent (i.e., extra credit) are possible by earning more than 500 points in learning activities.



Quizzes

Quizzes will focus on vocabulary, grammar, and translation.

Hebrew Capstone Project

A major focus of the fourth semester of Hebrew is on the completion of the Capstone Project, which is a culmination of each student's study and demonstrates the competency gained over the past two years. The Capstone Project has two parts, corresponding to the two fourth-semester Hebrew courses. Part 1 (language) belongs to this course, CRST 332, whereas part 2 (literature) belongs to CRST 421.

For the language part of the capstone project, students will compose a narration for a short video (about 3–4 minutes). Preliminary drafts of this assignment should be completed by the due dates specified in the syllabus, which will be graded and returned to the students for corrections and refinement. The grade of the final draft will replace the grades of preliminary drafts. Moreover, students will present their projects orally to the class.

Final Exam

The final exam has two parts, corresponding to the two fourth-semester Hebrew courses. The written part of the exam belongs to CRST 332 and focuses on grammar and translation. The oral part of the exam belongs to CRST 421 and focuses on reading, analysis, and interpretation of a text from Genesis.

Course Calendar

Week	Tuesday	Thursday
Feb 13–17	Introduction	How to read narrative Exodus 1
Feb 20–24	Quiz (translation)	
Feb 27–Mar 3		Exodus 19 due: Workbook ⌘
Mar 6–10	Quiz (vocab)	
Mar 13–17	due: Capstone project verbs	How to read legal texts Exodus 20-21
Mar 20–24 <i>Pakistan Day Mar 23</i>		due: Workbook Ⓜ
Mar 27–31	Quiz (vocab)	
Apr 3–5 <i>Easter Break Apr 6–10</i>	due: Capstone project sentences	
Apr 11–14	Mid-term exam	How to read prophecy; Jeremiah 23 due: Workbook ⓗ
Apr 17–19 <i>Eid-ul-Fitr Apr 20–26</i>	Quiz (vocab)	
Apr 27–28		due: Capstone project draft 1
May 2–Jun 5 <i>Labor Day May 1</i>	How to read poetry Psalm 23	due: Workbook Ƨ
May 8–12	Quiz (vocab)	due: Capstone project draft 2
May 15–19		Quiz (grammar & genre)
May 22–26	Capstone project presentations	Capstone project presentations
May 20–Jun 2		
Jun 5–9	Review	Final Exam
		due: Capstone project

Scripture passages mentioned are tentative and subject to change.