

Biblical Hebrew 2 (CRST 232): Syllabus

Spring 2023 — Preliminary Syllabus

Course description

Continues the study of the grammar, vocabulary, and syntax 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 this course, successful students will be able to...

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|------------------------|---|
| FOUNDATIONAL KNOWLEDGE | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• know vocabulary and grammatical paradigms appropriate to beginning students of Biblical Hebrew (particularly verb conjugation). |
| APPLICATION | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• read and understand simple sentences and stories.• talk about events in the past, present, and future. |
| INTEGRATION | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• compare and contrast Biblical Hebrew syntax with English, Urdu, and/or Arabic. |
| HUMAN DIMENSION | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• reflect on the ways in which someone's character may affect the outcome and value of their language study. |
| CARING | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• maintain humility in working with biblical texts in their original language.• cultivate interest in ancient texts, languages, and cultures. |
| LEARNING HOW TO LEARN | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• maintain and improve their Hebrew competency independently using the textbook, vocabulary learning techniques, and other resources.• list a variety of language learning activities and identify those that they personally find most effective. |

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+27V Lahore](#) (chapel building)

Class times:

Mon/Wed/Fri, TBD

Classroom TBD (E-Block)

Books

Textbooks

Lanz, Daniel. *Learning Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. Unpublished draft, 2022.
Accessible via Moodle course page.

Lanz, Daniel. *בְּיַהֲוֹדָה: A Reader for Learning Biblical Hebrew*. Unpublished draft, 2021.

Other recommended books

Lanz, Eddy. *Basic Old Testament Hebrew*. Rawalpindi: Eved Adonai, 2013.

Ross, Allen. *Introducing Biblical Hebrew*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

Younas, Saleem. *بائبلی عبرانی کا اساسی تعارف Basic Introduction to Biblical Hebrew*. Gujranwala: Gujranwala Theological Seminary, 2022.

Grading

Attendance	10%
Participation	24%
Reading	15%
Scripture Presentation	2%
Character Presentation	4%
Other class activities	2.5%
Course feedback	0.5%
Homework	18%
Workbook א	4%
Workbook ב	4%
Workbook ג	4%
Workbook ד	4%
Reflection activity	2%
Learning reports	12%
Quizzes and exams	36%
Quizzes	12%
Mid-term exam	8%
Final exam	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 3, students must achieve a grade of C or higher in Hebrew 2.

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+	77–79%
C	73–76%	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. **As per university policy, students who attend less than 67 percent of class periods will not be permitted to take the final exam.**

Participation

The participation grade consists of the following components:

Reading

Most class periods begin with a reading exercise. This is crucially important for learning Hebrew. Reading regularly is one of the most important activities when learning a classical language. For best

learning outcomes, students are encouraged to prepare each reading exercise beforehand and revise it at least two times after class.

During the reading exercise, students get points for each sentence read: 7 points for excellent; 6 points for good reading with some mistakes; 5 points for poor reading. The total grade is the number of points earned divided by the maximum number of points. Students who miss part of the reading exercise because they are late to class will miss out on points. Do not be late!!

Presentations

Students will complete two presentations: In the **Scripture Presentation**, each student reads a chosen passage from the Hebrew Bible to the rest of the class and comments on any familiar features. In the **Character Presentation**, students introduce a character in Hebrew.

Other Class Activities

Other class activities may include worksheets, Flipgrid assignments, group activities, conversation, Cahoots, and ad-hoc presentations.

Course Feedback

Students will have opportunities to comment on the course and suggest changes. Please offer feedback about the syllabus, course goals, schedule, grading scheme, classroom experience, or any other aspect of the course's design and implementation. Please do this early enough that we can still make appropriate changes.

Workbooks

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

Reflection Activity

Students will participate in an activity to reflect on the advantages and disadvantages of learning Biblical Hebrew. The goal of the reflection activity is to think about these questions:

Is humility an important virtue when learning a language? Can learning Biblical Hebrew lead to arrogance? Would humility make someone more or less effective in learning the language? Would humility make someone more or less effective in applying the language?

Quizzes and Exams

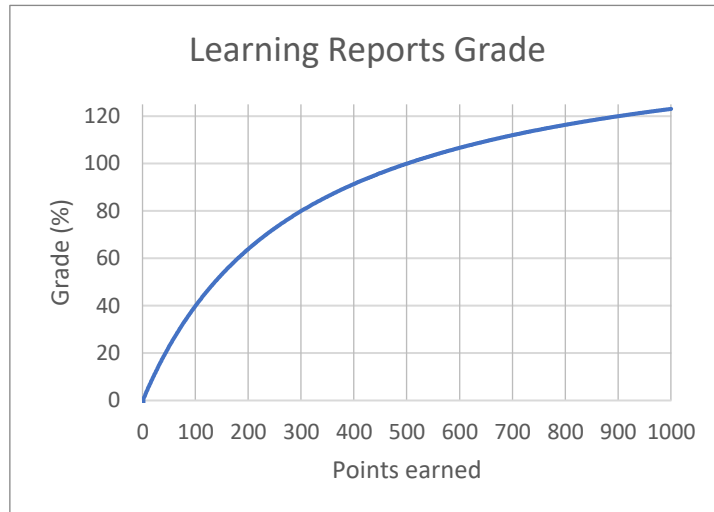
Quizzes are noted in the schedule below. Some quizzes may be given in class or on Moodle.

The mid-term exam and the final exam are written, in-person exams. They may include any of the grammar and vocabulary covered in Biblical Hebrew 1.

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.



Academic Integrity

Students should review the university’s Academic Integrity Policy, which is available at <https://www.fccollege.edu.pk/policy-on-academic-integrity/>.

Students must complete their workbooks independently without looking at the workbooks of other students. Consulting another student’s workbook usually leads to adopting their mistakes. Moreover, copying another student’s workbook is a breach of academic integrity. Such cases will result in a fail grade for the workbook and will be reported to the Vice Rector’s office in accordance with FC College’s Academic Integrity Policy.

Likewise, students should take care to use only their own words and thoughts in their reflection papers. Words taken from other sources are only allowed if they are properly identified as a quotation and the source is cited correctly. It is much better to submit a paper that is poorly written original work than to submit a paper that is well-written but contains plagiarism.

Course Calendar

Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Feb 13–17			
Feb 20–24			
Feb 27–Mar 3	Quiz (translation)		
Mar 6–10		due: Workbook ௩	
Mar 13–17	Quiz (vocab)		
Mar 20–24 <i>Pakistan Day Mar 23</i>		Scripture Presentations	Scripture Presentations
Mar 27–31		due: Workbook ௧	
Apr 3–5 <i>Easter Break Apr 6–10</i>	Quiz (vocab)		
Apr 11–14		Review	Mid-Term Exam
Apr 17–19 <i>Eid-ul-Fitr Apr 20–26</i>			
Apr 27–28			Quiz (translation)
May 2–Jun 5 <i>Labor Day May 1</i>	due: Workbook ௨		
May 8–12	Quiz (vocab)	Character Presentations	Character Presentations
May 15–19			Quiz (translation)
May 22–26	due: Workbook ௧		
May 20–Jun 2	Quiz (vocab)		
Jun 5–9	Revision	Revision	Final Exam

Late Policy

If assignments (such as workbooks, presentations, reflection papers) are submitted after the due date, one percentage point will be deducted per weekday.