

ST. MARY'S ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE
Spring 2019

Monday 6:00 - 7:30 pm in class; Thursday 7:00 - 8:00 pm online

BS612 Introduction to Biblical Hebrew II

Fr. Paul Maillet, P.S.S.

Course Description:

Introduction to Biblical Hebrew II focuses on reading from the Old Testament beginning with individual Biblical verses and eventually working up to whole stories from Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, and 1 Kings. Students will thus become familiar with the Tanakh (the Old Testament in Hebrew, otherwise known as the Hebrew Bible or the Masoretic Text). Students will continue to build up to controlling a vocabulary of some 300 of the most commonly used words in the Tanakh. As the course continues, more and more of the grammatical and syntactical elements of the language are gradually presented. The student will also become familiar with the BDB, still the gold standard among Biblical Hebrew-English dictionaries. The emphasis of the course is on translating Biblical Hebrew into English. Note that two new textbooks are required: the Tanakh and the BDB (see below).

Course Requirements:

- Reading (in English): Students should expect to read and fill-in 4-5 pages of the main text/workbook per lesson as assigned. This will not be graded, but is essential to understanding how to translate the sentences for Thursday. In addition, students will be graded on class participation based on the lesson in the workbook (15%).
- Memorization: Students will memorize new vocabulary assigned for the week. Use of flashcards for study is highly encouraged. Classes on Mondays will begin with a quiz on the vocabulary. These quizzes together will constitute 35% of the final grade
- There are two tests, a midterm and a final, that will consist of translating Hebrew into English (25% each).

Required Texts:

- Bonnie Pedrotti, Victoria Hoffer and Rebecca Abts Wright, *Biblical Hebrew: Text and Workbook*, 2nd edition (New Haven: Yale University, 2005) ISBN: 978-0-300-09862-4
- Victoria Hoffer, *Biblical Hebrew: Supplement for Enhanced Comprehension*, (New Haven: Yale University, 2005). ISBN: 978-0-300-09863-1
- Any edition of the Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia, e.g. K. Elliger and W. Rudolph, ed. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*, (Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1997). ISBN 3-438-05218-0
- Any edition of the BDB, e.g. F. Brown, S. Driver, and C. Briggs, *The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon*, (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2003). ISBN: 1-56563-206-0