

Course: BL601E & EN
Name: Introduction to Biblical Languages
Credit: 3 hours
Semester: Fall 2020 (Cycle 3 October 19-December 11)
Time: 6:00–9:00 p.m. Wednesday
Place: CABRE 100 – Livestreamed via Microsoft Teams
Professor: Dr. Daniel Goepfrich — daniel.goepfrich@calvary.edu

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

This course is an introduction to Greek and Hebrew with the view of using the biblical languages in ministry and in one’s personal Bible study. Students will learn the Greek and Hebrew alphabets, key vocabulary words, the use of tools for biblical languages, how to trace the argument of the author, and practical insights into the use of grammar.

This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- A. The purpose of New Testament Greek Studies is to familiarize you with the language and text of the Greek NT; to equip you with a detailed knowledge of the basic elements of New Testament Greek grammar as the necessary foundation for subsequent study in syntax and exegesis; to equip you to do accurate exegetical work in the Greek NT so that you can expound it accurately and apply it effectively in your Christian ministry.
- B. Student Learning Outcomes
1. Learn the Greek alphabet, the formation and pronunciation of Greek words, and how to use this knowledge to recognize and to look up words in tools for Bible study and interpretation. (PLO 1,2,3,4,5) (A 1-6)
 2. Learn how biblical languages work. (PLO 1,2,3,4,5) (A 1-6)
 3. Be introduced to tools to study and use the biblical languages. (PLO 1,2,3,4,5) (A 1-6)
 4. Be introduced to 5 applications of Biblical Greek to teaching and personal study (establishing the text, emphasis in the Greek sentence, lexical studies, verbal aspect, tracing the argument of the author using exegetical clausal outlining a.k.a. phrasing) (PLO 1,2,3,4,5) (A 1-6)

Our Mission: “To prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the biblical worldview”

5. Understand why translations are different and make sample comparisons between translations. (PLO 1,2,3,4,5) (A 1-6)
6. Learn key Hebrew and Greek vocabulary words. (PLO 1,2,3,4,5) (A 1-6)
7. Learn some basic Hebrew and Greek grammar. (PLO 1,2,3,4,5) (A 1-6)
8. Learn the Hebrew alphabet and vowel points, the formation and pronunciation of Hebrew words, and how to use this knowledge to recognize and to look up words in tools for Bible study and interpretation. (PLO 1,2,3,4,5) (A 1-6)
9. Do specific assignments designed to learn and develop skills in using the biblical languages. (PLO 1,2,3,4,5) (A 1-6)

III. TEXTBOOKS

A. Bible

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard Bible (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James Version (NKJV), or King James Version (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

B. Other Required Textbooks

Electronic editions of the following texts ARE acceptable and available in multiple Bible software packages.

1. Jim Found, *Basic Greek in 30 Minutes a Day*, Second Edition (Minneapolis: Bethany House, 2012). ISBN: 9780764209857 List: \$19.99
2. Paul R. McReynolds, *The Word Study Greek-English New Testament with Complete Concordance* (Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1999). ISBN: 9780842382908 List: \$49.99
3. Samuel Lamerson, *English Grammar to Ace New Testament Greek* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004). ISBN: 9780310255345 List: \$14.99
4. Miles V. Van Pelt, *English Grammar to Ace Biblical Hebrew* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010). ISBN: 9780310318316 List: \$14.99

5. William D. Mounce, *Mounce's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006). ISBN: 9780310248781 List: \$39.99

C. Other Recommended Resources

Original Language Bible Study Software (Logos or Accordance). It is highly recommended that students obtain digital resources to engage biblical study in the original languages, including but not limited to Nestle-Aland GNT 28th edition (NA28), including the critical apparatus; *Biblical Hebraica Stuttgartensia* (BHS); Septuagint (LXX), *A Greek Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (BDAG), and *Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* (HALOT). Other Greek and Hebrew resources are available (usually much cheaper), but these listed are the standard for academic and scholarly work.

Greek

1. William D. Mounce, *Greek for the Rest of Us: The Essentials of Biblical Greek*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013). ISBN: 9780310277101 List: \$32.99
2. William D. Mounce, *Greek for the Rest of Us Laminated Sheet*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013). ISBN: 9780310516613 List: \$11.99
3. Memrise vocab app — <https://www.memrise.com/course/51095/basics-of-biblical-greek/>
4. Greek Beta Code Converter browser extension or keyboard — <https://www.translatum.gr/converter/beta-code.htm>
5. “Daily Dose of Greek” by Dr. Rob Plummer (dailydoseofgreek.com)

Hebrew

1. Lee M. Fields, *Hebrew for the Rest of Us: Using Hebrew Tools without Mastering Biblical Hebrew* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008). ISBN: 9780310277095 List: \$32.99
2. Larry A. Mitchel. *A Student's Vocabulary for Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic*, Updated Edition (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2017). ISBN: 9780310533870 List: \$16.99
3. Memrise vocab app (Mitchel) — <https://www.memrise.com/course/701105/students-vocabulary-for-biblical-hebrew-mitchel/>
4. Hebrew Beta Code keyboard — <https://www.lexilogos.com/keyboard/hebrew.htm>
5. “Daily Dose of Hebrew” by Dr. Mark Futato (dailydoseofhebrew.com)

IV. REQUIREMENTS OF THE COURSE

A. Reading Assignments/Exercises

You will be expected to read and study the contents of the Lamerson and Van Pelt textbooks. Record the completion of this reading in Canvas by summarizing each chapter in 1–2 paragraphs and engage with your classmates' comments. You will also complete all the exercises at the end of each chapter.

Read Found (pp. 1–301) and do as many of the exercises you feel you need to grasp the contents of each chapter.

B. Writing Assignments

The student will be taught how to use the McReynolds and the Mounce textbooks. Over the course of the class sessions the student will write 10 one-page lexical studies (five each for Greek and Hebrew).

The student will also write up the following short papers: 1) A phrasing and exegetical outline of a specific Greek NT paragraph; 2) One page on a textual problem and solution from the Greek NT; 3) One page on emphasis in Greek; 4) One page on verbal aspect in a specific context in the Greek NT; 5) 2–3 pages on Hebrew verb stems.

C. Quizzes and Exams

There will be seven quizzes in Canvas covering the basic tools, techniques, vocabulary, and essential information covered in the course. There will be no exams.

V. ASSIGNMENTS, ASSIGNMENT POINTS, GRADING SCALE AND FINAL GRADE

Assignment #1: Reading Lamerson and Van Pelt (200 pts)

Assignment #2: Reading Found (150 pts)

Assignment #3: Exercises in Lamerson and Van Pelt (200 pts)

Assignment #4: Write 5 Greek Lexical Studies and 5 Hebrew Lexical Studies (150 pts)

Assignment #5: Take 5 quizzes on Greek and 2 quizzes on Hebrew (100 pts)

Assignment #6: Write 5 short papers on: Textual Criticism; Verbal Aspect; Phrasing; Emphasis; Hebrew Verb Stems (200 pts)

Total Points = 1,000

FINAL GRADE

960–1000	A
940–959	A-
920-939	B+
880–919	B
860–879	B-
840-859	C+
800-839	C
780-799	C-
0-779	F

VI. ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE/TOPICS

	In Class	Due Before <u>Next</u> Class
Week 1 Oct 19–25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intro to the course • Greek alphabet, pronunciation, accents, punctuation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek Quiz #1
Week 2 Oct 26–Nov 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic reading in GNT, book titles, transliteration, vocab • Using McReynolds, Mounce for lexical studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamerson, ch 1–5 • Found, pp 1–77 • Greek Quiz #2
Week 3 Nov 2–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek Phrasing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamerson, ch 6–10 • Found, pp 78–142 • Greek Quiz #3
Week 4 Nov 9–15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textual Criticism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamerson, ch 11–15 • Found, pp 143–238 • Greek Quiz #4 • Papers #1–2
Week 5 Nov 16–22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek Grammar, Emphasis • Verbal Aspect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamerson, ch 16–18 • Found, pp 239–301 • Greek Quiz #5

Week 6 Nov 23–29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebrew alphabet, vowel points, pronunciation, transliteration • Comparing translations • Hebrew lexical studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Van Pelt, ch 1–5 • Hebrew Quiz #1 • Paper #3
Week 7 Nov 30–Dec 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebrew lexical studies • Hebrew grammar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Van Pelt, ch 6–10 • Hebrew Quiz #2 • Paper #4
Week 8 Dec 7–13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using the languages in Bible study and ministry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Van Pelt, ch 11–14 • Paper #5

Remember to **always** save and back up your assignments.

Excessive absences will result in grade reduction or failure for the course. Since this is a three hour class you can miss only 1 time without grade penalty.

Papers and reading assignments must be completed on time. **Work not completed on time will be graded down accordingly.** A research paper turned in more than one week late will receive no credit. Illness is the only acceptable exception.

All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 update.

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Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the author. This also includes taking another person’s ideas and presenting them as your own.