

Course: BL601E & EN
Name: Introduction to Biblical Languages
Credit: 3 hours
Semester: Fall 2021 (Cycle 3 Oct 25 – Dec 17)
Time: 6:00–9:00 p.m. Wednesday
Place: E Ed 129-130 – 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 phrasing and diagramming) (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. 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. *The Zondervan Greek and English Interlinear New Testament (NASB/NIV)* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011) ISBN: 978-0310492962 List: \$59.99
3. William D. Mounce, *Mounce's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006). ISBN: 9780310248781 List: \$39.99
4. Samuel Lamerson, *English Grammar to Ace New Testament Greek* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004). ISBN: 9780310255345 List: \$14.99
5. Miles V. Van Pelt, *English Grammar to Ace Biblical Hebrew* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010). ISBN: 9780310318316 List: \$14.99

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,

The following packages are highly recommended and include everything you need for this class and set you up for future study.

- a. Logos 9 Academic Essentials (\$499) plus BDAG/HALOT bundle (\$240) [Total cost \$739]
- b. Accordance 13 Academic Bundle Green Level 1 (\$400.00) plus BDAG/HALOT bundle (\$299) [Total cost: \$699]

Greek Resources

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

Hebrew Resources

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 appropriate sections of the Lamerson, Van Pelt, and Mounce textbooks. Record the completion of this reading in the Canvas discussion threads by explaining at least three key points from each chapter and engage with your classmates' comments.

B. Writing Assignments

You will learn how to use the Mounce textbooks. Over the course of the class sessions you will write 10 one-page lexical studies (five each for Greek and Hebrew).

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

C. Research Assignment

You will watch training videos for either Logos or Accordance (your choice) in order to learn how to use that Bible software effectively. Those students who choose to not purchase either software package are still required to watch the videos because they will help with general Bible study techniques.

D. 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: Read and discuss Lamerson and Van Pelt (200 pts)
- Assignment #2: Read and discuss Mounce, *GRU* (200 pts)
- Assignment #3: Write 5 Greek Lexical Studies and 5 Hebrew Lexical Studies (150 pts)
- Assignment #4: Write 5 short papers on: Phrasing; Emphasis; Verbal Aspect; Textual Criticism; Hebrew Verb Stems (200 pts)
- Assignment #5: Watch Logos or Accordance training videos (150 pts)

Assignment #6: Take 5 quizzes on Greek and 2 quizzes on Hebrew (100 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intro to the course • Greek alphabet, pronunciation, accents, punctuation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamerson, ch 1–5 • <i>GRU</i>, ch 2–3 • Greek Quiz #1
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic reading in GNT, book titles, transliteration, vocab • Greek lexical studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamerson, ch 6–10 • <i>GRU</i>, ch 10 • Greek Quiz #2
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek Phrasing, Diagramming, Arcing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamerson, ch 11–15 • <i>GRU</i>, ch 14 • Greek Quiz #3
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek Grammar, Emphasis • Verbal Aspect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>GRU</i>, ch 4–9, 12–13, 24 • Greek Quiz #4 • Paper #1
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Textual Criticism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lamerson, ch 16–18 • Greek Quiz #5 • Paper #2

Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebrew alphabet, vowel points, pronunciation, transliteration • Hebrew lexical studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Van Pelt, ch 1–5 • Hebrew Quiz #1 • Paper #3
Week 7	<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	<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 • <i>GRU</i>, 31–33 • 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.

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 (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (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.

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.