

Unit Outline



QTC



# LA003A

# Biblical Hebrew A

QUEENSLAND THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

## About this Unit Outline

This unit outline contains information essential to finding your way around the unit **Biblical Hebrew A**. It provides a structure for your learning, giving details of lecture topics, assessment requirements, and key resources.

UNIT OUTLINE **SEMESTER 1 2016**

## Important notice

While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the information given below, **it is the personal responsibility of each student to check the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook**, copies of which may be found in the Library or online at [www.actheology.edu.au](http://www.actheology.edu.au)

It is very important that students plan their time carefully to ensure that reading and especially assignments receive adequate attention and so as to prevent a bottleneck of work at the end of the semester.

It is very important that all quoted material in assignments be properly footnoted and acknowledged. The attention of students is drawn to the section in the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook, headed "**Academic Misconduct**". Failure to comply with the standards required will incur penalties as outlined in the ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook.

The attention of students is also drawn to the section in the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook, headed "**Guidelines for Essays.**" (see also the QTC Student Handbook) All essays should comply with these standards.

## Information about this unit

### Unit description

This unit comprises an introduction to Biblical Hebrew to be continued in LA003B. The course will be devoted to study of morphology and syntax and completion of approximately half of a first-year Hebrew grammar.

### Learning objectives

On completion of the unit, students will:

#### Know and understand

1. Common terminology and grammatical descriptions used in grammars, lexicons and commentaries
2. Hebrew grammar and syntax up to at least half way through one standard grammar of Biblical Hebrew
3. About 100-200 words of Hebrew vocabulary
4. Essential grammatical issues that influence understanding and translation of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament

#### Be able to

1. Understand common grammatical terminology and descriptions used in grammars, lexicons and commentaries
2. Utilise foundational paradigms, constructions and vocabulary
3. Use aids to understanding the Hebrew Bible such as lexicons, grammars, concordances, commentaries, software tools

#### Be in a position to

1. Begin translation of simple Biblical Hebrew texts

## How this Unit Contributes to the Course

This course prepares students for a lifetime of studying the Old Testament in its original language. Hebrew is indispensable to a deep understanding and exposition of fully three quarters of our Christian Bible. Consider what Martin Luther once wrote:

“And let us be sure of this: we will not long preserve the gospel without the languages. The languages are the sheath in which this sword of the Spirit [Eph. 6:17] is contained; they are the casket in which this jewel is enshrined; they are the vessel in which this wine is held; they are the larder in which this food is stored; and, as the gospel itself points out [Matt. 14:20], they are the baskets in which are kept these loaves and fishes and fragments.”

## Pre-requisites and Co-requisites

This is an elective unit.

Students taking this unit cannot also take LA001 with or after this unit.

This unit is delivered at undergraduate degree level, and is equivalent to the ACT 300 level units. It attracts the 300 level unit fee.

## How this unit is organized & what we expect of you

### Language Intensive Week

Biblical Hebrew A will commence Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 - 9.30am to 3.30 pm for the Language Intensive (see Pre-Work below on page 5). A detailed schedule for the week will be provided separately by email and on Moodle.

This Intensive is compulsory for everyone enrolled in LA003A. If you are a part-time student, you should arrange to take leave from your work Tuesday-Thursday of that week so that you can attend. You will find this week extremely beneficial as it prepares you for the semester to come.

### Weekly classes

Biblical Hebrew A meets for 3 hours each week for all 13 weeks of the semester. Each week during semester will begin with a brief Q and A on any material covered in the previous week on Tuesday. Wednesdays will begin with a class quiz covering material from the previous weeks. Unless otherwise specified in class, students are expected to complete all of the exercises at the end of the chapter in the text. Supporting material may be made available in class and on Moodle.

## Teaching staff

LECTURER

Rev. Weber Hsu

E: [whsu@qtc.edu.au](mailto:whsu@qtc.edu.au)

Please feel free to contact me if you have any problems or concerns about the unit.

## Unit timetable: topics & teaching and learning activities

### Pre-work

In preparation, it is ideal to work through *Elementary Biblical Hebrew*\* chs. 1–3. Don't worry if you need concepts explained, the most important thing to get started is to memorise the Hebrew alphabet and to attempt the homework exercises. It pays to 'put in the hard yards' early and learn the fundamentals like the alphabet, so you don't fall behind.

Week	Topic and Homework	Quizzes
Language Intensive	Chs. 1–4	No Quiz
Week 1	Ch. 5	No Quiz
Week 2	Chs. 6	Quiz 1: Ch. 1-5      17 Feb
Week 3	Chs. 7	Quiz 2: Ch. 6      24 Feb
Week 4	Ch. 8-9 and Review	Quiz 3: Chs. 7      02 Mar
Preaching Week	No classes	
Week 5	Ch. 10	Quiz 4: Chs. 8-9      16 Mar
Week 6	Chs. 11 and Review	Quiz 5: Ch. 10      23 Mar
Easter Holidays	No classes	
Week 7	Chs. 12	Review Test Chs. 1-11      13 Apl
Week 8	Ch. 13-14	Quiz 6: Ch. 12      20 Apl
Week 9	Chs. 15-16	Quiz 7: Chs. 13-14      27 Apl
Week 10	Chs. 17-18	Quiz 8: Chs. 15-16      04 May
Week 11	Ch. 19 and Review	Quiz 9: Chs. 17-18      11 May
Week 12	Translation workshop	Quiz 10: Ch. 19      18 May
Week 13	Review and Practice	Quiz 11: Mini Practice Exam 25 May
Assessment Block [3 wks]	No classes	

\* Athas, G and Young I. M. *Elementary Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. 4<sup>th</sup> rev. ed. Croydon Park, NSW: Ancient Vessel Press.

## LA003A Assessments

**In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.**

Late submission of assessment, without prior permission, will be taken into account in determining your mark.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<b>11 Quizzes</b> <b>27% of final grade</b>	<p>Eleven grammar and vocabulary quizzes, with the best nine results to count (3% each). The dates and examinable content are listed in this outline.</p> <p>These quizzes will be administered on Wednesday mornings.</p>
<b>Review Test</b> <b>13% of final grade</b>	<p>A 45-minute test conducted on Wednesday 13 April, testing topics covered in Chapters 1-11 of Athas and Young.</p>
<b>Workbook Audits</b> <b>10% of final grade</b>	<p>Five Random Audits of Student Hebrew Exercise Workbooks (2% for each). Students will be required to hand in their Hebrew Exercise Workbooks without prior notice on five occasions during the semester, at the end of a regular lecture. The dates of these audits will not be disclosed beforehand. Exercises set since the preceding audit will be checked for completion, not accuracy. The previous weeks' exercises will be checked and the workbooks will be returned to students' pigeon holes by lunch time. There will be no opportunity to complete previously missed homework.</p> <p>One A4 ruled workbook is to be used for the exercises at the end of each chapter.</p>
<b>Final Exam</b> <b>50% of final grade</b>	<p>Two-hour examination with questions covering Chapters 1-19 of Athas and Young. The exam will include Vocabulary, Grammar and Translation, and will be similar in style but different in content from that in the weekly quizzes and the Review Test.</p>

## Guide to Assessments

### ***Weekly Quiz***

The weekly quiz will aim to test your understanding of the material covered in the past week, with a small section testing material from the week(s) prior to that. The purpose is in to diagnose potential areas of misunderstanding and to flag material that requires more work.

### ***Homework***

The weekly homework will consist of exercises at the end of each chapter of the textbook.

### ***Final Exam***

The exam at the end of Semester 1 will assess vocabulary, paradigms, grammar, syntax, and some translation. It will cover all the chapters studied in the semester (i.e. up to Chapter 19 of the textbook, including all the vocabulary covered).

## Learning Resources

### ESSENTIAL REFERENCES

The student will require a copy of the textbook:

Athas, G and Young I. M. *Elementary Biblical Hebrew: An Introductory Grammar*. 4<sup>th</sup> rev. ed.  
Croydon Park, NSW: Ancient Vessel Press.

## ACT Standards: Grades

Grades in assessment instruments are awarded in the following categories-

Grade	Score	GPA
Fail (F)	0-49%	0
Pass (P)	50-57%	1
Pass+ (P+)	58-64%	1.5
Credit (C)	65-74%	2
Distinction (D)	75-84%	3
High Distinction (HD)	85+%	4