



GOT 615 Hebrew Syntax

Fall 2020

Instructor Information

Dr. Andrew Goodwill

Email: andrew.goodwill@mbu.edu

Cell Phone: (920) 545 0232

Office Hours: MWF 11:30–12:00

Office Location: Student Life Office

The best way to connect with Dr. Goodwill is through email. He will check email daily and do his best to respond within 24 hours. If you do not receive a respond within 24 hours, please assume that the email was accidentally overlooked and send a follow-up email.

If your question needs a response sooner than 24 hours, please call/text.

Course Description: A study of the syntactical features of the sentence in Biblical Hebrew. Special attention is given to the function of the Hebrew verb conjugations, to the waw conjunction, subordinating particles, and block diagramming. Students will also do selected translations (2 hours credit).

Prerequisite: GOT 511 and GOT 512 Hebrew Grammar or equivalent.

Textbook Information:

1. A Hebrew Bible (Preferably Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia).
2. Ronald J. Williams, *Williams' Hebrew Syntax*, 3rd edition, revised and expanded by John C. Beckman, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2007.
3. Jason DeRouchie, *How to Understand and Apply the Old Testament*, Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R, 2017.
4. Miles Van Pelt and Gary Pratico, *Old Testament Hebrew Vocabulary Cards*. Zondervan (same cards from first year Hebrew—there is also a PDF index available in the course website).

Students joining the class virtually must have a computer, internet connection, video camera, and a headset with a microphone.

MBU Institutional Outcomes supported by this course.

9. **Biblical Interpretation:** Students will interpret Scripture using the historical-grammatical method with careful attention to the immediate and broad biblical context.

Course Goals: By the end of this class, I desire the student to...

1. Understand the benefits of studying the Old Testament in the original language.
2. Solidify Hebrew vocabulary and verb conjugations learned in first year Hebrew Grammar.
3. Learn the basic aspectual values of the Hebrew verb system and how these are affected by the waw conjunction.
4. Explain the importance of understanding the syntax for Hebrew verbs, participles, and nominals.
5. Learn how to construct block diagrams for Hebrew prose texts.



Course Objectives: By the end of this class the student will be able to...

1. Explain the verbal nuance indicated by the perfect, imperfect, jussive, imperative, participle, infinitive absolute and infinitive construct conjugations.
2. Explain the various uses of the waw conjunction and other major Hebrew conjunctions.
3. Show the importance of Hebrew syntax to the interpretation process.
4. Construct a block diagram that reflects the underlying Hebrew syntax.

Course Requirements

For a two-credit language course, the average student will need to spend a minimum of 1–2 hours outside of class for every 1 hour of class time. You should plan to spend 5 hours per week outside of class.

Reading

Most assignments will come from selected portions of *Williams' Hebrew Syntax* (3rd edition) and *How to Understand and Apply the Old Testament*. Although you will report your reading weekly, each reading assignment is due at the beginning of the class hour for which it is scheduled.

Quizzes

All quizzes are closed-book. The quizzes for this course fall into two categories: vocab and syntax. Syntax quizzes are given in class while vocab quizzes are online. Vocab quizzes are due by 11:55pm on the scheduled date.

Translation Checks

Translation quizzes are “pop quizzes” over the assigned translation. Note: You may use a computer program for translation assignments. Keep in mind, however, that no helps are allowed on the translation checks, so overuse of computer programs may hurt your grade in other areas.

Worksheets

The worksheets are designed to help you engage the course content while building a quick resource for review. Much of the worksheet content can be filled out during class, but the final version of the worksheet is due when assigned.

Tests

The unit tests are open-book (course notes, worksheets, WHS). They are essentially quizzes on steroids that test your comprehension of the material rather than your recollection.

Syntax Project

The syntax project is the capstone project of the course. It incorporates translation, analysis of syntax, exegetical notes, and text blocking.

Final Exam

The final exam will be an online matching and multiple choice test.



Grading Policy

1. Grading scale:

94-100	A	90-91	B+	81-82	C+	64-72	D
92-93	A-	85-89	B	80-75	C	0-63	D-
		83-84	B-	73-74	C-		

2. Grade weighting:

Reading	10%
Quizzes.....	20%
Worksheets.....	15%
Translation Checks.....	10%
Tests/Final Exam.....	20%
Syntax Project	25%

- Late work policy: All reading reports and projects will receive a 4% late penalty per day after the due date. Extensions will be given on a case-by-case basis.
- Program Grade Requirements: In order to graduate, a student must earn a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (including a maximum of two Cs) in any MA program, or a minimum grade point average of 2.5 in the MDiv program.

Makeup Policies

Quizzes

- Quizzes must be taken when scheduled or in advance of an absence.
- Quizzes missed due to absences will be assessed the standard seminary 4% per day late penalty.

Translation checks

I will drop the lowest translation check scores. If you miss class and I give a translation check, then it will be the one dropped. A second, third, etc. missed check must be made up within one week of the return to school or it will be averaged in as a zero.



Appendix A

Academic Dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense, and it can exist in many forms. For example, the following would be considered a sample of academically dishonest activities that might occur in this class:

- ◆ Sharing advance information regarding the content or answers for a test or quiz.
- ◆ Receiving advance information regarding the content or answers for a test or quiz.
- ◆ Using a previous student's old tests or quizzes as a study guide for this semester's tests and quizzes.
- ◆ Handing in the same paper or substituting a similar paper in more than one class without permission.
- ◆ Plagiarism. Representing the words or unique thoughts of another as your own.
- ◆ Submitting as your own, materials that have been enhanced by another.

Academic penalties for academic dishonesty range from an F grade on the particular evaluation to an F grade in the course. Also, a range of serious disciplinary penalties may apply.

Academic Success Center. Once source for academic help in any course is the Academic Success Center. If you require specific targeted academic help for any reason contact the Academic Success Center located in the Cedarholm Library. If you would like more information regarding targeted academic help, please contact the Academic Success Center director at academicsuccess@mbu.edu.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, the law requires that all students with disabilities be given a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Success Program Director, in the Library, (ph. 920/206-2340) or email academicsuccess@mbu.edu.

Library Services. The Maranatha Cedarholm Library is committed to providing services to distance education students that are equivalent to residential students. Read about the library services that are available to you through Cedarholm Library. You can search the library resources by clicking on the Library link found under Quick Links on the sidebar in MyMaranatha.

Netiquette: Netiquette refers to the standards of behavior for online communication.

- All communication in discussion forums and through email should be respectful and professional.
- If someone asks you a question in a discussion forum, take the time to respond.
- If a coursemate or the instructor sends you an email, acknowledge that you received it by responding with a quick email.
- Your posts should be related to the course content. If you would like to chit-chat with someone, use email or the Virtual Café
- found on the Collaboration page.
- Don't type your posts in ALL CAPS. This makes the reader think you are yelling.

Technology Problems:

Technology problems are not an acceptable excuse for missing an assignment. Technology will break down and fail at some point. Its failure is a normal process life, not an emergency. As you plan ahead and manage your time, assume that technology will fail, especially if you wait until the last minute to do an assignment!

When you have a problem with MyMaranatha or any other MBU website, please contact support@mbu.edu. If you are having difficulties navigating this course or have questions about how to use technology required for this course, please send me a quick email (andrew.goodwill@mbu.edu).



Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Worksheets/Projects	Quizzes/Tests	Reading	Translations
8/31	Syllabus & Review				
9/2	Theme Uses		QZ01: X-chart		
9/4	Theme Uses			WHS §133–156	
9/7		Worksheet: Theme Uses	QZ02: Theme Uses		
9/9	Verbal Aspect			WHS §161–173	
9/11	Verbal Aspect				
9/14	waw Prefix	Worksheet: Aspect			
9/16	Volitive Moods			WHS §183–191	
9/18	No Class		QZ03: Vocab (1–100)		
9/21	Infinitive Construct	Worksheet: Moods		WHS §192–200	
9/23	Infinitive Absolute			WHS §201–212	
9/25	Participles			WHS §213–222	
9/28			Test 1: Verb Syntax		
9/30	Prepositions			WHS §238–308	
10/2	Prepositions			WHS §309–376	
10/5	Negatives	Worksheet: Prepositions		WHS §394–428	
10/7	Conjunction waw			WHS §430–442	
10/9	No Class		QZ04: Vocab (1–200)		
10/12		Worksheet: Conjunction		WHS §443–474	
10/14	Repetition & Plurals		Test 2: Particle Syntax	WHS §6–16	
10/16	Genitive Uses			WHS §36–49	
10/19	Article Uses		QZ05: Genitive Uses	WHS §61–64	
10/21	Accusative			WHS §50–60	
10/23	Apposition			WHS §65–71	
10/26	Usage of Feminine			WHS §20–27	
10/28		Worksheet: Nominals			
10/30	No Class		QZ06: Vocab (1–300)		
11/2	Intro to Translation		Test 3: Nominals Syntax	DeRouchie, 157–72	
11/4	Discussion				Jonah 1:1–5
11/6	Discussion				Jonah 1:6–10
11/9	Discussion				Jonah 1:11–16
11/11	Discussion				Jonah 2:1–5
11/13	No Class	Worksheet: Jonah			Jonah 2:6–11
11/16	Text Blocking			DeRouchie, 98–125	
11/18	Text Blocking			DeRouchie, 182–236	Deut. 4:1–6
11/20	No Class		QZ07: Vocab (1–400)		
Thanks Giving Break (11/23–27)					



11/30	Discussion	Worksheet: Text Block			Deut. 4:7–12
12/2	Discussion				Deut. 4:13–18
12/4	Discussion				Deut. 4:19–24
12/7					
12/9		Syntax Project			
12/11	No Class				
	Final Exam: December 14–16				