

**Note:**

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice.  
The information below is provided as a guide for course selection  
and is not binding in any form.

## MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

### Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

OT6603 Hebrew Syntax and Exegetical Method, 3 credit hours

### Course Description

This course in Biblical Hebrew is studied with two goals in mind: (1) to strengthen skills of getting to the meaning of the Hebrew text through a proper appreciation of syntax and discourse analysis, and (2) to acquire a sound exegetical method in the study of the Hebrew text. It includes issues and methodology pertaining to the analysis and use of textual evidence, lexical data, morphology, syntax, genre, literary analysis, and discourse structure in the process of interpretation. You will further develop skill in the use of Bible research software and digital resources as they engage in the exegetical process.

*Prerequisite: Biblical Hebrew 2*

### Course Objectives

***After completing this course, you will be able to...***

1. Review and explain basic biblical Hebrew syntax and discourse structure through the analysis of biblical passages.
2. Translate and interpret selections of diverse genre from the Hebrew Bible.
3. Integrate biblical language software in the analysis of biblical Hebrew grammar, syntax and discourse.
4. Know text critical principles, and facts pertaining to the history and transmission of the Old Testament, and apply text critical judgment as part of interpreting the Masoretic text.
5. Synthesize information pertaining to genre, grammar, syntax, discourse analysis and literary features, demonstrating awareness of biblical theology and historical backgrounds in the interpretation of an Old Testament passage.

### Course Textbook(s) and/or Supplemental Information

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

*NOTE: Additional content or links to Internet content may be required and will be provided in the course.*

### Assignments

**Guideline for the Discussion Board:** Post your initial response to the discussion question by mid-week (Friday, 11:59pm CT). Then read and respond to at least **TWO** of your classmates' initial posts by the end of the week (Monday, 11:59pm CT).

**Standard for Written Papers:** All papers must be in Turabian style. Each page should be approximately 300 words, 12-pt. Times New Roman font on double-spaced lines with 1" margins. (Therefore, a 2-page paper is approximately 600 words; a 3-page paper is approximately 900 words, etc.) Here is a guide to Turabian style: [http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian\\_citationguide.html](http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html)

### Assignment List

**Assignment 1-1 Quick Glance Noun Chart:** Put together a 2-page quick glance chart that details the basics of the noun system similar to the one posted in this week's lesson. Include the following in the chart: key categories, definitions, English glosses (where helpful), and resource page number utilized (PVP, BHRG etc.).

**Assignment 1-2 History and Transmission of the Hebrew Bible Quiz:** This quiz demonstrates comprehension of the core concepts communicated in Brotzman. This quiz is closed book consisting of multiple choice, matching, and True/False. 10-minute time limit.

**Assignment 1-3 Quick Glance Verb Chart:** Put together a 2-page quick glance chart that details the basics of the verbal system using the template posted in this week's lesson, include the following in the chart: alternative names, definitions, translation tips, English glosses (where helpful), and resource page number utilized (PVP, BHRG, etc.)

**Assignment 1-4 Versions and Manuscripts of the Hebrew Bible Quiz:** This quiz demonstrates comprehension of the core concepts communicated in Brotzman. This quiz is closed book consisting of multiple choice, matching, and True/False. 10-minute time limit.

**Assignment 2-1 Textual Criticism Worksheet:** Complete the Ruth 2:7 and 1 Samuel 17:8 Textual Criticism worksheets by using the textual apparatus in Logos and by using the principles learned in Brotzman. An example of a completed worksheet using Jonah 2:4 has been provided as a guide.

**Assignment 2-2 BHS/Textual Criticism Quiz:** This quiz demonstrates comprehension of the core concepts communicated in Brotzman. This quiz is closed book consisting of multiple choice, matching, and True/False. 10-minute time limit.

**Assignment 2-3 Bibliography:** Complete a Turabian style bibliography of 20 journal articles and monographs on 1 Samuel 17 (no commentaries or older works). This is to prepare you to engage scholarly research for your exegetical paper due in Week 7.

**Assignment 3-1 Word Study:** Produce a 2-page exegetically sound word study on the Hebrew Lemma נצל (rescue, save, deliver etc.) in 1 Samuel 17 integrating the content from this week's resources. Be sure to include discussion on its usage in light of another similar lemma (יָצַע) which is also used in this chapter.

**Assignment 4-1 Hebrew Word Order Chart:** Make a two-page chart and outline and summarize the basic issues regarding Hebrew Word order (Chapter 7 of BHRG and the article by Floor can serve as a base).

**Assignment 4-2 Literary Commentary of 1 Samuel 17 Chart:** Produce a literary commentary chart on 1 Samuel 17 that utilizes the template given in this week’s lesson and incorporates as much as the literary terminology as you can (Scene, plot, dialogue, characterization etc.). Use the Narrative Analysis Worksheet as a guide to prompt. An example of a literary Commentary of Ruth 1 is provided.

**Assignment 5-1 Bible Background Issues:** Write a 500-600 word (2 page) synthesized response to the following Bible Background issues relating to 1 Samuel 17.

- 1) How does geography of the region enhance our understanding of this Hebrew text?
- 2) Why is the Greek LXX text shorter than the MT text in this passage?
- 3) How tall is Goliath? (Be sure to engage the 2 major views)
- 4) How do you address the tension of the chronology of 1 Samuel 16-18? (i.e. Saul not knowing David in light of 1 Samuel 16)

Feel free to use the resources provided this week but be sure to enhance this response with scholarly resources that you have found on your own.

**Assignment 7-1 1 Samuel 17 Exegesis Paper:** This exegetical paper reflects most of the work you have done during this course in regards to 1 Samuel 17. You are to take those previous assignments, correct and revise them, and add new material and submit a 12-page Hebrew exegetical paper. You may include appendices (i.e. your textual critical worksheets, literary commentary, complete word study, etc.) but these do not count towards your page count, nor does your Cover Page, Table of Contents and Turabian Style Bibliography. See the rubric for further details.

### Assessments

Assessments	% of Total
Discussions (12)	36%
Brotzman Quizzes (3)	6%
Charts (3)	12%
Text Criticism Worksheets	5%
Bibliography	5%
Word Study	5%
Literary Commentary	6%
Bible Backgrounds	5%
1 Samuel 17 Exegetical Paper	20%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

COURSE SYLLABUS – OT6603 Hebrew Syntax and Exegetical Method

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Percentage Equivalent</b>	<b>Description</b>
A	96 – 100	Exceptional work
A-	94 – 95	Excellent work
B+	92 – 93	Very good work
B	89 – 91	Good work
B-	87 – 88	Above average work
C+	83 – 86	Average work
C	79 – 82	Work needs improvement
C-	75 – 78	Minimally acceptable work
F	< 75	Unacceptable work