



Rothberg International School  
בית הספר לתלמידים מחו"ל ע"ש רוטברג  
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM  
האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים



Department of Summer Courses  
and Special Programs

המחלקה לקורסי קיץ  
ותוכניות מיוחדות

## **Biblical Hebrew – Elementary Level**

**48527 / SPLA011**

*Dr. Barak Dan*

**June 16 – July 17, 2025**

150 Academic Hours, 10 Academic Credits

Contact Details Instructor

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**Tentative syllabus**

### **Course Description**

The aim of this five week intensive course is to teach the basic grammar (phonology, morphology and syntax) and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew. Starting with the Hebrew alphabet, we will eventually read from different passages of the Bible with the help of a biblical Hebrew lexicon.

### **Course Requirements**

- ***Class attendance and participation***

It is mandatory for all students to attend classes. Failure to attend classes will result in a student being denied the right to partake of the final assignment and receive a final grade in a course. Students who have a justified reason to miss class (illness, mourning, etc.) must communicate with their instructor and the Department of Summer Courses and Special Programs, and complete the material that they have missed.

- ***Preparation of homework***
- ***Final Exam***

## Assessment

The final grade of the course is given according to a final exam grade (80%) and a class grade (20%). The class grade is given according to the attendance, participation and homework preparation.

## Course Outline

**Monday, June 16, 2025 – registration day. Classes start on Tuesday, June 17.**

- **Week 1**

Alphabet and vowel signs; Shewa, dagesh and mappiq; nouns and adjectives; the definite article; nominal sentences; prepositions; the construct state; personal pronouns; pronominal suffixes; demonstrative pronouns.

- **Week 2**

Numerals; roots and patterns; verbal stems; tenses and moods; the strong verbs (Qal stem and derived stems).

- **Week 3**

Object suffixes; weak verbs (initial aleph verbs, initial yod verbs, initial nun verbs, final aleph verbs, final yod verbs, hollow verbs and geminate verbs).

**Weeks 4–5**

Reading and translating.

- **Final Exam – Wednesday, July 16, 2025; 8:30–11:00**
- **Exams returned on July 17.**

The course does not follow a specific textbook. All students should bring to class a Hebrew Bible. It is strongly recommended that students be familiar with the Hebrew alphabet and its vowel signs before the course begins.

## Bibliography

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R. Halabe, *Hinneh – Biblical Hebrew the Practical Way*, 2 vols. + tool box, Vancouver 2010 / Jerusalem 2011<sup>2</sup>. **Overseas library 492.408 H157 (Hebrew)**

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#### C. Grammars

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