

LSC Use Only No:	LSC Action-Date:	UWUCC USE Only No.	UWUCC Action-Date:	Senate Action Date:
		02-37a	App 3/18/03	App 4/1/03

Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Contact Person T. Holm	Username THOLM
Department Philosophy and Religious Studies	Phone 7-2310

Check all appropriate lines and complete information as requested. Use a separate cover sheet for each course proposal and for each program proposal.

1. **Course Proposals**
 New Course _____ Course Number and/or Title Change _____ Course Deletion
 _____ Course Revision _____ Course Description Change

Course prefix, number and full title	RLST130/CRLG114 Biblical Hebrew I
	Proposed course prefix, number and full title, if changing

2. **Additional Course Designations: check if appropriate**
 _____ This course is also proposed as a Liberal Studies Course.
 _____ This course is also proposed as an Honors College Course.

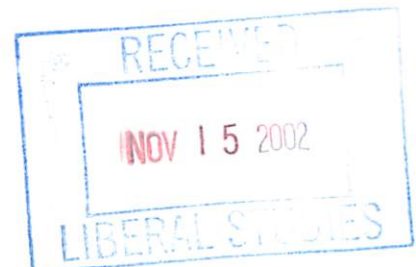
3. **Program Proposals**
 _____ New Degree Program _____ Program Title Change _____ Program Revision
 _____ New Minor Program _____ New Track

Current program name	Proposed program name, if changing
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4. **Approvals**

	Date
Department Curriculum Committee Chair <i>[Signature]</i>	
Department Chair <i>[Signature]</i>	
College Curriculum Committee Chair <i>[Signature]</i>	11/13/02
College Dean <i>[Signature]</i>	11/13/02
Director of Liberal Studies *	
Director of Honors College *	
Provost *	
Additional signatures as appropriate: (include title)	
UWUCC Chair for APSCUF <i>[Signature]</i>	3-18-03

* where applicable



I. Catalog Description

RLST130/CRLG114 Biblical Hebrew I

Prerequisite: none

3 credits
3 lecture hours
0 lab hour
(3c-01-3sh)

The objective of this course is to enable students to read the prose of Biblical Hebrew or Classical Hebrew - that is, the major language in which the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament was written during the first millennium B.C.E. By learning the fundamentals of Biblical Hebrew grammar and vocabulary, students will thus acquire the tools and skill to do translation of this important ancient text for themselves.

II. Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, students should:

1. Know the pronunciation of and be able to write the 23 letters of the alphabet and the vowel markings of Biblical Hebrew.
2. Know the major Hebrew patterns for forming nouns and verbs from the tri-consonantal roots of Hebrew and be able to use a Biblical Hebrew lexicon (dictionary) effectively to find the roots and related words.
3. Know the noun and adjective inflections (that is, gender and number), as well as the nominal/adjectival construct forms.
4. Know the major prepositions, the definite article, and the major interrogative particles.
5. Know the Qal (basic or ground) verbal stem and the formation of the Qal participles and the Perfect tense/aspect.
6. Know the independent personal pronouns and the suffixal forms of pronouns on nouns and prepositions.
7. Be able to understand the syntax of verbless clauses, as well as that of verb clauses with Qal participles and the Perfect tense/aspect.
7. Know approximately half of the vocabulary words which occur in the Hebrew Bible fifty times or more.

III. Course Outline

(Based on the main required textbook by C. L. Seow)

- A. The Alphabet and Script, ch. 1 (3 hours)
- B. The Syllables and Simple Vowels, ch. 2 (3 hours)
- C. The Noun: Gender and Number, ch. 3 (3 hours)
- D. Hebrew Roots and Patterns (3 hours)
 1. Using the Dictionary/Lexicon, ch. 4

- 2. Special roots such as geminate nouns, segolate nouns, irregular plurals, ch. 4
- E. The Definite Article and Prepositions, ch. 6 (3 hours)
 - 1. Definite Article
 - 2. Prepositions
- F. Adjectival Patterns, ch. 7 (3 hours)
- G. Beginning the Verb, ch. 8 (3 hours)
 - 1. Overview of Verbal Patterns
 - 2. Qal Active and Passive Participles
- H. Independent Pronouns and Suffixed or Object Pronouns, ch. 9 (4 hours)
- I. Demonstratives, particles of existence and negation, interrogatives, ch. 10 (4 hours)
- J. The Construct Chain, ch. 11 (3 hours)
- K. Nouns with Pronominal Suffixes, ch. 12 (3 hours)
- L. The Qal Perfect (4 hours)
 - 1. Qal Perfect of regular verbs, ch. 13
 - 2. Qal Perfect of irregular and weak verbs, ch. 14

IV. Evaluation Methods

- 25% Homework (from the lessons in the teaching grammar as assigned), and participation in class as homework is reviewed by students and professor.
- 20% Weekly quizzes on mostly vocabulary, but occasionally some points of grammar.
- 25% Midterm exam.
- 30% Final exam.

Grading Scale: 100-90% = A, 89-80% = B, 79-70% = C, 69-60% = D, <60% = F

V. Attendance Policy

Student participation and preparation is essential to a good grade in the course. Therefore, students are expected to have good attendance and may not miss more than three class hours in the semester; absences over three are not excused unless the student provides documentation from a health professional or a university official for an illness or emergency. Students who inform the instructor of an illness or emergency as soon as possible are allowed to turn in late homework or reschedule an exam or quiz within a reasonable time limit. Late homework, quizzes, or exams are otherwise not accepted without some deduction of grade points.

VI. Required textbooks

- F. Brown, S. R. Driver and C. A. Briggs, *Hebrew and English Lexicon*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1979.
- C. L. Seow, *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*, rev. ed., Nashville: Abingdon, 1995.

VII. Special Resource Requirements

There are no special resource requirements.

VIII. Bibliography

A Hebrew Bible

A. Alt et al., eds., *Biblia hebraica Stuttgartensia*, 5th ed. Stuttgart: Bibelgesellschaft, 1997.

Dictionaries and Lexica

F. Brown, S. R. Driver and C. A. Briggs, *Hebrew and English Lexicon*, Hendrickson, 1979.

Clines, D. J. A., ed. *The Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1993-98.

W. L. Holladay. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.

L. Koehler and W. Baumgartner. *Hebräisches und aramäisches Lexikon zum Alten Testament, I-IV*. Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1967-1990. Translated into English as *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*, 5 vols., and revised by M. E. J. Richardson et al. Leiden: Brill, 1994. English study edition in 2 vols. by Leiden: Brill, 2001.

Reference Grammars

H. Bauer and P. Leander. *Historische Grammatik der hebräischen Sprache des Alten Testamentes*. Halle: Max Niemeyer, 1922. Reprint: Hildesheim/Zürich/New York: Georg Olms, 1991.

G. Bergsträsser. *Hebräische Grammatik I/II*. Hildesheim/Zürich: George Olms, 1986.

J. Blau. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. 2nd ed. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 1993.

W. Gesenius. *Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar*. Edited and enlarged by E. Kautzsch. 2nd ed. Revised by A. Cowley. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1910.

P. Joüon. *Grammaire de l'Hébreu biblique*. Rome: Pontifical Biblical Inst., 1923. Translated into English as *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*, 2 vols., and revised by T. Muraoka, same publisher, 1991.

Rudolf Meyer. *Hebräische Grammatik*. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 1966.

B. K. Waltke and M. O'Connor. *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1990.

Hebrew Concordance

Even-Shoshan, Abraham, ed. *A New Concordance of the Old Testament Using the Hebrew and Aramaic Text*. 2nd ed. Baker, 1989.

History of the language

Sáenz-Badillos, Angel. *A History of the Hebrew Language*. Transl. by John Elwolde. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Course Analysis Questionnaire

A. Details of the Course

A1. This course is one of the controlled electives for students in the BA in Religious Studies. As a Critical Languages course, Biblical Hebrew satisfies the college foreign language requirement if a student takes levels I-IV. The reason for which the course is now being proposed as a joint cross-listing with Religious Studies is so that a larger number of students (up to 25) may be accommodated (rather than the limited numbers usually tutored in the Critical Languages program), especially having in mind Religious Studies majors and minors who require a Biblical language for their careers and/or graduate school. This is true also for a suggested Biblical Hebrew II (RLST230/CRLG164), being proposed separately. Usually a second year (levels III-IV) has a reduced number of students enrolled, therefore it is suggested that only levels I-II be regular courses on the curriculum in order to accommodate a larger number. Those few students wishing to take levels III-IV may take those courses through Critical Languages.

A2. This course does not require changes in any other course in the department. A program revision of the BA in Religious Studies will include this course among the controlled electives.

A3. This course has been offered as Special Topics 281 in Fall 2000 and Special Topics 281 in Fall 2001. 21 students were enrolled in Fall 2000, and 22 were enrolled in Fall 2001.

A4. This course is not intended to be dual level.

A5. This course is not to be taken for variable credit.

A6. Similar courses are offered at the following institutions, among others:

- University of Wisconsin, Madison: Biblical Hebrew
- University of Rochester: Elementary Biblical Hebrew
- University of Texas at Austin: First Year Biblical Hebrew I
- University of Washington: Biblical Hebrew I
- University of Michigan: Elementary Biblical Hebrew

A7. No professional society, accrediting authority, law or other external agency recommends or requires the content or skills of this proposed course.

B. Interdisciplinary Implications

B1. This course will be taught by one instructor.

B2. The content of this course does not overlap with any other at the University.

B3. This course is cross-listed with Critical Languages. See also comments under A1 above.

C. Implementation

C1. No new faculty member is required to teach this course. This course will be counted as one preparation and three hours of equated workload.

C2. Other resources:

- a. Current space allocations are adequate to offer this course.
- b. No special equipment is needed for this course.
- c. No laboratory supplies are necessary for this course.
- d. Library holdings are adequate.
- e. No travel funds are necessary.

C3. The resources for this course are not funded by any grant.

C4. This course will be offered every other Fall semester.

C5. One section will be offered at a time.

C6. Up to 25 students can be accommodated in this class in which students do a considerable amount of participating verbally.

C7. No professional society recommends enrollment limits or parameters for this course.

C8. This course does not involve the use of telecourses or the use of interactive technologies.

D. Miscellaneous

No additional information is necessary.

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October 28, 2002

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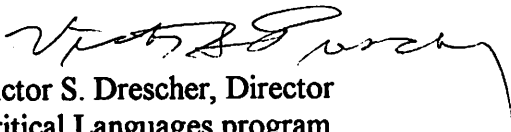
Dear Dr. Holm:

Thank you for sharing with me your course proposal for RLST 130 Biblical Hebrew One. As you know, we have offered this course jointly, cross-listing it with CRLG 114 Hebrew One, on two occasions now, and that has worked quite well. The purpose of this letter is to voice my strong support for your proposal.

Your point is well taken that Biblical Hebrew is essential for your majors, and yet your numbers clearly exceed the enrollment parameters of the Critical Languages Program, which caters to groups of fewer than ten students. Therefore, in order for Biblical Hebrew to be a useful course offering for your group, a new form of delivering the course is necessary. I believe we have accomplished this in the past few years with the cross-listing. To the best of my knowledge, there were no problems or complications of any kind during the two years that we did that. And the few students who did want to continue on with Hebrew III and IV were easily accommodated by the Critical Languages format.

I want to congratulate you for the solid work you have done on this course over the past three years. If there is anything else I can do to support your efforts, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Victor S. Drescher, Director
Critical Languages program