**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**VIRTUAL CAMPUS**

**SCHOOL OF RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY**

**Wayland Mission Statement:** Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**Course Title and Number:** *HEBR 5303 Hebrew Tools for Ministry*

**Term:** *Spring 1 2023*

**Name of Instructor:** *Dr. Donald Raney*

**WBU Email Address:** donald.raney@wayland.wbu.edu

**Catalog Description:** Introduction to the Hebrew language and practice in the use of exegetical tools for understanding Old Testament texts, concentrating on the practical exploration of the Hebrew Old Testament rather than extensive memorization of Hebrew forms and vocabulary.

**Required Textbooks:**

*Hebrew for the Rest of Us* by Lee M. Fields. Published by Zondervan, 2008.

ISBN: 9780310277095

*Student's Vocabulary for Biblical Hebrew and Aramaic* by Larry Mitchel. Published by Zondervan, 2017. ISBN: 9780310533870

*Using Old Testament Hebrew in Preaching* by Paul Wegner. Published by Kregel, 2009.

ISBN: 9780825439360

*The New Strong's Expanded Exhaustive Concordance* by James Strong. Published by Thomas Nelson, 2010. ISBN 9781418541682

**Course Outcome Competencies:**

At the end of this course, the student should demonstrate the following:

1. Understanding of the Hebrew alphabet and basics of Hebrew grammar.

2. Acquisition of a basic vocabulary of the most frequently used Hebrew words.

3. Familiarity with and proficiency in using various biblical Hebrew reference tools.

4. Understanding of the principles for effective word studies and their proper use in exegesis.

**Attendance Requirements:** Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active

participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online

courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are

required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 3 or more weeks of an 11 week term, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given term is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus.

Services for the Disabled: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any education program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

**Academic Honesty (Plagiarism): University students are expected to conduct themselves according to the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work. It is the student’s responsibility to be familiar with penalties associates with plagiarism stated in the catalog.**

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:**

Beginning with week 2, students will take a weekly quiz over the 10 vocabulary words assigned for the week. The quizzes are not proctored but should be taken without any written aids and should be taken by midnight Central Time on Saturday each week. There will not be quizzes during the two exam weeks but new vocabulary for those weeks will be included on the exams.

Each week students will submit a written assignment based on the exercises in the textbook. These may be completed using written aids and should be submitted by midnight Central Time on Saturday each week.

Each student will write a 3 page review of *Using Old Testament Hebrew in Preaching*. This review should not simply summarize the content of the book, but discuss what the student gained from the reading. This may also contain any questions which the book raised for the student.

Each student will take two exams covering the textbook materials and vocabulary. While the vocabulary portion should be taken without aids, the remainder of the exams will be open book (you may use the textbook and concordance). The second exam will only cover material covered since the first exam. The exams do not need to be proctored and students will have a week to take each exam.

Each student will write a 5-page (not counting title page and bibliography) exegesis paper on Psalm 8 during the final two weeks of class. This paper should demonstrate the student's familiarity with the use of the various exegetical tools as well as including the student's own thoughts and conclusions. Form and style for the paper must follow that of the latest version of Turabian. You may access a shortened form of Turabian on the Wayland Religion Dept. web site. Additional information and instructions will give given later in the class.

**Course Evaluation (Method of Determining Grade)**

Weekly Assignments 15%

Weekly Quizzes 20%

Exam 1 15%

Final Exam 15%

Exegesis Paper 25%

Book Review 10%

Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

**Tentative Schedule:**

Jan. 16-22 Introduction to Hebrew Bible and Alphabet Fields: Preface, chap. 1-4

Jan. 23-29 Roots and Clauses Fields: chap. 5 and 6

Jan. 30-Feb. 5 Prefixes Fields: chap. 7, 8, and 10

Feb. 6-12` Nouns and Adjectives Fields: chap. 9, 11, and 12

EXAM 1

Feb. 13-19 Introduction to Verbs Fields: chap. 13-15

Feb. 20-26 Verbals Fields: chap. 16, and 17

REVIEW DUE

Feb. 27-Mar. 5 Using the Tools for Exegesis Fields: chap. 18-21

EXAM 2

Mar. 6-11 Exegesis paper