



Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit - 2021-2022

Hebrew III + Old Testament

Course Code	G_BATRSPC117
Credits	6
Period	P6
Course Level	100
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Religion and Theology
Course Coordinator	prof. dr. E. van Staalduine-Sulman
Examiner	C. Staps MA MSc.
Teaching Staff	dr. M.L. Folmer, prof. dr. E. van Staalduine-Sulman, C. Staps MA MSc.
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Seminar

Course Objective

1. Hebrew

After completing this module the student is able to:

- recognize morphological and syntactic phenomena of Biblical Hebrew;
- independently analyze a piece of Biblical Hebrew prose of a higher degree of difficulty grammatically and translate it into (good) Dutch using a grammar and dictionary;
- reflect on different interpretation choices;
- consult the text-critical apparatus of the Biblia Hebraica with resources.

2. Old Testament

After completing this module the student:

- has an overview of the content of the Old Testament history and of the world in which it originated;
- has insight in the scientific approaches of the Old Testament.

Course Content

The module is partly a continuation of Hebrew 2. This course further deepens the knowledge of the grammar and vocabulary of Biblical Hebrew and improves reading skills. The focus of the course is on the grammatical analysis and translation of Biblical Hebrew texts, with special attention to the syntax of Biblical Hebrew prose. Students also learn to consult the text-critical device and to use the information when translating. In addition to prose, students also read a single chapter of poetry and / or prophetic text. Both class and independent texts are read.

Three credits of this module is focused on the introduction into the Old Testament in its contexts.

Teaching Methods

Lectures and seminars (using Hebrew Online Learner)

Method of Assessment

A written summative test at the end of the course for both Hebrew and Introduction OT (50% for each part). The test might come in the form of a written exam via a Zoom session, if necessary with regard to corona measures.

For the Introduction OT part, questions will be given which make the reading and studying of the book easier. Each of these questions could be an exam question. If necessary (with regard to Covid-19), the exam of this part will be a kind of paper, in which students must answer several questions of the reading guide.

Entry Requirements

Completion of Hebrew 2 prior to the Hebrew 3 course is highly recommended and presupposed in the handling of the course material.

Literature

Hebrew:

- K. Elliger, W. Rudolph, (eds), Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia, z.pl.z.j. editio minor.
- J. P. Lettinga, Grammatica van het bijbels Hebreeuws (12de herziene editie uit 2012; inclusief Leerboek).
- F. Brown, S. Driver and Ch. Briggs, The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament. Uitgave Hendrickson Publishers.

Old Testament:

- Michael D. Coogan, A Brief Introduction to the Old Testament (New York & Oxford: University Press, 2012), 3-59, 80-134; 149-366

Additional Information

- Attendance is compulsory for these lectures;
- For this course it is necessary to have a laptop or tablet.

Custom Course Registration

This course consists of two parts: Hebrew 3 (3 EC) and Old Testament introduction (3 EC). As long as there are no foreign students for this course, Dutch-speaking students will join the Hebrew 3 of the Bachelor of Theology (VU - PThU) course (3 EC). These Dutch-speaking students should still register for this English course, because this is simply the course that comes with their package. Students who do not speak Dutch and yet must follow Hebrew 3 (3 EC) are requested to report to the coordinator of this English course Hebrew 3: e.van.staaldune-sulman@vu.nl All students of the international Bachelor must follow the other half of the course, viz. Old Testament Introduction (3 EC).

Recommended background knowledge

Completion of Hebrew 2 prior to the Hebrew 3 course is highly recommended and presupposed in the handling of the course material.