

AL1005W Introduction to Biblical Languages

Offered: 2018: Semester 1

This subject introduces students to Biblical Hebrew and New Testament Greek, and equips them with skills which will enable them to utilise language resources within lexicons, commentaries and electronic resources. Students will learn the alphabets of both Hebrew and Greek, and be familiarised with basic grammatical features of both languages, and be equipped with an elementary vocabulary. An introduction to interpretive implications of translation and textual considerations will provide a platform for further study in a particular language.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Recognise and reproduce the Hebrew and Greek alphabets
2. Demonstrate an understanding of basic Hebrew and Greek grammar
3. Demonstrate recognition of elementary vocabulary in Biblical Hebrew and Greek
4. Demonstrate a working knowledge of relevant grammatical and lexical tools
5. Translate simple phrases from Biblical Hebrew and Greek into English
6. Utilise the resources of bible software for translation and interpretation
7. Articulate issues that impact on the translation and interpretation of historical languages and their impact for exegesis.

Prerequisites: Nil

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment: Weekly tests (50%)
One exegetical paper or essay using Hebrew (1,500 words) (25%)
One exegetical paper or essay using Greek (1,500 words) (25%)

Faculty: Stephen Field and Megan Turton

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

* Accordance Bible Software, Oaktree Software, www.accordancebible.com

Duff, Jeremy. *The Elements of New Testament Greek*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 3rd edn, 2005

Fields, Lee M. *Hebrew for the Rest of Us*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2013.

Mounce, William D. *Greek for the Rest of Us*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2013.

Mounce, William D. *Basics of Biblical Greek Grammar*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2009.

Silzer, Peter James and Thomas John Finley, *How Biblical Languages Work: A Student's Guide to Learning Greek and Hebrew*. Grand Rapids MI: Kregel Publications, 2004