

BA8010W Ruth

Offered: 2018: Semester 2
[Unit offered alternatively as AL8010W]

This unit is a continuation course building on the skills learned in the unit AL8011W Introduction to Biblical Hebrew, although it will also cover exegetical issues. Students will extend their understanding of Hebrew grammar and vocabulary, while reading through the book of Ruth in Hebrew. As students are reading Ruth, they will be guided through issues of translation, interpretation, and exegesis.

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

1. explain elements of Hebrew grammar, syntax and vocabulary;
2. translate and exegete selected passages from the book of Ruth;
3. work from the Hebrew text by utilising aids for translation and exegesis including: lexicons, concordances, parsing guides and commentaries;
4. evaluate exegetical methods for studying the book of Ruth including: textual criticism, historical dating, source criticism, and, particularly, literary criticism;
5. outline elements of the theology of the book of Ruth; and
6. analyse the distinctive content of the book of Ruth when considered in the wider context of the Hebrew Bible.

Prerequisites: AL8011W Biblical Hebrew or equivalent

Class Time: Three hours per week

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| Assessment: | Weekly tests (equivalent to 2,000 words total) | (30%) |
| | One exegetical paper (2,000 words) | (30%) |
| | One two-hour examination | (40%) |

Faculty: Megan Turton

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

Alter, Robert. *The Art of Biblical Narrative*. New York: Basic Books, 1981.

Beattie, Derek R. G. *Jewish Exegesis of the Book of Ruth*. Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1977.

Brotzman, Ellis R. *Old Testament Textual Criticism*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.

Brown, Francis, S, R, Driver and Charles A. Briggs. *A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1906.

Bush, Frederic W. *Ruth/Esther*. Dallas: Word, 1996.

Campbell, Edward F. *Ruth*. Garden City: Doubleday, 1975.

Clines, David J. A. (ed.). *The Dictionary of Classical Hebrew*. (2 vols) Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1993, 1995.

Holladay, William L. *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament*. Leiden: E J Brill, 1971; Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 1972.

Hubbard, Robert L Jr. *The Book of Ruth*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 1988.

LaCocque, Andre. *The feminine unconventional*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1990.

Sakenfeld, Katherine D. *Ruth*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1999.

Sasson, Jack M. *Ruth: A new translation with a philological commentary and a formalist - folklorist interpretation*. Baltimore: John Hopkins University Press, 1979.

Seow, C. L. *A Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Rev. edn. Nashville: Abingdon, 1995.