

Hebrew 1111 Summer Session 1 2024: Elementary Biblical Hebrew

Instructor: Ruth Spivak

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Office Hours: By appointment, via Zoom

Goals:

The **first module** of four sequential modules that together constitute the first half of an introduction to biblical Hebrew. Our objective in the sequence is to take the first steps toward reading the Hebrew Bible in its original language. Our goals are to attain proficiency in reading and writing the Hebrew letters and to gain fundamental vocabulary and grammar skills. In addition to the textbook and videos, learning materials will include authentic Biblical verses and practical exercises in reading, writing, and grammar. This course is designed for students with no previous knowledge of the language.

Required Texts:

The First Hebrew Primer by Simon, E., Motzkin, L., & Resnikoff, I. (2005). EKS Publishing, 3rd edition.

The First Hebrew Primer Answer Book by Simon, E. & Brandt-Finell, Dorey (2002). EKS Publishing, 3rd edition.

Other required materials will be provided on Google Classroom.

Technical Requirements:

- A Randolph College student email account
- Reliable internet access and a device equipped with an integrated camera or webcam
- A free Zoom.us account, preferably with your Randolph email. (Meeting invitations on Classroom and by QR code).

Class Workings and Policies:

This course is divided into five units. Each unit contains the following **mandatory components**:

- Readings from your textbook
- Instructional videos
- One Zoom meeting with instructor
- One assignment
- One quiz

Firm deadlines: Tuesdays by 9PM EST – Assignment due

Wednesdays – Zoom meeting at your assigned time

Fridays by 12AM EST – Quiz due = unit complete

*Please note that on Sunday May 19th there is a compulsory introductory meeting for those beginning 1111. Details TBD.

You'll find pacing guidelines below, but it will be your responsibility to space the work out in order to meet the firm deadlines. I will give swift feedback on turned-in work in order so that you may better progress with confidence.

Most of the work will be through our Google Classroom, which will also be the repository for frequently used materials and references.

Recommended components for each unit:

- Exercises in your textbook: Check your work in your *Primer Answer Key*. (For unit 1 only audio answer key is posted on Google Classroom). Additional materials will be posted to Google Classroom.

Unit Components- Mandatory

	Text pages	Video #	Assignment	Zoom Meeting	Quiz
Unit 1	1-4	1, 2	#1	yes	#1
Unit 2	4-7	3	#2	yes	#2
Unit 3	8-9	4	#3	yes	#3
Unit 4	10-15	5	#4	yes	#4
Unit 5	16-24	6	#5	yes	#5

Videos, assignments, and quizzes are posted on Google Classroom.

Grading Components:

Note that you must handwrite your answers in Hebrew for assignments and quizzes.

Assignments: 25% (5% each) – due Tuesday 9PM EST

Think of them as practice quizzes. You may consult your notes, but you will derive more benefit for quiz preparation if you consult them as little as possible.

Zoom meetings: 25% (5% each)- due Wednesday at your time slot.

You must complete the unit's assignment before your meeting. **Zoom meetings provide you the opportunity to practice skills and to ask questions in a low-pressure setting.** You will be practicing reading and translation skills (in further modules).

Quizzes: 50% (10% each)- due Friday 12 AM EST.

The Honor Code allows you to take quizzes independently. You may not use the text or other references or aids.

Late work/missed deadlines: Work turned in by its unit deadline will receive full credit and feedback; work turned in before the next unit deadline will receive half credit and small feedback; work turned in beyond the next bundle deadline will receive no credit and may receive no feedback.

Recommended 1- credit pacing for those completing one module in the session.

Week	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
May 19-25	Intro meeting		Assignment 1 due	Meeting		Quiz and Unit 1 due	
May 26-June 1			Assignment 2 due	Meeting		Quiz and Unit 2 due	
June 2-June 8			Assignment 3 due	Meeting		Quiz and Unit 3 due	
June 9-June 15			Assignment 4 due	Meeting		Quiz and Unit 4 due	
June 16-June 22			Assignment 5 due	Meeting		Quiz and Unit 5 due	
June 23-June 29				X	X	X	

At this pace, the work spreads out to about an item a day. Of course, different items take different amounts of time and effort. It is important, moreover, that you practice items of reading, writing, vocabulary, and grammar daily. Your textbook, answer key, and flashcards will be of great use in this regard.

Recommended 2- credit pacing for those completing two modules in the session.

Week	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
May 19-25	Intro meeting		Assignments 1,2 due	Meeting		Quizzes and Units 1,2 due	
May 26-June 1			Assignments 3,4 due	Meeting		Quizzes and Units 3,4 due	
June 2-June 8			Assignment 5 due	Meeting		Quiz and Unit 5 due	

