HEB610 — Intermediate Biblical Hebrew
Block- Spring, 2014

Essential Information
Please refer to the following resources for information essential for the successful completion
of courses and degree programs at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Links to these resources are

- NTS Mission Statement & Purpose Degree Objectives
- Tips for online learning success
- NTS library services
- NTS textbook information
- Online technical requirements and Moodle support information
- NTS Student Handbook including statements on quality of work, plagiarism, and
academic probation
- Handbook for Inclusive Language

Instructor Information
Professor: Joseph Coleson, Ph.D.  Email: jecoleson@nts.edu
Office: 816/268-5482
Office Hours: By appointment

Catalog Description
A study of intermediate Hebrew grammar and syntax in preparation for entering an advanced
Hebrew exegesis course. Both Ruth and Jonah will be translated in their entirety.

Course Narrative & Rationale
Having grasped the rudiments of a language’s grammar and syntax, and having memorized two
or three hundred words of its basic vocabulary, one learns to read by reading, to translate by
translating. “Learn by doing” is nowhere a better motto than in language courses. This is the
course in which students begin the lifelong practice of reading Scripture as it first came to us.

Primary learning methodologies in this course are daily individual reading and translation into
English of assigned portions of Ruth and of Jonah from the Hebrew (MT) text, cooperative in-
class review of individual translations, and in-class reading of the Hebrew text.
**Degree Objectives**

This course addresses particularly the following NTS Degree Program Objectives:

- **MDiv Objective 2**: Articulation of the knowledge of God through prayerful, scholarly study and a deepening understanding of the Christian Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments
- **MACFD Objective 1**: A deep personal commitment to God and God’s Church and a passionate, vital, and redemptive ministry formed through an ecclesial understanding of the Word of God, the heritage of the faith, the doctrines of the church, and through participation in the life of the church
- **MAICS Objective 1**: Knowledge of the Christian faith understood in its biblical foundations, historical developments, and theological expressions
- **MA(TS) General Academic and Research Tracks Objective 1**: Skill in academic research and writing
- **MA(TS) General Academic and Research Tracks Objective 2**: Knowledge of the major theological disciplines and their interrelationships
- **MA(TS) General Academic and Research Tracks Objective 3**: Ability to use the theological disciplines to reflect and engage the world as informed, thinking, Christian persons
- **MA(TS) Research Track Objective 4**: Ability to do theological research, critical theological reflection, and graduate-level academic writing.

**Course Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Read the words of the text of the Hebrew Bible
- Recognize and understand most significant aspects of Hebrew grammar and syntax
- Translate, without helps or prompts, approximately 1,000 words of biblical Hebrew vocabulary
- Translate, with minimal prompts, most biblical Hebrew narrative prose.

(Because of the nature and regular discipline of daily translation and reading assignments, each will contribute to the fulfillment of all expected course outcomes.)

**Required Texts**


**Anticipated Translation Schedule (i.e., Course Assignments)**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>10 – Ruth 1:6-10</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>13 – Ruth 1:11-15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>17 – Ruth 1:16-20</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>20 – Ruth 1:21--2:3</td>
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Mar 17 – Reading and Research Week
Mar 31 – Ruth 4:3-7  Apr  3 – Ruth 4:8-12
Apr 14 – Jonah 1:6-10  Apr 17 – Jonah 1:11-16
Apr 28 – Jonah 3:1-5  May  1 – Jonah 3:6-10

(Because of the nature and regular discipline of daily translation and reading assignments, each will contribute to the fulfillment of all expected course outcomes.)

Distribution of Student Learning Hours

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<tr>
<th>Distribution of Student Learning Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Face-to-face class sessions (clock hours)</td>
<td>39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral reading practice</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Translation, Hebrew to English</td>
<td>85</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>160</strong></td>
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Submitting Assignments

Daily translation assignments are to be submitted in the assignments section of our Moodle course.

Inclusive Language

NTS is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people too often use language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, NTS urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussions, and in writing.

Policy Regarding Late Work

For reasons which should be apparent, daily translation assignments cannot be submitted late.

Additional Costs

No course costs are expected beyond NTS tuition, fees, and textbook purchases.

Course Grading

Each daily translation submitted to our Moodle course at class time will receive a letter grade, based on completeness and overall accuracy of the translation. Assuming consistency of class
attendance and adequacy of translations through the semester, a student may expect to earn a course grade of A or B. (For letter grade definitions, please see NTS Student Handbook.)

Reasonable Modifications
In accordance with the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, NTS is committed to providing students with disabilities the opportunity to participate in and benefit from its programs and activities. Accordingly, NTS will make reasonable modifications to its programs and activities to accommodate otherwise qualified students with disabilities, unless such modifications would impose an undue burden on the operation of the particular program or activity or would fundamentally alter the nature or purpose of the program or activity. Students needing accommodation(s) should contact the Office of the Registrar. They also should contact the professor—preferably no later than the end of the first class session—to discuss learning needs and adaptive strategies that have been beneficial in the past.

Class Attendance
Class attendance is essential for realizing maximum benefit from this educational experience. If a student is absent for more than six class hours, the course grade will be lowered. Absences totaling more than eight hours almost certainly will cause a student to fail the course. Prior notification of the professor for any absence is expected, when possible; the professor is to be notified of the reasons for/circumstances of all absences as soon as possible.

Attendance records must be reported for those obtaining Veterans Administration and/or Department of Education benefits. It is the student’s responsibility to notify the professor if attendance is to be reported.

Audio and Video Recordings
To foster a safe learning environment in which various viewpoints are respected, both audio and video recordings and transcriptions thereof, by students, are prohibited without the express permission of the faculty member in charge of the course. If permission is granted, redistribution of such recordings and transcriptions outside the scope of the course is prohibited as a matter of Seminary policy.

Students enrolling in video-conferencing courses and/or participating in certain synchronous Moodle activities should be aware that images and voices are transmitted digitally through the video-conferencing equipment and may be recorded. Continued enrollment in such a course constitutes the student’s expression of willingness to participate in the course under these conditions. If you have privacy concerns, please discuss your enrollment with the Registrar.

Course Calendar
(See “Anticipated Translation Schedule,” above.)