
BIBLICAL LANGUAGE CENTER 2017 COURSE CATALOG

Description of Biblical Language Center's Immersion Courses

The Biblical Language Center's goal is for students to fluidly read the Bible with a natural and instant comprehension. Therefore, Biblical Language Center (BLC) immersion courses use living language methods in teaching biblical Hebrew and Koine Greek. This means that more than 90% of classroom time is filled with the spoken biblical language. The result is an internalization of the languages which speeds the pace of learning and improves the reading of the biblical text.

Our courses provide for continual usage and varied repetition of the biblical languages within meaningful and comprehensible contexts. This means that students will assimilate the languages with a creative and thorough assortment of interaction. (Within the professional field of second language acquisition, this kind of class is called communicative language learning and provides maximal comprehensible input, techniques that are at the core of the most successful modern language programs in the world.)

One teaching technique used in the BLC classroom experience is Total Physical Response (TPR) where students respond to commands that require physical movement. This practice is based on the parent-child model where a language learner hears and imitates the leader by physically responding to the language. Just as a child follows a parent's example and begins to internalize the language, so does the BLC student.

TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling) is another method used with students as they advance further and interact with the language. TPRS builds language proficiency in the use of grammatical structures through reading and telling stories. BLC teachers guide the class in creating unique stories based on students' input. By developing these stories completely within an immersed language environment, students further their understanding and thinking within the biblical language.

For homework, students continue to immerse themselves in the language through BLC's audio-lingual materials. These books and related audio tracks review class work from that day and prepare students for the coming class. Depending on the specific course, the audio tracks will correspond either to picture immersion, dialogues for memory work, texts and narratives for familiarization, and/or drills to practice in workbooks.

Occasional class field trips within Israel will also touch on cultural, geographical and historical information connected to the biblical text. Here, texts are read in their related settings while descriptions to the sites are provided in simple forms of the language.

Students desiring academic credit will write a final exam and be issued a six-credit certificate for the four-week immersion courses (90 academic hours, 6 Continuing Education Units) or a three-credit certificate for the two-week immersion courses (45 academic hours, 3 Continuing Education Units). Transfer of credit depends on the student's home institution.

2017 Course Offerings

Summer Session 2017
at Jerusalem Hills Inn, Abu Ghosh, Israel

Hebrew Language

HEB 101. Beginning Biblical Hebrew: “Jonah” (4 weeks, 90 hours)

Course Dates: June 18-July 14, 2017

Orientation: 18 June 2017, Sun (evening)

First Class: 19 June 2017, Mon

Last Class: 14 July 2017, Fri

Course Costs: \$1700 (Tuition and Two Field Trips)

See below for *Course Description*.

HEB 201. Beginning Biblical Hebrew (4 weeks, 90 hours)

Course Dates: July 16-Aug 11, 2017

Orientation: 16 July 2017, Sun (evening)

First Class: 17 July 2017, Mon

Last Class: 11 Aug 2017, Fri

Course Costs: \$1700 (Tuition and Two Field Trips)

See below for *Course Description*.

2016 Course Descriptions

Hebrew Language

HEB 101. Beginning Biblical Hebrew: “Jonah”

Course Prerequisite: Students are required to have listened through and completed *Living Biblical Hebrew, Introduction Part One*, including learning to read and write the Hebrew alphabet. **The online version is highly recommended, as it has extra assessments to help the student progress.*

Course Description: A beginning Hebrew language course, based on the book of Jonah. Students enter the Hebrew language through in-class TPR (Total Physical Response). Noun and verb morphology and syntax patterns for biblical Hebrew narrative are introduced and contextually absorbed. The narrative of Jonah is read, with an emphasis on comprehension, combined with memorizing dialogues and Bible passages (Deut 6:4-9), and participating in ‘live’ language drills. The instruction includes a spoken biblical Hebrew environment to enhance long-term retention and to facilitate future studies in more advanced biblical Hebrew or other dialects of Hebrew.

Course Meetings: M-F, 8:30am-12:30pm

Academic Hours: 90

Course Credits: 6

Course Materials: *Living Biblical Hebrew, Introduction Part One and Two*

HEB 201. Intermediate Biblical Hebrew

Course Prerequisite: Students are required to have listened through *Living Biblical Hebrew, Introduction Part One* (**The online version is highly recommended, as it has extra assessments to help the student progress*), and to have completed the HEB 101 course, or equivalent.

Course Description: An intermediate Hebrew language course, based on a variety of biblical readings, from narrative, legal, prophetic and poetic genres, specifically selected to help students internalize more advanced grammatical structures and understand how they function. Reading fluency is enhanced through using TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling). Noun and verb morphologies are taught and drilled, and vocabulary continues to increase through pictures with audio recordings, extensive biblical readings with annotation, and in class use. The instruction includes a spoken biblical Hebrew environment to enhance long-term retention and to facilitate future studies in more advanced biblical Hebrew or other dialects of Hebrew.

Course Meetings: M-F, 8:30am-12:30pm

Academic Hours: 90

Course Credits: 6

Course Materials: Intermediate Living Biblical Hebrew