

OT 620 OLD TESTAMENT TEXTUAL CRITICISM

FALL 2022 – PHOENIX SEMINARY



INSTRUCTOR

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DESCRIPTION (from *Student Handbook*)

This course teaches the principles of textual criticism of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. The student will grapple with the problems in the textual history of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and work toward satisfactory solutions by using the primary evidence of Hebrew and Greek sources, other textual traditions as required, and the best of secondary literature.

[4 hours. Prerequisites: OT 512 513 514 & NT 512 513 514]

COURSE OUTCOMES

1. Articulate the principles of Old Testament textual criticism.
2. Know the reigning views of the textual history of the Old Testament.
3. Have first-hand knowledge of some of the major textual problems in the Old Testament.
4. Be acquainted with the character and the translational tendencies of the ancient versions used for textual criticism of the Old Testament.
5. Gain an appreciation for textual scholarship of the Old Testament.

COURSE TEXT(S)

Primary Sources

Elliger, K., and W. Rudolph, et al., eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. 5th ed. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1967/77, 1997.

The available volumes in the *Biblia Hebraica Quinta* series (German Bible Society; 2004–present).

Rahlfs, Alfred, ed. *Septuaginta Id est Vetus Testamentum graece iuxta LXX interpretes*. 2 vols. in one. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1935, 1979, 2004, 2007 (Rahlfs-Hanhart edition).

The available volumes in the *Septuaginta Vetus Testamentum Graecum* series (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht; 1935–present)

Secondary Sources (*required)

Carr, David M. *The Formation of the Hebrew Bible: A New Reconstruction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011.

*Lange, Armin and Emanuel Tov. *Textual History of the Bible: The Hebrew Bible: Volume 1A Overview Articles*. Leiden: Brill, 2016.

Rollston, Christopher A. *Writing and Literacy in the World of Ancient Israel: Epigraphic Evidence from the Iron Age*. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2010.

Schniedewind, William M. *How the Bible Became a Book: The Textualization of Ancient Israel*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005.

Schniedewind, William M. *The Finger of the Scribe: How Scribes Learned to Write the Bible*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2019.

Toorn, Karel Van Der. *Scribal Culture and the Making of the Hebrew Bible*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2007.

The students may find the following resources helpful:

Helpful websites for OT Textual Criticism:

General

- Online Bibles (without apparatus; BHS, Rahlfs' LXX; Vulgate; NT):

<http://www.academic-bible.com/en/online-bibles/>

- Online list of MSS and Editions:

<http://oldtestamenttextualcriticism.blogspot.com/p/online-digital-images.html>

Hebrew

- Dead Sea Scrolls (1QIsa^a et al.)

<http://dss.collections.imj.org.il/>

<http://www.deadseascrolls.org.il/>

- Kennicott (needed to get readings from the Hebrew Medieval mss)

Vol. 1: <https://archive.org/details/vetustestamentum01kenn>

Vol. 2: <https://archive.org/details/vetustestamentum02kenn>

- DeRossi (needed to get readings from the Hebrew Medieval mss)

Vol. 1:

<http://books.google.com/books/reader?id=tK0WAAAAQAAJ&printsec=frontcover&output=reader&pg=GBS.PR1>

Vol. 2:

<http://books.google.com/books/reader?id=33dBAAAACAAJ&printsec=frontcover&output=reader&pg=GBS.PR1>

Vol. 3:

http://books.google.com/books?id=8XdBAAAACAAJ&printsec=frontcover&dq=Variae+lectiones+Veteris+Testamenti,+ex+immensa+mss.+editorumque+...,+Volume+3&hl=en&sa=X&ei=c42_UJzaFqaa2AXTy0CABQ&ved=0CDYQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q&f=false

Vol. 4:

<http://books.google.com/books?id=->

http://books.google.com/books?id=-BuKcwIIxVYC&printsec=frontcover&dq=Variae+lectiones+Veteris+Testamenti,+ex+immensa+mss.+editorumque+...,+Volume+4&hl=en&sa=X&ei=oo2_UJLgGc-_2QWow4HICw&ved=0CDMQ6AEwAQ#v=onepage&q=Variae%20lectiones%20Veteris%20Testamenti%20ex%20immensa%20mss.%20editorumque%20...%20Volume%204&f=false

Greek

- *New English Translation of the Septuagint* (NETS)
<http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/nets/>

- Field's Hexapla (for the readings of Aquila, Symmachus, and Theodotion when there is no Göttingen Edition):

Vol. 1: <http://archive.org/details/origenhexapla01unknuoft>

Vol. 2: <http://archive.org/details/origenhexapla02unknuoft>

Latin

- Whitaker's Words (Latin Parsing tool):

<http://ablemedia.com/ctcweb/showcase/whitakerwords.html>

Aramaic and Syriac

- Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon (Aramaic Targums and Syriac Peshitta):

<http://cal1.cn.huc.edu/>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Primary Readings [25%] <i>[Outcomes 1–5]</i>	Readings in the primary sources according to the course schedule.
2. Secondary Readings [10%] <i>[Outcomes 1–5]</i>	Readings in relevant secondary literature.
3. TC Paper [25%] <i>[Outcomes 1–5]</i>	The paper treats a major textual variant in the text history of the Hebrew Bible / Old Testament. The student will present on the problem to the class.
4. Book Review [20%] <i>[Outcomes 1–5]</i>	The review is of a significant, recent monograph. The student reviews the work and prepares a <u>detailed</u> summary and review of book and presents it to the class.
5. Presentations [2 x 10% = 20%] <i>[Outcomes 1–5]</i>	Presentations will be on manuscript readings (2x), reviewed books, and the student's paper on a particular problem in OT textual criticism.

GRADING INFORMATION

The percentage ranges are given as guidelines which the instructor has freedom to modify.

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Points	Description
A+	100–97	4.0	
A	96–93	4.0	Excellent; superior achievement.
A-	92–90	3.7	
B+	89–87	3.3	
B	86–83	3.0	Good; commendable achievement.
B-	82–80	2.7	
C+	79–77	2.3	
C	76–73	2.0	Satisfactory; acceptable achievement.
C-	72–70	1.7	
D+	69–67	1.3	
D	66–63	1.0	Poor; marginal achievement.
D-	62–60	0.7	
F	59–0	0.0	Failure to advance in the course. No credit earned. Computed in GPA.

SEMINARY ACADEMIC POLICIES

All Seminary policies affecting student work, appeals, and grievances, as outlined in the Student Handbook and/or Seminary Catalog will apply, unless otherwise indicated in this syllabus. See the respective sections of the *Student Handbook*.

Assignment Policies

Reading and writing are essential habits to form while in seminary for the benefit of present and future ministry. Planning for submitting work on time in seminary should help create the habits necessary for ministry. Papers are to be submitted in electronic format on the due date according to the syllabus. Papers should be type-written and proofread carefully before submission. Take the time to read your work out loud to yourself or anyone who will listen to it. Each assignment should include a title page and conform to the style of Phoenix Seminary Guidelines for papers. **Late submissions will be accepted but marked down a third of a letter grade each day (e.g. A+ > A > A-) that they are not submitted.**

COURSE SCHEDULE

Class	Topics	Assignments, Preparation & Reading
	Prolegomena	
Week 1	Course Overview	Syllabus
	OT Textual Criticism	Gentry (2020) Wegner BBR (2013) Trebolle Barrera OUP (2013) Meade (forthcoming)
	Sources	
Week 2	Dead Sea Scrolls	THB 1A: 112–166
	Qumran	Cross (1961 and 1999)
	Text	Isaiah 58 in MT ¹ , 1QIsa ^a , and 1QIsa ^b
Week 3	Dead Sea Scrolls	Gentry and Meade (2020)
	Non-Qumran	
	Text	Psalms 82:1–83:17a in MT and MasPs ^a
Week 4	Dead Sea Scrolls	Tov (1982)
	Qumran	Chiesa (1991)
	Text	Decalogue (Deut. 5): 4QDeut ^a ; Nash Papyrus; MT
Week 5	Dead Sea Scrolls	
	Qumran	
	Text	Psalms 145:1–7; 13–21 in MT and 11QPs ^a
Week 6	Pre-/Samaritan Pent.	THB 1A: 166–175
	Text	Decalogue Part 2: Exodus 20:1–17 in MT and SP Numbers 21:10–23 in MT, SP, and 4QNum ^b
Week 7	Old Greek/LXX	THB 1A: 191–211 Gooding (1986) Aejmelaeus (2020)
	Text	1 Samuel 17:1–18:6 in MT, LXX (Rahlfs), and 4QSam ^a
Week 8	Old Greek/LXX	THB 1B: 581–5

	Text	Ezekiel 37:22–28; 40:1–4 in MT, OG (Ziegler), and Ra 967
Week 9	Old Greek/LXX	THB 1C: 542–554
	Text	Daniel 12:1–13
Week 10	Kaige Tradition	THB 1A: 211–235
	Jewish Revisions	
	Origen’s Hexapla & Tetrapla	
	Other Christian Revisions	
NO CLASS		
	Text	Aquila 3 Reigns (1 Kings) 21(20):7–17; 4 Reigns (2 Kings) 23:12–27 in MT, OG (Rahlfs), and Burkitt
		Theodotion Job 26:4-12, MT and OG (Ziegler)
Week 11	Targumim	THB 1A: 239–262
	Text	Job 42:9–11 in MT, OG, and 11QTgJob
		Genesis 4:1-10 in MT, OG, Targum Onkelos (<i>The Aramaic Bible</i>)
		Genesis 1:1–5 in MT, OG, Aquila, and Targums Neofitti and Onkelos
		Song of Songs 1:1–4
Week 12	Peshitta and Vulgate	THB 1A: 262–278
		M.P. Weitzman (1994)
		THB 1A: 278–289
		H.P. Smith (1891)
Week 13	Review Presentations	
11/16	Reading Days	NO CLASS
11/23	Thanksgiving	NO CLASS
Week 14	Paper Presentations	
Week 15	Paper Submission	

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Syriac - see THB.

Targums - see THB / Comprehensive Aramaic Lexicon (<http://cal1.cn.huc.edu>).

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Vulgate - see THB.

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11QPs^a (Great Psalms Scroll): <https://www.deadseascrolls.org.il/explore-the-archive/image/B-285190>.

4QDeutⁿ: <https://www.deadseascrolls.org.il/explore-the-archive/image/B-298337>.

11QTgJob: <https://www.deadseascrolls.org.il/explore-the-archive/image/B-285223>.