



Department/School Name: School of Theology and Christian Ministry

Course Number and Name: HEB 2006 Biblical Hebrew II

Number of Units: 4

Spring 2025

Meeting days: Mon, Wed, Fri	Instructor title and name: Dr Stephanie Smith Matthews
Meeting times: 12:15 - 1:20 pm	Phone: 619-849-2950
Meeting location: Smee 101	Email: smatthew@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: Wed, May 7, 10:30 am - 1:00 pm	Office location and hours: email to set up appointment

PLNU Mission

To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

General Education Mission

PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world's diverse societies and culture.

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce the student to the basic vocabulary and grammar of classical Hebrew in order that the student might be able to have a working knowledge of the language and be able to work directly with the Hebrew text of the Old Testament (OT). This course is the first of two; together they comprise a year-long introduction to biblical Hebrew.

Cognitive development will be encouraged through textbook readings, classroom lectures/discussions, outside projects, and periodic examinations. Social development will be encouraged through small group interactions and projects. While the study of a language might focus primarily upon cognitive development, spiritual development will also be encouraged as the student is enabled to work with narrative and poetic artistry of an ancient culture, thereby gaining a deeper appreciation for that ancient society as well as a deeper appreciation for the faith reflected in the Hebrew Bible.

Course Learning Outcomes

The professor brings to this class the following intentions for personal and corporate learning. They establish an initial framework for the development of individual and group learning goals. The class sessions, readings, and assignments should enable the student to:

- possess a functional knowledge of Biblical Hebrew **grammar, syntax, and vocabulary**;
- begin developing competency in **reading and translating** the Hebrew Bible's prose and poetry;
- be exposed to various **research resources and reference works** for biblical exegesis;
- explore the **significance** of Hebrew language study for theological **exegesis/interpretation**.

General Education Learning Outcomes

1. Link to GE courses and assessment plan:
<https://assessment.pointloma.edu/academic-assessment/general-education/assessment-plan/>
2. Link to GELOs: [https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/tug-catalog/general-education/Links to an external site.](https://pointloma-public.courseleaf.com/tug-catalog/general-education/Links%20to%20an%20external%20site)
3. GE Learning Outcome (GELO) 2c: Students will demonstrate an understanding of the complex issues faced by diverse groups in global and/or cross-cultural contexts
4. Signature Assignment: Synagogue visit & reflection paper

Required Texts and Recommended Study Resource

Students are responsible for having the required course textbooks prior to the first day of class.

All supplemental materials posted on this course site (including articles, book excerpts, or other documents) are provided for your personal academic use. These materials may be protected by copyright law and should not be duplicated or distributed without permission of the copyright owner.

- E. Simon, I. Resnikoff, and L. Motzkin, *The First Hebrew Primer, 3rd Edition* (Oakland, CA: EKS Publishing, 2005). ISBN: 0939144158 *Same resource from HEB 2005*
- F. Brown, S.R. Driver, and C.A. Briggs, *The Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon* (repr. ed.; Peabody: Hendrickson, 1996) [*"BDB"*] ISBN: 1565632060
- Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. ISBN:9783438052223

Assessment and Grading

Homework Assignments: Homework assignments will be submitted online and graded (and will count) every day! This will primarily be done together as a group in class during the first part of the period before moving on to new material. Homework assignments will be given out in the class period before they are due. *You can relax; there will be no surprises here. You will know exactly what you need to do to be successful every day!*

Quizzes: Vocabulary and grammar quizzes will be given at the rate of about one per week. These are opportunities for the student to reinforce those things you have been learning. The student will drop the 2 lowest quiz grades. *Once again, you can relax; you will know exactly what you need to do to be successful on each occasion.* These quizzes will be taken in-class on Fridays. Online practice quizzes may be made available on Canvas.

Exams: There will be three exams, the third of which will be the final during *final exams week*. The format of and study guides for these celebrations will be posted to the modules.

Synagogue Visit: This semester you will each visit a local synagogue and submit a reflection (written or spoken) of this cultural immersion experience. Guidance will be posted to Canvas

Assessment and Grading

- 35% Homework assignments
- 25% Quizzes (drop 2 lowest)
- 35% Exams (3)
 - Exam 1: 10%
 - Exam 2: 10%
 - Exam 3: 15%
- 5% Synagogue Visit

A	B	C	D	F
A 93-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F Less than 59
A- 90-92	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 63-66	
	B- 80-82	C- 70-72	D- 60-62	

Final Examination Policy

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination on its scheduled day. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Traditional Undergraduate Records: Final Exam Schedules](#) site. If you find yourself scheduled for three (3) or more final examinations on the same day, you are authorized to contact each professor to arrange a different time for one of those exams. However, unless you have three (3) or more exams on the same day, no requests for alternative final examinations will be granted.

Incompletes and Late Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

Spiritual Care

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If you have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact your professor or the [Office of Spiritual Life and Formation](#).

State Authorization

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

PLNU Copyright Policy

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

PLNU Recording Notification

In order to enhance the learning experience, please be advised that this course may be recorded by the professor for educational purposes, and access to these recordings will be limited to enrolled students and authorized personnel.

Note that all recordings are subject to copyright protection. Any unauthorized distribution or publication of these recordings without written approval from the University (refer to the Dean) is strictly prohibited.

PLNU Academic Honesty Policy

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. For all student appeals, faculty

and students should follow the procedures outlined in the University Catalog. See [Academic PoliciesLinks to an external site.](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

You are allowed to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Gemini Pro 1.5, GrammarlyGo, Perplexity, etc) to generate ideas, but you are not allowed to use AI tools to generate content (text, video, audio, images) that will end up in any work submitted to be graded for this course. If you have any doubts about using AI, please gain permission from the instructor.

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center (EAC@pointloma.edu or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will work with the student to create an Accommodation Plan (AP) that outlines allowed accommodations. The EAC makes accommodations available to professors at the student's request.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course. Accommodations are not retroactive so clarifying with the professor at the outset is one of the best ways to promote positive academic outcomes.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC. Students cannot assume that because they had accommodations in the past, their eligibility at PLNU is automatic. All determinations at PLNU must go through the EAC process. This is to protect the privacy of students with disabilities who may not want to disclose this information and are not asking for any special accommodations.

Language and Belonging

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin. Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outside of the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced a bias incident regarding language, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/bias.

Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that accommodations and resources are available through the Title IX Office at pointloma.edu/Title-IX. Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff are required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at counselingservices@pointloma.edu or find a list of campus pastors at pointloma.edu/title-ix.

If you (or someone you know) have experienced other forms of discrimination or bias, you can find more information on reporting and resources at www.pointloma.edu/bias

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an “F” grade.

Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

Use of Technology

In order to be successful in the online environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

Loma Writing Center

The Loma Writing Center exists to help all members of the PLNU community cultivate transferable writing skills to engage their academic, professional, personal, and spiritual communities. We work toward this goal by conducting one-on-one consultation sessions, supporting writing education across the PLNU community, and participating in ongoing writing center research.

Getting feedback from the Loma Writing Center while you're in the process of working on an assignment is a great way to improve the quality of your writing and develop as a writer. You are encouraged to talk with a trained writing consultant about getting started on an assignment, organizing your ideas, finding and citing

sources, revising, editing for grammar and polishing final drafts, and more. For information about how to make in-person or online appointments, see [Loma Writing Center webpage](#) or visit the Loma Writer Center on the first floor of the Ryan Library, room 221.

- Appointment Calendar: <https://plnu.mywconline.com/Links to an external site.>
- Website: <https://www.pointloma.edu/centers-institutes/loma-writing-center>
- Email: writingcenter@pointloma.edu