

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **OTCL 640**

#### **HEBREW SYNTAX & EXEGESIS**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The development of exegetical principles (including text critical, grammatical, historical, and theological factors) and their application to selected readings from the Hebrew Old Testament. (Formerly OTCL 650)

#### **RATIONALE**

The purpose of this course is to develop the student's facility to translate and to interpret the Hebrew Bible for use in personal study, theological reflection, and sermon preparation.

#### **I. PREREQUISITE**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office
- E. School of Divinity Writing Guide:  
<https://www.liberty.edu/divinity/index.cfm?PID=28160>

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

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

- A. Demonstrate a familiarity with the basics of Hebrew grammar and syntax.
- B. Use the Hebrew grammar and lexicon as indispensable tools for translation.
- C. Ascertain the meaning (exegesis) of the Hebrew text within its grammatical context.
- D. Interpret the theological facts supplied by translation and exegesis.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (2)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be at least 400 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 200 words. (MLO: B, D)

D. Word Studies (3)

The student will write three 2–3-page word studies in current Turabian format that focus on the prompts provided in the course. All external sources must be footnoted in current Turabian format. (MLO: B, D)

E. Textual Criticism Response

The student will write a 2–3-page response in current Turabian format to the text critical and interpretive issues found in the biblical passages listed within the course. The response may include external sources in addition to the assigned readings and the Bible. All external sources must be footnoted in current Turabian format. (MLO: A, C)

F. Essays (2)

The student will write two 3–4-page essay responses in current Turabian format to an assignment prompt that addresses grammar and syntax for translation and meaning. Each essay response may include external sources in addition to the assigned readings and the Bible. All external sources must be footnoted in current Turabian format. (MLO: C, D)

G. Exegetical Papers (2)

The student will write 2 research-based exegetical papers in current Turabian format on the provided passages. Each paper is to be 4–5 pages. Each passage has issues of word study, grammar, and syntax. One passage also includes 1 text-critical item. Each paper must include at least 4 external sources in addition to the assigned readings and the Bible. All external sources must be footnoted in current Turabian format. (MLO: A, B, C, D)

## VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

### A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Word Studies (3 at 100 pts ea)	300
Textual Criticism Response	100
Essays (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Exegetical Papers (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

### B. Scale

A = 940–1010   A- = 920–939   B+ = 900–919   B = 860–899   B- = 840–859  
 C+ = 820–839   C = 780–819   C- = 760–779   D+ = 740–759   D = 700–739  
 D- = 680–699   F = 0–679

### C. Style Guidelines

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the [LBTS Writing Guide](#) and the latest edition of the Turabian style manual (*A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style. All other written assignments should use the footnote citation style. Supplemental writing aids are available via the [Online Writing Center](#).

### D. Extra Credit

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

### E. Course Changes

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

### F. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at [equityandcompliance@liberty.edu](mailto:equityandcompliance@liberty.edu). Click to see a full copy of Liberty’s [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **OTCL 640**

Textbooks: Brotzman & Tully, *Old Testament Textual Criticism* (2016).  
Chisholm, *From Exegesis to Exposition* (1998).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Chisholm: chs. 1–2, 4 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Word Study 1	10 0 100
<b>2</b>	Review previous readings 1 presentation 1 website	Word Study 2	100
<b>3</b>	Brotzman & Tully: Introduction, chs. 1–7 Chisholm: ch. 3 1 presentation	DB Forum 1 Word Study 3	100 100
<b>4</b>	Review previous readings 2 presentations 1 website	DB Forum 2 Textual Criticism Response	100 100
<b>5</b>	Chisholm: ch. 5 1 presentation	Essay 1	100
<b>6</b>	Chisholm: ch. 5 1 presentation	Essay 2	100
<b>7</b>	Chisholm: chs. 5–6 1 presentation	Exegetical Paper 1	100
<b>8</b>	Review previous readings 1 presentation	Exegetical Paper 2	100
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE:** Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.