Course Description
An introduction to the language of Biblical Aramaic, including basic grammar, syntax, and vocabulary. 2 credit hours. Prerequisites: Hebrew 1 and Hebrew 2.

Learning Objectives
This course is designed to equip students with the ability to read biblical Aramaic. Our goal is to master the fundamentals of biblical Aramaic grammar and to apply those skills to the art of translating and interpreting the biblical text. The ultimate objective of this course, however, is expressed in Philippians 1:9-11 – “And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ — to the glory and praise of God.”

Method of Instruction
The emphasis in this class is student performance. Students must come prepared to class each day ready to participate in the instructional process. This means that all of the assigned reading and homework from the grammar must be completed by the beginning of the class period for which it is assigned (see COURSE SCHEDULE below). Failure to comply will inhibit acceptable performance and impede the benefit of the classroom experience for other students.

Course Protocols
1. Grading Schedule. The letter grading scale for this course is listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-94%</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86-89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83-85%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-82%</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-79%</td>
<td>F</td>
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2. Attendance. Attendance at each class session is required. No make up exams.

3. Special Needs. In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a disabling condition requiring special accommodations (e.g. tape recorders, special adaptive equipment, special note-taking or test-taking needs) is strongly encouraged to contact the professor at the beginning of the course.

4. Electronic Aids. No computers are permitted in class.

5. Disclaimer. This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the learning objectives, instructional format and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. However, during the course of the semester, the instructor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may appear necessary because of events and circumstances that occur during the semester.
Course Requirements

1. **Weekly Assignments.** Grammar and Translation as stipulated in the course schedule constitutes 60% of the course grade.

2. **Exams.** The two exams constitute 40% of the total course grade (20% each).

Required Textbooks


Hebrew Bible

Additional Resources


Course Schedule

June
25  BBA 1-3
27  BBA 4-6

July
02  BBA 7-9
04  BBA 10-11
09  BBA 12-14
11  BBA 15-17
16  BBA 18-19
18  BBA 20-23
23  BBA Test 1-23
25  Daniel 2

August
01  Daniel 4
06  Daniel 5
08  Daniel 6
13  Daniel 7
15  Daniel 2-7 Test
**Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes**

**Course:** Biblical Aramaic  
**Professor:** Miles V. Van Pelt, Ph.D.  
**Campus:** RTS Jackson  
**Date:** Summer 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation</strong> (oral &amp; written)</td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Scripture** | Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.) | Strong | 1. Working with Aramaic OT Grammar  
2. discussion of exegetical issues |
| **Reformed Theology** | Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards. | Minimal | 1. Discuss the Reformed tradition’s view of use of original languages |
| **Sanctification** | Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification. | Moderate | 1. Scripture memorization in class  
2. Why else would someone study Aramaic |
| **Desire for Worldview** | Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. | Minimal | 1. Better skill with Scripture enhances ability to conform life to God’s Word. |
| **Winsomely Reformed** | Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.) | none |                |
| **Preach** | Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm. | Minimal | 1. Occasionally show exegetical and preaching angles while working on grammar  
2. Aramaic grammar ultimately should affect sermon preparation |
| **Worship** | Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service. | None |                |
| **Shepherd** | Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide. | minimal | 1. An increase in ability to read and interpret Scripture should promote shepherding. |
| **Church/World** | Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | minimal | 1. An increase in ability to read and interpret Scripture should promote better interaction with the world. |