

**HEBREW EXAM FOR
DOCTORAL STUDENTS IN FIELDS OTHER THAN HEBREW BIBLE**

Memorandum of Consensus

General

Two hours will be allowed for the examination, and it will consist of two parts, the time to be divided about equally. In the first part, the student will translate a narrative passage from a pre-assigned book from either the Torah or Former Prophets. In the second part, the student will translate a selection of poetry, usually a psalm or portion of a psalm, with the aid of a lexicon. Computers or other electronic aids may not be used in any portion of the exam.

In preparation, the student should know all Hebrew vocabulary words occurring 25 or more times in the Bible as these are listed in George Landes, *Building Your Biblical Hebrew Vocabulary: Learning Words by Frequency and Cognate* (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature: 2001).

If the first language of the student is not English, a dictionary of the student's first language may be used.

Part I

The student will translate—without the aid of a lexicon—one narrative passage selected from a pre-assigned book from either the Torah or Former Prophets. It is the student's responsibility to ask the examiner, well in advance of the exam, the biblical book from which the passage will be selected. While the student will know the book from which the passages come, the student will not know the exact passages themselves in advance.

Part II

The student will translate—with the aid of a lexicon—one or more selections from the book of Psalms. The particular selection(s) will be made by the examiner and will not be known to the student in advance. The student will be allowed the use of an appropriate lexicon—

- Francis Brown, S. R. Driver, and Charles A. Briggs, eds., *A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*;
- Ludwig Koehler, Walter Baumgartner, M. E. J. Richardson. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* (Unabridged 2-Volume Study Edition).

Evaluation

In assessing the examination, the two parts will be given about equal weight. A numerical grade will be turned in to the GPRS office, but the student's permanent record will show nothing other than "Pass" when that has been achieved. (In GPRS, 80 is the minimum passing grade.)

Approved: November 13, 2017

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