

Hebrew Bible Ph.D. Reading List

[effective September, 2012]

The readings are updated annually. The list published in September is valid for those taking prelims through August of the following year. Items from a recent reading list may be substituted, in consultation with the Graduate Adviser. Most of the readings and texts other than complete books are available in a reading packet. Copies of some of these books are available in the Mansoor Reading Room. Readings done as part of course work should be reviewed. The most recent editions of the following works should be used.

First, **review readings assigned in classes.** They are foundational for the Ph.D. Prelims.

I. General Exam

A. Text and versions

P. S. Alexander, "Jewish Aramaic Translations of Hebrew Scriptures," in *Mikra: Text, Translation, Reading and Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible in Ancient Judaism and Early Christianity*, edited by M. J. Mulder (Assen/Maastricht: Van Gorcum and Minneapolis: Fortress, 1990), 217-53.

N. Fernández Marcos, *The Septuagint in Context: Introduction to the Greek Versions of the Bible* (Brill: Leiden, 2000), 1-172.

K. van der Toorn, *Scribal Culture and the Making of the Hebrew Bible* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2007).

S. Talmon, "Aspects of the Textual Transmission of the Bible in the Light of Qumran Manuscripts," *Textus* 4 (1964) 95-132.

E. Tov, *Textual Criticism of the Hebrew Bible* (third edition; Minneapolis: Fortress, 2011).

E. Tov, *The Text-Critical Use of the Septuagint in Biblical Research* (second edition, Jerusalem: Simor, 1997).

R. Troxel, "Reconstructing the Vorlage of LXX-Isaiah," in *LXX-Isaiah as Translation and Interpretation* (Brill, 2008), 73-85.

E. Ulrich, "The Canonical Process," in *Sha`arei Talmon: Studies in the Bible, Qumran, and the Ancient Near East Presented to Shemaryahu Talmon*, edited by M. Fishbane and E. Tov (Winona Lake, Ind.: Eisenbrauns, 1992), 267-91.

M. Weitzman, *The Syriac Version of the Old Testament* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999).

B. Social science and history

A. Faust, *Israel's Ethnogenesis: Settlement, Interaction, Expansion and Resistance* (Equinox, 2006).

I. Finkelstein, A. Mazar, B. Schmidt, *The Quest for Historical Israel: Debating Archaeology and the History of Early Israel*. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2007.

E. J. van der Steen, "A New Model," in Idem, *Tribes and Territories in Transition* (Peeters, 2004) 295-310.

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

D. M. Master, "State Formation Theory and the Kingdom of Ancient Israel," *JNES* 60 (2001) 117-31.

L. Grabbe, *A History of the Jews and Judaism in the Second Temple Period*, vol. 1 (T&T Clark, 2004) 22-68, 132-364.

S. L. Sanders, *The Invention of Hebrew* (Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2009).

C. Biblical Literature

E. Nicholson. *The Pentateuch in the Twentieth Century: The Legacy of Julius Wellhausen* (Oxford, 1998)

T. B. Dozeman and K. Schmid, eds., *A Farewell to the Yahwist? The Composition of the Pentateuch in Recent European Interpretation* (SBL Symp 34; Atlanta: SBL, 2006), 1-129.

A. de Pury and T. Römer, "Deuteronomistic Historiography: History of Research and Debated Issues," in *Israel Constructs its History: Deuteronomistic Historiography in Recent Research*, edited by A. de Pury, T. Römer, J. D. Macchi (T&T Clark, 2000), 24-141.

U. Becker, "Die Wiederentdeckung des Prophetenbuches." *BTZ* 21 (2004), 30-60.

S. Mowinckel, *The Psalms in Israel's Worship* (Biblical Resource Series; Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, Mich., 2004 [1962]), 1-41.

J. L. Crenshaw, *Old Testament Wisdom: An Introduction* (3rd ed.; Louisville: WJKP, 2010), 4-21.

I. Kalimi, "History, Historiography, Historical Evaluation, And Credibility— Chronicles In Its Context," *Journal of Hebrew Scriptures* 6 (2006) 40-66, http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/JHS/Articles/article_52.pdf

J. Trebelle Barrera, *The Jewish Bible and the Christian Bible: An Introduction to the History of the Bible* (trans. by Wilfred G. E. Watson; Leiden: Brill and Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998).

M. Fishbane, *Biblical Interpretation in Ancient Israel* (Oxford: Clarendon, 1985), 1-32, 66-88, 98-123, 131-137, 281-300, 307-314, 320-350, 410-411, and 435-440.

D. Religion(s) of Israel

B. A. Nakhai, *Archaeology and Religions of Canaan and Israel* (Boston: ASOR, 2001).

B. D. Sommer, *The Bodies of God and the World of Ancient Israel* (Cambridge, 2009).

Z. Zevit, *The Religions of Ancient Israel: A Synthesis of Parallax Approaches* (London: Continuum, 2001).

J. Hutton, "Isaiah 51:9-11 and the Rhetorical Appropriation and Subversion of Hostile Theologies," in *JBL* 126 (2007), 271-303.

E. Ancient Near East

J. Bottéro, *Mesopotamia: Writing, Reasoning, and the Gods* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1992).

M. van de Mieroop, *A History of the Ancient Near East*, second edition (Oxford: Blackwell, 2007).

B. E. Shafer, ed., *Religion in Ancient Egypt: Gods, Myths, and Personal Practice* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1991).

F. Hellenistic and Rabbinic Judaism

J. J. Collins, *Between Athens and Jerusalem: Jewish Identity in the Hellenistic Diaspora* (second edition; Eerdmans, 2000)

C. E. Fonrobert and Martin S. Jaffee eds., *The Cambridge Companion to the Talmud and Rabbinic Literature*. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007).

M. Jaffee, *Early Judaism* (Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 1997).

S. W. Crawford, *Rewriting Scripture in Second Temple Times* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008). – 149pp.

J. J. Collins, *Beyond the Qumran Community: The Sectarian Movement of the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 2009).

II. Hebrew Exam

A. Hebrew Texts

1. Passages translated in the courses on Psalms/Wisdom Lit, Pentateuch, and Isaiah

2. Texts prepared independently: Exod 24-36; Num 1-10; 1 Kgs 1-20; Jer 1-24; Ezek 1-18; Zeph 1-3; Lam 1-5; Job 1-7, 36-37

3. Paleo-Hebrew texts: translation from line-drawings; discussion of language and interpretation: - Gezer Calendar (KAI §182 = *HI Gez* 1); - Siloam Tunnel Inscription (KAI §189 = *HI Silm* 1); - Royal Steward Inscription (KAI §191B = *HI Silw* 1) - Yavneh Yam = Mesad Hashavyahu (KAI §200 = *HI MHsh* 1); - Lachish Letters 2 (KAI §192 = *HI Lach* 2), 3 (KAI §193 = *HI Lach* 3), 4 (KAI §194 = *HI Lach* 4), 5 (KAI §195 = *HI Lach* 5); - Arad Letters 1, 17, 18, 24 (Aharoni, *Arad Inscriptions* = *HI Arad*); - Khirbet El Qom (*HI Qom* 3); - Kuntillet Ajrud (*HI Ajr* 14, 15, 18, 19A, 20).

4. Qumran texts: translation from facsimile, discussion of language and interpretation: - Peshar Habakkuk, cols. 6-8 - Rule of the Community (Serech Hayahad), cols. 1-3 - Rule of the Congregation (Serech Ha'edah), cols. 1-2 - Temple Scroll, cols 45-47 - Sight passages

The following are helpful in reading this material:

J. Charlesworth and F. M. Cross, eds., *The Dead Sea Scrolls: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek Texts with English Translations* (Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1994)

J. Maier, *The Temple Scroll: An Introduction, Translation, and Commentary* (Sheffield: JSOT, 1985)

M. P. Horgan, *Pesharim: Qumran Interpretations of Biblical Books* (Washington: Catholic Biblical Association, 1979).

B. Massorah

Translation of marked notes from the Massorah Qatanah and questions about phenomena in the Massoretic text. Demonstration of an ability to divide verses down to the third dichotomy on the basis of Massoretic accents. In preparation for this part of the exam consult I. Yeivin, *Introduction to the Tiberian Masorah*, translated and edited by E. J. Revell (Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1980), 1-153.

C. Secondary Literature

W. Bodine, ed., *Linguistics and Biblical Hebrew* (Winona Lake, Ind.: Eisenbrauns, 1992).

B. Waltke and M. O'Connor, *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax* (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 1990).

Ellen van Wolde, *Reframing Biblical Studies: When Language and Text Meet Culture, Cognition, and Context* (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2009).

III. Northwest Semitic Languages (translation from original script; discussion of language and interpretation)

A. Phoenician: Ahiqar (KAI 1), Yehimilk (KAI 4), Kilamuwa (KAI 24), Karatepe (KAI 26), Marseilles (KAI 69).

B. Moabite: Mesha (KAI 181)

C. Ugaritic: (texts listed by CAT number [*Cuneiform Alphabetic Texts*]) *mythological:* 1.3.III (Anat); 1.17.II:8-40 (Aqht), *ritual* 1.115, *letter* 2.38.

D. Aramaic

1. Biblical Aramaic: Daniel 2-4; Ezra 4-5.

2. Old Aramaic [translation from line-drawings]: Zakir (KAI §202), Sefire I (KAI §222), Bar-RKB (KAI §216), Tel Dan (*Israel Exploration Journal* 43 [1993]: 81-98; 45 [1995]: 1-18 [=KAI §310]), Tel Fekheriyeh (KAI §309).

3. Imperial Aramaic: petition (TAD A4.7 = Cowley #30), memorandum (TAD A4.9 = Cowley #32), letters (TAD A6.7, D7.16), quitclaim (TAD B2.2), Ahiqar (portions in Rosenthal, *Aramaic Handbook* I/1, pp. 15-16).

4. Jewish Palestinian Aramaic: Genesis Apocryphon (portions in Rosenthal, *Aramaic Handbook* I/1, pp. 51-52).

5. Targum: Isaiah 53; Job 42; Song of Songs 4.

E. Syriac

1. Sight passages from OT Peshitta
2. Peshitta (using Leiden edition): Genesis 22; Isaiah 53; Ezekiel 37; Job 42; Esther 1; Song of Songs 4.
3. Ephrem: Commentary on Genesis 22 (T. Muraoka, *Classical Syriac: A Basic Grammar with Chrestomathy* [Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz, 1997], 46*-48*).
4. Isho bar Nun, questions 28-29 [on Gen 22:4, 13] (E. G. Clark, *The Selected Questions of Isho Bar Nun on the Pentateuch* [Leiden: Brill, 1962]).
5. Simon the Stylite (C. Brockelmann, *Syrische Grammatik* [Leipzig: VEB Verlag, 1976], 103*-105.19*)

F. Secondary Literature

- J. Naveh, *Early History of the Alphabet: An Introduction to West Semitic Epigraphy and Palaeography* (2nd edition; Jerusalem: Magnes Press and Hebrew University, 1987).
- A. Rubin, *A Brief Introduction to the Semitic Languages* (Georgias, 2010).
- J. Barr, *Comparative Philology and the Text of the Old Testament*, expanded edition (Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2001).