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


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


B. Social science and history


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


C. Biblical Literature

T. B. Dozeman and K. Schmid, eds., A Farewell to the Yahwist? The Composition of the Pentateuch in Recent European Interpretation (SBLSymp 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.


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


E. Ancient Near East


F. Hellenistic and Rabbinic Judaism


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

**B. Massorah**

**C. Secondary Literature**


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

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

B. Moabite: Mesha (*KAI* 181)


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).
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.


5. Simon the Stylite (C. Brockelmann, *Syrische Grammatik* [Leipzig: VEB Verlag, 1976], 103*-105.19*)

F. Secondary Literature


A. Rubin, *A Brief Introduction to the Semitic Languages* (Georgias, 2010).