

1 credit

Prerequisites: Hebrew 1 and 2; Greek 1 and 2

General Description

In this seminar, students will read and compare Hebrew and Greek versions of the Old Testament and discuss text critical, lexical, and exegetical issues that arise. Proficiency in Biblical Hebrew and Greek required.

Course Objectives

Each week, students will discuss the biblical passage of the day, by providing a comparative reading of both the Hebrew and Old Greek versions. As a result, we will gain

1. Familiarity with the Old Greek versions of the Old Testament as well as the unique issues that arise when dealing with the Greek language found in these versions,
2. Experience with the critical issues that arise when comparing Hebrew and Greek texts, including the distinction between textual variants and multiple editions,
3. Engagement with various theories of the textual transmission, recension, or new translation, and
4. Appreciation of the exegetical value of the Old Greek as a witness to Old Testament manuscripts.

Required Texts

Jobes, Karen H. and Moises Silva. *Invitation to the Septuagint*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.

Rahlfs, Alfred. *Septuaginta*. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1935.

Elliger, Karl and Wilhelm Rudolph (eds.). *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1997.

A Partial List of Recommended Texts

Conybeare, F. C. and St. George Stock. *Grammar of Septuagint Greek: With Selected Readings, Vocabularies, and Updated Indexes*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1988.

Dines, Jennifer M. *The Septuagint*. London: T. & T. Clark, 2004.

Fernández Marcos, Natalio. *The Septuagint in Context: Introduction to the Greek Versions of the Bible*. Leiden: Brill, 2000.

Lust, Johan, Erik Eynikel and Katrin Hauspie. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the Septuagint*. 3rd ed. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2016.

Muraoka, T. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the Septuagint: Chiefly of the Pentateuch and the Twelve Prophets*. Leuven: Peeters, 2010.

Swete, Henry Barclay. *An Introduction to the Old Testament in Greek*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1902. Revised by R. R. Ottley, 1914. Reprint. New York: KTAV, 1968. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1989.

Tov, Emanuel. "The Septuagint." In *Mikra: Text, Translation, Reading and Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible in Ancient Judaism and Early Christianity*, ed. M. Mulder (Assen: Van Gorcum; Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1988), 161-188.

Assignments

Grades will be assigned according to each student's ability to prepare and participate in class discussions including presenting their readings in class and offering a rationale for the readings they present. They will be expected to interact with linguistic and text critical issues that arise with each text.