

The Dead Sea Scrolls

Fall 2011

Hebrew and Semitic Studies 954

Instructor:

Professor Jordan D. Rosenblum

Office: Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies, 1340 Van Hise Hall

Office Hours: Tu 8:30-9:30 am; Th 10:00-11:00 am; and by appointment

E-mail: jrosenblum@wisc.edu

Course Hours:

Tuesday 9:55-11:50 am

Prerequisite(s):

Hebrew 202 or 324, graduate status, or consent of instructor

Course Description:

In this seminar, students will acquire the necessary skills for translating and interpreting the Dead Sea Scrolls in their original language. While the social history and material culture relevant to this corpus will be discussed, particular attention will be paid to understanding the vocabulary, idioms, orthography, and grammar of the scrolls.

Course Goals:

In both written and oral assignments, students will demonstrate a graduate-level ability to translate, parse, and analyze the Dead Sea Scrolls; and to assess the arguments that scholars make and the evidence upon which they base their claims. Students should view this course as a first step towards achieving teaching mastery of this subject.

Honor Code:

Students are expected to follow the University of Wisconsin-Madison Academic Honor Code. If students have any questions about this policy, please speak with the professor. More information on plagiarism can be found at:
http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/QPA_plagiarism.html

Extension Policy:

Extensions on presentations and exams will **not** be granted.

Requirements and Grading:

(1) Class participation and preparation: 30%

Regular preparation and participation are expected. Adequate preparation entails the following: (A) bringing the relevant primary and secondary texts to class (including the Hebrew Bible for each class); (B) reading all relevant texts *prior* to each class session; (C) preparing sufficiently to discuss all texts on a graduate student level; and (D) students *must* be able to translate and parse the text in class without consulting either translations or notes.

(2) Class Presentation: 20%

On the first day, students will also be choose a day to present. The presenter will begin class with a ten-minute discussion of the major historical, textual, archaeological, etc. issues associated with that day's text.

(3) In-class Test: 50%

On **December 13**, students will take an in-class cumulative test. This test will ask students to translate, parse, and discuss selections of the texts studied throughout the course.

Required Books:

(1) Elisha Qimron, *The Hebrew of the Dead Sea Scrolls*

(2) Course packet (available on Learn@UW)

Class Schedule:

September 6	Introduction
September 13	4Q Florilegium
September 20	1Q pHab cols. I-VI
September 27	1Q pHab cols. VII-XIII
October 4	1QS 1:1-2:26
October 11	1QS 7:1-8:27
October 18	4QJub ^a (4Q216) prologue and 1:1-2, 4-7; 1:7-15; 1:26-28
October 25	4QJub ^a (4Q216) 2:1-4; 2:13-24; 4QPseudo-Jub ^a (4Q225) frg. 2, cols. i-ii
November 1	11QTemp cols. XXV-XXIX
November 8	11QTemp cols. XLV-XLVII

November 15	11QTemp cols. XLVIII-L
November 22	NO CLASS: Society of Biblical Literature conference
November 29	4QMMT
December 6	4QMMT
December 13	Test