SYLLABUS

FOR

COURSE NUMBER AND NAME:  BI 4346/5314 Elementary Biblical Aramaic

CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION:  A study of elementary biblical Aramaic with special attention to grammar, syntax and vocabulary. Reading of portions of the Aramaic texts of the Old Testament

PREREQUISITES:  BI 4344 or BI 5307

NUMBER HOURS CREDIT:  3

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Randall C. Bailey

Course Faculty

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Department Chair, V. P. Black College of Biblical Studies

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Dean, V. P. Black College of Biblical Studies

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Disability Services

Project Key, a service for students with disabilities at Faulkner University main campus, serves as the central contact point for all students with disabilities, including: Harris College of Business, V.P. Black College of Biblical Studies, Alabama Christian College of Arts and Sciences, Jones School of Law and all extended campuses. Students are responsible for informing the University of their need for accommodations and services.
I. **PURPOSE:** This course proposes to build on the foundation laid by BI 4344 (if applicable, BI 5307) and furnish exposure to biblical Aramaic to the qualified Hebrew student. This course builds on the process begun in that course (Hebrew grammar, syntax, exegesis, and vocabulary building), introduces the student to text-critical issues inherent in a study of biblical Aramaic.

II. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Upon completion of this course the student will:

A. Have a basic understanding of text critical issues for the passages read.

B. Have studied various text critical issues inherent in the passages read.

C. Be able to demonstrate beginning competency in reading Aramaic Narrative.

D. Specifically, the student will have:

   1. Increased his knowledge of how the ability to read Aramaic Narrative may be used in exegesis of the Old Testament Scriptures.

   2. Developed a stronger faith in God and His inspired word.

   3. Recognized needed adjustments in his own concepts relative to the text-critical issues found in Aramaic portions of the Hebrew Bible.

   4. Sharpened his preaching/teaching abilities by learning how a knowledge of the Aramaic language may be appropriately used.

III. **COURSE PREMISE, PHILOSOPHY AND METHODOLOGY:**

This course reaches its didactic goals through the cooperative efforts of the professor and the student. The *course premise* is that students learn this material best by written assignments, class discussion, and exams that integrate every aspect of the student's learning process. The *course philosophy* is that students who participate to the best of
their ability in all of these areas will have greater success that those who do not. The course methodology involves tests and written assignments designed to afford the student every opportunity to demonstrate competence in the basic understanding the structure of the Aramaic language and its syntax. The professor's responsibility is to provide a proper learning environment for the student to succeed (i.e., pass) in this particular area of study. The student's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the successful completion of all assignments, which prepares that student for class participation and his/her class contributions to the material covered in the various sessions. Each student should also take personal initiative to go beyond these assignments seeking other available data that will, when added to the assignments, give the class a breadth and depth not otherwise available.

IV. CONTENT OUTLINE

A. Jan 12: Introduce Lesson 1: Introduction; Introduce Lesson 2: Basic Concepts
B. Jan 17: Exam Lesson 2; Topic: Introduce Lesson 3
C. Jan 19: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 3; Topic: Introduce Lesson 4
D. Jan 24: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 4; Topic: Introduce Lesson 5
E. Jan 26: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 5; Topic: Introduce Lesson 6
F. Jan 31: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 6; Topic: Introduce Lesson 7
G. Feb 02: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 7; Topic: Introduce Lesson 8
H. Feb 07: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 8; Topic: Introduce Lesson 9
I. Feb 09: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 9; Topic: Introduce Lesson 10
J. Feb 14: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 10; Topic: Introduce Lesson 11
K. Feb 16: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 11; Topic: Introduce Lesson 12
L. Feb 21: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 12; Topic: Introduce Lesson 13
M. Feb 23: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 13; Topic: Introduce Lesson 14
N. Feb 28: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 14; Topic: Introduce Lesson 15
O. Mar 01: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 15; Topic: Introduce Lesson 16
P. Mar 5-8: Lectureship Classes do not Meet
Q. Mar 13: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 16; Topic: Introduce Lesson 17
R. Mar 15: Exam/Exercises, Lesson 17; Topic: Introduce Lesson 18
S. Mar 19-23: Spring Break Classes Do Not Meet
V. Apr 03: Vocabulary Exam over Ezra 5:1-17; Topic: Read Ezra 5:1-17
X. Apr 10: Vocabulary Exam over Dan 2:4b-33; Topic: Read Dan 2:4b-33
Y. Apr 12: Vocabulary Exam over Dan 3:1-33; Topic: Read Dan 3:1-33
Z. Apr 17: Vocabulary Exam over Dan 4:1-34; Topic: Read Dan 4:1-34
AA. Apr 19: Vocabulary Exam over Dan 5:1-30; Topic: Read Dan 5:1-30
BB. Apr 24: Vocabulary Exam over Dan 6:1-29; Topic: Read Dan 6:1-29
CC. Apr 26: Vocabulary Exam over Dan 7:1-28; Topic: Read Dan 7:1-28
DD. Apr 30-May 3: Final Exams

V. RESOURCES:

A. Required Textbooks:


B. Supplementary/Suggested Texts/Resources:


VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

A. Formal Assessment:
1. **Exercises:** to be turned in at the end of the semester; completion of all exercises will receive a grade of 100; incomplete exercises will be marked down accordingly.

2. **Lesson and Vocabulary Quizzes:** administered at the beginning of each class session;
   
   a. These quizzes will come from the lessons.
   
   b. Once the lessons are completed weekly quizzes will come from the vocabulary of each chapter read.

3. **Final Translation Exam:** administered finals week.

B. **Informal Assessment:**

1. regular class attendance in accordance with the University’s 25% rule.

2. **Evaluation of Professor:**
   
   a. *Students must evaluate their professor to be able to be qualified to take the final*
   
   b. *Go to* [http://faulkner.smarterssurveys.com](http://faulkner.smarterssurveys.com)
   
   c. *Evaluate the professor, print the receipt and bring to the final*

VII. **COURSE GRADING:** the student’s final average will be calculated as follows:

   A. 25%: Weekly Quizzes
   B. 25%: Exercises
   C. 50%: Final Translation Examination

VIII. **COURSE CALENDAR:**

   A. Follow the weekly calendar guide under “Content Outline”
   B. Exercises—March 27
   C. Final Exam—April 30-May 3

IX. **INSTRUCTOR CONTACT INFORMATION:**

   A. Syllabus Revised: January 10, 2012
   B. Instructor: Randall C. Bailey, Ph.D.
C. Office: HP 239
D. Phone: 334-386-7663
E. Fax: 334-386-7203
F. Email: rbailey@faulkner.edu
G. BlackBoard: http://faulkner.blackboard.com/
H. Webpage: http://ww2.faulkner.edu/admin/websites/site.cfm?ProfID=rbailey
I. Office Hours: MW 10-12; TR 10-12; F 8-10; by appointment

X. FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION CONTACT LINK:

http://www.faulkner.edu/studentlife/documents/FacultyandAdministration.pdf

XI. ACADEMIC POLICIES:

A. Attendance. See detailed attendance policy under “COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION” above.

B. Academic Honesty. Cheating on an examination, plagiarism on a writing assignment or any other possible action involving academic dishonesty will result in the awarding of a zero for the assignment in question. A second incident will result in a failing grade for the course.

C. Electronic Devices:

1. The use of electronic devices such as cell phones, computers, PDAs, MP3 players, WiFi, etc., are strictly prohibited during assessments (exams, quizzes, etc.). (Laptop computers may be used during instructional time for note taking purposes only.)

2. The use of cell phones during the established instructional time for a class is prohibited. (Cell phones must be turned off or at least set to silent operation during established instructional time.)

3. The use of instant messaging or other textual messaging tools during the established instructional time for a class is prohibited.

4. The use of the camera or imaging function on any device is strictly prohibited due to privacy and safety issues. (Violation will result in confiscation and disciplinary action.)

5. Non-compliance with the above policies will result in at least the confiscation of the device until the end of the class period. (Any and all consequences pertaining to classroom behavior listed in the Faulkner
University Student Handbook may also be applied.)

D.  *Classroom Behavior, Dress, etc.* Regulations in the Student Handbook should be considered the minimum standards for conduct in this classroom.