

Biblical Languages for Fun

Why explore Biblical Languages

Bible texts were written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.

So when we read the Bible in English, we're relying on someone else's translation of the original texts.

But no translation is perfect. Particular features of the style and nature of the original get lost in translation.

Finding out about the key features of Hebrew and New Testament Greek can provide us with much greater insight into the way the Bible was written and what it means.

Knowing some of the linguistic terminology can help us to make better use of biblical commentaries and other resources.

It also gives a taster of what it would be like to learn a Biblical Language.

Find out more about **Biblical Languages for Fun** by watching a video from Revd Dr Simon Stocks, the course lecturer: https://youtu.be/zx1YsZ_752M

What is 'Biblical Languages for Fun'

Biblical Languages for Fun is a year-long set of weekly online sessions that provide a simple introduction to the key features of Hebrew and New Testament Greek.

It opens up some of the issues that translators are faced with, to provide deeper insight into English Bible versions. It will offer a richer understanding of key biblical terms that are rooted in a cultural context. And it will offer a taster of the more demanding task of learning the languages.

Who is the course for?

This online course is open to anyone with an interest in the linguistic features of the Bible and its languages.

The course is offered free of charge. Participants are invited to make donations to the Tattersall Bursary Fund (which supports students facing financial hardship to enable them to continue their studies) [Tattersall Bursary Fund - St Augustine's College of Theology \(staugustinescollege.ac.uk\)](https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk)

What are the entry requirements for Biblical Languages for Fun?

There are no academic qualifications needed.



Classes run on Zoom and all resources will be provided through a website, so confidence with those online platforms is necessary.

Course dates and times: Course sessions will be online, on Tuesdays from 7pm to 8pm. The exact dates are:

- Autumn term 2021: 21st September to 30th November (no class 26th October)
- Winter term 2022: 11th January to 22nd March (no class 15th February)
- Spring term 2022: 19th April to 24th May

What can I expect?

- You will be introduced to the basic features of Hebrew and NT Greek.
- All the resources you need will be provided online.
- The course runs for one hour a week, and there is no expectation of any homework or self-guided learning between classes. However, additional resources will be provided if you wish to use them.
- There will be a limited amount of time for discussion and Q&A in class. There is no provision of any other tutorial support/input.
- There is no assessment and completing the course does not carry any academic qualification.
- The course may be a stepping-stone towards embarking upon one of our formal Biblical Language courses. (<https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/courses/biblical-languages/>). However, it is not an entry requirement for those courses.

Who will be teaching the course?

The course will be taught by the Revd Dr Simon Stocks, Senior Tutor (Hebrew) and Revd Dr Alan le Grys (NT Greek).

Find out about Simon : <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/staff/simon-stocks/>

Find out about Alan: <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/staff/alan-le-grys/>

How do I apply for the course?

Fill in this application form: <https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/applying-for-biblical-languages/>

What is St Augustine's College of Theology?

St Augustine's is the Church of England's longest-standing non-residential theological college. Since our beginnings in 1959, we have grown to become the South East's provider of choice for contextually-based, non-residential education, preparation and formation of licensed lay and ordained ministers. We also have a thriving community of students studying theology for the sheer joy of following high-quality teaching programmes in Christian faith and practice.

Our adventurous community of learning celebrates a diversity of Christian tradition and expression. We welcome anyone seeking an accessible, yet challenging, education in



theology. Our students come from varied backgrounds, including other denominations as well as all branches of the Church of England.