

Middle Egyptian Language and Culture 100, Spring 2020  
Dr. Jay Lemanski

Missouri Western State University  
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences  
Department of History & Geography

Course Number: HIS398-01

CRN: 25308

Class Meeting: Mon. & Wed., 10:00-10:50, Library

E-mail: slemanski@missouriwestern.edu

Office Hours: Mon. & Wed., 11:00-12:30, Tues. & Thurs., 3:30-4:30 (or by appointment) at  
Popplewell 115-C

Office Phone Number: 816.271.4333

**DESCRIPTION & GOALS OF THE COURSE**

This course will primarily focus on the grammar, syntax, and vocabulary of the ancient Egyptian dialect known as Middle Egyptian, which was the spoken language of ancient Egypt roughly from 2100 B.C. to 1600 B.C., but was also the standard hieroglyphic language for the rest of ancient Egyptian history. As a necessary part of this course, students will learn the hieroglyphic writing system. During the course of this class, students will also learn about aspects of ancient Egyptian history and culture including: theology, cosmology, social structure, and literature.

**GOALS & COMPETENCIES OF THE COURSE**

1. Content: Knowledge of the fundamentals of ancient Egyptian grammar, syntax, and vocabulary. Also a competency in not only reading but also writing Middle Egyptian in hieroglyphs.
2. Valuing: Though this course covers ancient Egypt in particular, it is the study of a culture with a different world view than our own. Thus, students will recognize that the traditions of other cultures and the behaviors of individuals are governed by their world views. Different societies define their world and their values differently. Through this students will understand that many courses of action are guided by these value judgments.

**THE BOOKS**

Required

- 1) Allen, James P. *Middle Egyptian: An Introduction to the Language and Culture of Hieroglyphs*. 3rd ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014. [ISBN: 978-1-107-66328-2]
- 2) Primary Sources on Canvas

## **GRADES**

The final grade for the course will be based on the following:

- 50% Quizzes & Exercises
- 25% Midterm Exam
- 25% Final Exam

## **LECTURES**

As indicated on the schedule, there will be a number of lectures in the class, during which the material from the lessons in the Allen book will be presented and discussed.

## **TUTORIALS**

In addition to the lectures there will also be tutorial sections, during which the exercises for the previous lesson will be discussed, material for that lesson will be reviewed, and/or Egyptian calligraphy will be practiced.

## **VOCABULARY**

A number of Middle Egyptian words or phrases will be selected from each of the lessons' exercises for the student to memorize. These will begin with only 10-13 terms per lesson, but as the course progresses will increase to about 19-20. In total, the student will be expected to know roughly 150 words in addition to grammatical morphemes (prepositions, adverbs, pronouns, etc.)

## **QUIZZES**

Frequently during the course there will be number of quizzes. Some of these will cover topical matter, such as geography or history, but the bulk will be quizzes over the signs and the grammar.

## **EXAMS**

There are two exams for the course: 1 midterm and a final exam. The final exam will not be comprehensive. Each exam will be worth 25% of the total grade. Each exam will cover: knowledge of individual hieroglyphic signs, vocabulary, as well as grammatical and syntactic elements. The midterm exam will be on **Mon., Mar. 23rd**, and the final exam will be on **Fri., May 1st, 8:30-10:30**.

## **SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND READINGS**

For the schedule of lecture topics, class readings, assignment due dates, and text dates please consult the course assignment schedule posted on Canvas.

## **ATTENDANCE: UNIVERSITY STATEMENT**

Missouri Western State University has the expectation that students should be active participants in their course-work. Regular class attendance is considered a key element of participation and an essential part of the education experience.

## **COURSE ATTENDANCE POLICY**

There is no attendance policy. However, attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Signing up for a course entails a commitment to attend the classes and do all the work required in the course. Be aware that the exams are primarily based on the material presented in class, and it is impossible to perform well in the class without consistent and regular attendance.

## **GRADING SCALE**

The scale used for grading will be the same one used by the Department of History.

A = 100-90      B = 89-80      C = 79-70      D = 69-60      F = 59 or below

## **LATE ASSIGNMENTS**

1. "On time" is defined as the beginning of class on the day an assignment is marked as due. Any time after that, the assignment will be regarded as late.
2. Assignments will **NOT** be accepted through e-mail, unless permission is given by the professor **beforehand**.
3. To hand assignments in late is NOT a right. Late work will not be accepted. It is the student's responsibility to get all assignments to me on time.

## **MISSING IN-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS OR QUIZZES**

Missing an in-class assignment or quiz due to an un-excused absence cannot be made up. Excused absences will for the most part be due to an athletic or a university event, for which I must receive documentation. In the case of an excused absence, it is up to the student to contact me, and arrange a time at which to make up the assignment or quiz. The assignment or quiz **MUST** be made up within a week of the original due date, after which there will be no opportunity to make up the work.

## **USE OF ONLINE RESOURCES**

Everything that a student needs to pass and excel in this course is provided by the lectures, the primary source readings, and the discussions of those sources. Students therefore are not to use any outside sources, especially online sources, for the completion of any assignments for this class. **If at any point I determine that you have appropriated or adopted any portion of text or idea from an Internet website or unauthorized source without proper and accurate citation, I will dismiss you from the course, submit an "F" for your course grade, and file the violation with the University.** I will be measuring your mastery of this term's lessons, materials, and information, so reliance on unacceptable outside sources, including on-line note and resource repositories, will be treated as academic dishonesty and violations of my and the university's intellectual property rights.

## **MISSING EXAMS**

If a student fails to take an exam when and where scheduled, the student will receive a "0" for the exam. However, if the student has contacted me before the exam, and with a valid and

**documented** excuse has explained why he/she cannot take the exam as scheduled, then an alternate time and place for taking the exam will be arranged at my discretion. If an emergency situation arises at the time of the exam and the student is unable to contact me beforehand, he/she must provide **documentation** of both the emergency and as to why he/she was unable to contact me before the exam

### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

The purpose of exams and papers is to share YOUR ideas, the insights that YOU have gained from the lectures and the sources you have read. Copying someone else's work without acknowledging it as their work and not your own, whether it be a fellow student, a published author, or from a website is **plagiarism**, i.e. an attempt to present someone else's ideas or observations as your own. It is a very serious academic and professional crime. Cheating on a test will result in a score of zero. Violations of academic honesty may result in a failing grade on the assignment or failure in the course. Please consult the Student Handbook for the definition of plagiarism and the procedures for dealing with breaches of academic honesty. The Handbook is available online at <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/handbook/index.pdf>.

### **GRADE APPEAL POLICY**

For details regarding the Departmental Grade Appeal Procedure see "GRADE APPEAL PROCEDURE MATERIALS" which is filed in Popplewell 115. For more details see <https://www.missouriwestern.edu/studentaffairs/wp-content/uploads/sites/292/2014/02/handbook.pdf>. For information about Academic Regulations and Standards Committee, go to <https://www.missouriwestern.edu/facsenate/academic-regulations/>

### **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS**

Students seeking accommodations must first provide documentation of needed accommodations to the Accessibility Resource Center (ARC) located in Eder Hall, Suite 203. Once accommodations have been approved by the ARC, students are responsible for notifying their instructors of those accommodations. This should be done within the first two weeks of classes. Accommodations are not retroactive

### **CLASSROOM RECORDING POLICY**

The course materials that I author, including, but not limited to, PowerPoint slides, Panopto recordings, Canvas screen shots, class hand-outs, web-based and social media content, and course syllabi, are my intellectual property and are protected by copyright law. Students in the course may download and make copies of my course materials for the course student's own use. Students are not allowed to record course proceedings, publicly reproduce or distribute these materials or enable others to do so without my express written consent. Failure to comply with this direction may constitute a violation of the Student Code of Conduct as outlined in the Student Handbook and result in disciplinary action by the University.

### **DISCLOSURE OF CLASS CONTENT**

In the pursuit of history this class well be discussing a number of issues that some may find uncomfortable or even slightly upsetting, including but not limited to: politics, sexuality, and religion. As the instructor it is not for me to promote or denigrate any particular view of these topics, but simply to present how various cultures approach these issues. Nevertheless, the views and practices of the cultures we are studying may clash with a student's own personal values. Also be aware that discussion of such topic can occur outside the classroom and in office consultations with me. Having been informed of this, however, know that by remaining in this class the student has hereby given acknowledgment that the discussion of these topics is part of the course, and that he/she is a willing participant.

### **EXPECTATIONS**

1. Students will be in class on time. Arriving late and coming into the classroom in the middle of the lecture is distracting.
2. Respect for views not one's own. Because we will be examining the different ways that people have and still do understand the universe, students are expected to tolerate all religious and political viewpoints. No racial, sexual, political or religious slurs will be tolerated. It is expected that the comments and observations of participants will be respectfully received.
3. Cell-phones. As a matter of courtesy students are expected to turn off their cell phones, or at the very least turn the ringer to vibrate before coming to class. Also cell-phones are not to be in use during class. It is disrespectful to the instructor and distracting to your fellow students.

### **NOTE ON HARASSMENT, DISCRIMINATION, AND SEXUAL MISCONDUCT**

Consistent with its mission, Missouri Western seeks to assure all community members learn and work in a welcoming and inclusive environment. Title VII, Title IX and University policy prohibit harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. Missouri Western encourages anyone experiencing harassment, discrimination or sexual misconduct to talk to someone from the Campus and Local Resources list found in the Student Handbook (<https://www.missouriwestern.edu/studentaffairs/wp.../handbook.pdf>) about what happened so they can get the support they need and Missouri Western can respond appropriately.

There are both confidential and non-confidential resources and reporting options available to you. Missouri Western is legally obligated to respond to reports of sexual misconduct, and therefore we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of a report, unless made to a confidential resource. Responses may vary from support services to formal investigations. As a faculty member, I am required to report incidents of sexual misconduct and thus cannot guarantee confidentiality. I must provide our Title IX coordinator with relevant details such as the names of those involved in the incident. For more information about policies and resources or reporting options, please visit the following website: <https://www.missouriwestern.edu/titleix/sexual-misconduct-policy/>

Students have received information via email regarding training regarding Title IX. Student employees may have additional required training. Please follow the link in the email sent to your MWSU student account to complete the training. Students who do not complete the training will

receive a hold on their account, prohibiting future semester enrollment until the training is complete. These training courses will ensure that all students are appropriately educated about these important regulations.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER AND ILLNESS POLICY**

In the event that the instructor is unable to make it to a scheduled class session, you will be notified through your university email account, when possible. The e-mail will contain instructions for what you are to do in lieu of coming to class that day.

### **GENERAL STUDIES REQUIREMENTS FOR BACHELOR DEGREES**

General Education at Missouri Western State University consists of a common core of curriculum offerings necessary to equip students for successful and fulfilled lives as educated and active citizens. The required general education curriculum consists of a broad range of courses that assures that all baccalaureate-seeking students acquire academic skills and knowledge necessary for understanding, communicating, and performing in a diverse and complex world. Students completing courses in the general education program will be provided the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills to:

1. Write and speak clearly and effectively
2. Think critically and reason analytically
3. Locate, organize, evaluate, and synthesize information from print and electronic sources;
4. Understand and appreciate moral values and ethical choices
5. Gain a greater awareness of the present by understanding other cultures and times.
6. Understand and enjoy aesthetic experiences and share in related activities
7. Develop an understanding of fundamental mathematical concepts and their applications.
8. Understand common phenomena in the physical and natural environment and understand the methods by which they are studied through lectures and the connected laboratory experience;
9. Understand and appreciate the means of gaining and maintaining mental and physical health.

The knowledge and skill areas #1, 2, 3, & 5 will be emphasized in this course.

### **UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT, AND COURSE POLICIES**

Students should review the Course Policies document for the relevant university, departmental, and course policies for attendance, classroom behavior, academic honesty, student disabilities, harrasment/discrimination/misconduct, make-up exams, and classroom recording.

## Middle Egyptian 100 (HIS 398) Lecture and Reading Schedule

The following schedule must be understood as flexible; minor changes due to falling slightly behind schedule are to be expected. Major changes in the schedule will be announced in class and posted on Canvas.

### Week 1 (Jan. 13th - Jan. 17th)

M (Jan. 13th)

Lecture 1: Lesson 2: Unilateral Signs

Homework: Read Lessons 1 & 26; Memorize Unilateral Signs; Do Exercise 2

W (Jan. 15th)

Quiz over Lesson 1 & Unilateral Signs

Tutorial 1: Lesson 2: Unilateral Signs, Workshop

Homework: Memorize vocab Exercise 2

### Week 2 (Jan. 20th - Jan. 24th)

M (Jan. 20th)

**MLK Day: NO CLASS**

W (Jan. 22nd)

Quiz over vocab Exercise 2

Discussion 1: Essay 1: Ancient Egyptian History

### Week 3 (Jan. 27th - Jan. 31st)

M (Jan. 27th)

Lecture 2: Lesson 3: Multilateral Signs I, Biliterals

Homework: Do Exercise 3; Memorize Bilateral Signs I; Do Exercise 3, ##1-39 Memorize vocab Exercise 3, ##1-39

W (Jan. 29th)

Quiz on vocab Exercise 3, ##1-39

Tutorial 2: Lesson 3: Multilateral Signs I, Biliterals, Workshop I

Homework: Memorize Bilateral Signs II; Do Exercise 3, ##40-78 Memorize vocab Exercise ##40-78

### Week 4 (Feb. 3rd - Feb. 7th)

M (Feb. 3rd)

Quiz on vocab Exercise 3, ##40-78

Tutorial 3: Lesson 3: Multilateral Signs I, Biliterals, Workshop II

Homework: Memorize Bilateral Signs III

W (Feb. 5th)

Quiz on Bilateral Signs I-III

Discussion 2: Essay 2: Ancient Egyptian Geography

Homework: Memorize Ancient Egypt Map

Week 5 (Feb. 10th - Feb. 14th)

M (Feb. 10th)

Quiz on Ancient Egypt Map

Lecture 3: Lesson 3: Multiliteral Signs III, Triliterals & Ideograms

Homework: Do Exercise 3; Memorize vocab Exercise 3, ##1-39

W (Feb. 12th)

Quiz on vocab Exercise 3

Tutorial 4: Lesson 3: Multiliteral Signs III, Triliterals, Workshop

Homework: Memorize vocab Exercise 3, ##40-78

Week 6 (Feb. 17th - Feb. 21st)

M (Feb. 17th)

Quiz on vocab Exercise 3, ##40-78

Discussion 3: Essay 3: Ancient Egyptian Society

W (Feb. 19th)

Lecture 6: Lesson 4: Nouns

Homework: Memorize nominal endings; Do Exercise 4; Memorize vocab Exercise 4

Week 7 (Feb. 24th - Feb. 28th)

M (Feb. 24th)

Quiz over nominal endings & vocab Exercise 4

Tutorial 5: Lesson 4: Nouns, Workshop

W (Feb. 26th)

Discussion 4: Essay 4: The Gods

Week 8 (Mar. 2nd - Mar. 6th)

M (Mar. 2nd)

Lecture 8: Lesson 5: Pronouns I, Personal Pronouns

Homework: Memorize suffix pronouns, dependent pronouns, independent pronouns

W (Mar. 4th)

Quiz on suffix pronouns, dependent pronouns, independent pronouns

Tutorial 7: Lesson 5: Pronouns I, Personal Pronouns, Workshop

Week 9 (Mar. 9th - Mar. 13th)

M (Mar. 9th)

**Spring Break: NO CLASS**

W (Mar. 11th)

**Spring Break: NO CLASS**

Week 10 (Mar. 16th - Mar. 20th)

M (Mar. 16th)

Lecture 9: Lesson 5: Pronouns II, Demonstrative Pronouns

Homework: Memorize demonstrative pronouns; Do Exercise 5; Memorize vocab

Exercise 5

W (Mar. 18th)

Quiz on demonstrative pronouns & vocab Exercise 5

Tutorial 8: Lesson 5: Pronouns II, Demonstrative Pronouns, Workshop

Week 11 (Mar. 23rd - Mar. 27th)

M (Mar. 23rd)

**Mid-Term**

W (Mar. 25th)

Discussion 5: Essay 5: The Gods on Earth

Week 12 (Mar. 30th - Apr. 3rd)

M (Mar. 30th)

Lecture 10: Lesson 6: Adjectives

Homework: Memorize adjectival endings; Do Exercise 6; Memorize vocab Exercise 6

W (Apr. 1st)

Quiz on adjectival endings & vocab Exercise 6

Tutorial 9: Lesson 6: Adjectives, Workshop

Week 13 (Apr. 6th - Apr. 10th)

M (Apr. 6th)

Discussion 6: The King's Names

W (Apr. 8th)

Lecture 11: Lesson 7: Adjectival Sentences I, Adjectival Predicates

Homework: Memorize vocab Exercise 7, ##1-22

Week 14 (Apr. 13th - Apr. 17th)

M (Apr. 13th)

Quiz on vocab Exercise 7, ##1-22

Lecture 12: Lesson 7: Adjectival Sentences II, Nominal Sentences

Homework: Do Exercise 7; Memorize vocab Exercise 7, ##23-42

W (Apr. 15th)

Quiz on vocab Exercise 7, ##23-42

Tutorial 10: Lesson 7: Adjectival Sentences, Workshop

Week 15 (Apr. 20th - Apr. 24th)

M (Apr. 20th)

Lecture 13: Lesson 8: Prepositions and Adverbs I, Prepositions

Homework: Memorize prepositions; Do Exercise 8, ##1-17; Memorize vocab Exercise 8, ##1-17

W (Apr. 22nd)

Quiz over prepositions & vocab Exercise 8, ##1-17.

Lecture 14: Lesson 8: Prepositions and Adverbs II, Prepositional Nisbes & Adverbs

Finals Week (Apr. 27th - May 1st)

F (May 1st)

**FINAL EXAM, 8:30-10:30**