

Donald R. Vance, Ph.D.

Professor of Biblical Languages and Literature

Undergraduate Theology

Oral Roberts University

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Summary

Energetic university professor of Biblical studies, with particular expertise in Biblical languages and literatures as well as Christian apologetics, who teaches from a Charismatic Christian perspective.

Education

- Ph.D. Joint Doctoral Program of the University of Denver and the Iliff School of Theology, 1987–1997. Major: Biblical Interpretation. Dissertation: “Toward a Poetics of Biblical Hebrew Poetry: the Question of Meter.” Established and managed the Ph. D. Student Colloquia on Biblical Studies. Graduated 1997.
The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. Doctoral student in Northwest Semitic Philology, 1982–85. Transferred to Iliff/DU.
- M.A. Institute of Holy Land Studies, Jerusalem, Israel. Degree: Master of Arts in Hebrew Language. Graduated 1982.
Oral Roberts University School of Theology. Master of Arts student and Graduate Fellow, 1979–1980. Transferred to the IHLS.
- B.A. Oral Roberts University. Degree: Bachelor of Arts. Major: Biblical Literature, New Testament. Minor: Biblical Literature, Old Testament. Graduated *cum laude*, 1980.
- A.A. Albany Junior College. Degree: Associate in Arts. Graduated *magna cum laude*, 1977.
The Georgia Institute of Technology. Dean’s List, 1975–1976.

Experience

- Present Tenured Full Professor of Biblical Languages and Literature in the Undergraduate Theology department in the School of Theology and Missions of Oral Roberts University. Courses taught include BLIT 110 Survey of Old Testament Literature, BIB 251 Elementary New Testament Greek I, BIB 252 Elementary New Testament Greek II, BIB 306 Hermeneutics: Principles of Biblical Interpretation, BIB 311 Biblical Hebrew I, BIB 312 Biblical Hebrew II, BIB 319 Hebrew Exegesis, BIB 332 Old Testament Historical Books, BIB 222 Old Testament Introduction, BIB 351 Greek Exegesis I, BIB 352 Greek Exegesis II, BIB 376 Hebrews and General Epistles, BIB 421 Pentateuch, BIB 424 Hebrew Prophets, BIB 437 Psalms and Wisdom Literature, BIB 455 Biblical Aramaic, THE 304 Contemporary Religions in America, and THE 415 Christian Apologetics. For the seminary, have taught Hermeneutics, Ugaritic, Coptic, Syriac, Akkadian and Biblical Aramaic. Responsibilities include being the area advisor for Old Testament and English Bible majors and preparing documentation for North Central Association accreditation site visit. Developed and/or revised the syllabi for all the above courses. Jointly developed the Philosophy of Science course. Associated School Representative for ORU to Jerusalem University College. Coordinator of the Israel Study trip to Israel for each summer. Developed departmental web page and web pages for each course taught in the undergraduate theology department
- 2008 Appointed Dean of Education of the Bible Institute of Ukraine in Kiev, Ukraine for Global Assistance Partners.
- 2008 In October, taught one week modular on the Pentateuch at The Bible University in Sofia, Bulgaria.
- 2008 In June taught one week modular on Hermeneutics at the Practical Missionary Bible School of the Slavic Gospel Church in Seattle, Washington.
- 2008 In May, taught one week modular on the Pentateuch at Southern California Christian College in Palm Springs, CA.
- 2008 In April, taught one week modular on the Pentateuch at the Bible Institute of Ukraine in Kiev, Ukraine.

2007	Became Program Unit Chair of The Writings (including Psalms) Section of the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature.
2004	Promoted to Full Professor.
2004	Over Spring Break and with Gordon Wright, taught on “The Way of Wisdom” at the Bible Institute of Ukraine in Kiev, Ukraine for the unregistered Pentecostals.
2003	Granted Tenure by Oral Roberts University
2000	Promoted to Associate Professor.
1998	Led contingent of ORU students on study tour in Israel with Jerusalem University College.
1997	Promoted to Assistant Professor.
1997	Taught three courses at <i>Livets Ord University</i> in Upsalla, Sweden: Ugaritic, Biblical Hebrew, and Dead Sea Scrolls.
1994	Hired as Instructor in Undergraduate Theology department in the School of Theology and Missions of Oral Roberts University.
1990–1993	Taught each summer an intensive, 10 week, Introduction to Classical Hebrew, offered by a consortium of Colorado Christian University, Denver Seminary, Saint Thomas Seminary, the Iliff School of Theology, the University of Denver, and the Center for Judaic Studies.
1989–92	Taught graduate students advanced Hebrew and introductory Ugaritic at the Iliff School of Theology. In one year, those with an elementary knowledge of Hebrew progressed to the point that they could, among other things, translate Hebrew inscriptions from the original scripts, with 21 out of 21 students successfully completing the course over three years. Taught Ugaritic inductively, reading and vocalizing 119 lines of the Kirta Epic.
1986–87	Adjunct professor of Old Testament in the Undergraduate Department of Theology, Oral Roberts University. Taught Pentateuch, Prophets, and Old Testament History. Students incorporated primary sources (in translation) into their research, as well as garnered an appreciation of the importance of historical geography for understanding the Bible.
1980–82	The NIV Cross Reference Project, Zondervan Publishing House. Evaluated previously collected cross references and compiled additional ones for the Book of Deuteronomy and Psalms 75–100.
1979–80	Graduate Fellow at the Oral Roberts University School of Theology in Hermeneutics and New Testament Introduction. Wrote and delivered lectures incorporating a history of philosophy into the understanding of the development of hermeneutics. In the NTI section, introduced outside lecturers on various topics to supplement the course.

Publications

“Do Daddies Love Their Little Girls in the Bible?” Festschrift for Mishael Caspi, forthcoming 2013.

“A Theology of Sex from an Old Testament Perspective.” Festschrift for J. Harold Ellens, forthcoming 2013.

Leviticus and Numbers for the Leadership Bible, a new translation.

“Women and Sex as Metaphors for Wisdom and Folly and Their Acquisition in the Hebrew Bible,” read in the Biblical Characters in the Three Traditions seminar of the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, July 22–26, 2012

“But Now My Eye Sees You: Job as Charismatic,” read in the Biblical Characters in the Three Traditions section of the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, London, England, July 3–7, 2011

“Meter in Biblical Hebrew Poetry,” for *Encyclopedia of Hebrew Language and Linguistics*. Boston, Mass: Brill USA, forthcoming.

The BHS Hebrew Reader. Peabody, Mass: Hendrickson Publishers, in preparation, expected 2013.

A Hebrew Reader for Jonah and Nahum. Peabody, Mass: Hendrickson Publishers, expected 2013.

Review of Daniel A. Machiela, *the Dead Sea Genesis Apocryphon: A New Text and Translation with Introduction and Special Treatment of Columns 13–17* (STDJ 79; Leiden/Boston: Brill, 2009). Pp. xviii + 326. Appeared in CBQ 73 (2011): 357–59.

“David, Sexual Politics, and the Davidic Promise,” read in the Biblical Characters in the Three Traditions

section of the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Tartu, Estonia, July 25–29, 2010.

“Jonah in the Mirror of Nahum,” read in the Biblical Characters in the Three Traditions section of the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Celebrating the Centenary of the PBI, Rome, Italy, June 30–July 4, 2009.

“The verb יָדַע and the Origin of Apocalyptic” read in the Writings (including Psalms) section of the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Auckland, New Zealand, July 8, 2008.

“The Role of Institutional Objectives in Evaluating Proficiency in Classical Hebrew: Two Case Studies” read at the National Association of Professors of Hebrew Section of the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, California, November 18, 2007.

“The Charismatic World View of Proverbs” read at the Society for Pentecostal Studies Section of the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Diego, California, November 18, 2007.

“Voice in Psalms as Illustrated by Psalm 91” read in the Writings (including Psalms) section at the International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Vienna, Austria, July 26, 2007.

“Psalm 137 Re-examined in the Light of Voice” read in the Biblical Hebrew Poetry section at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Washington, D.C., November 20, 2006.

“The Volitive Sequences Reexamined” read at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, San Antonio, Texas, November 21, 2004.

Review of Max Rogland, *Alleged Non-Past Uses of Qatal in Classical Hebrew*. Studia Semitica Neerlandica - SSN 44. Assen, NL: Van Gorcum, 2003. Published October 3, 2004 on *Review of Biblical Literature*.

Introduction to Classical Hebrew. Boston • Leiden: Brill Academic Publishers, Inc., 2004.

Review of Richard Briggs, *Reading the Bible Wisely*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2003. Published June 6, 2004 on *Review of Biblical Literature*.

A Hebrew Reader for Ruth. Peabody, Mass: Hendrickson Publishers, 2002.

The Question of Meter in Biblical Hebrew Poetry. Studies in Bible and Early Christianity, volume 46. Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press, 2001, xii + 516 pp. Bibliography & Index of Authors.

“Inscriptions, Semitic.” Pages 639–640 in *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible*. Edited by David Noel Freedman. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.

“Toward a Poetics of Biblical Hebrew Poetry: the Question of Meter.” Ph.D. Dissertation, Joint Doctoral Program of the University of Denver and the Iliff School of Theology, 1997.

“Literary Sources for the History of Palestine and Syria: The Phœnician Inscriptions, Part I,” *Biblical Archaeologist* 57:1 (March, 1994), pp. 2–19.

“Literary Sources for the History of Palestine and Syria: The Phœnician Inscriptions, Part II,” *Biblical Archaeologist* 57:2 (June, 1994), pp. 110–120.

“The Poetry of Jeremiah: Is it Metrical?” read at the Annual Meeting of the Southwest Region of the American Schools of Oriental Research, 1994

Article referee for *Biblical Archaeologist*, 1993.

“The Book of Abraham,” *Ex-Mormons and Christians United Newsletter* 3:4–5 (1992).

“Towards a Poetics of Biblical Hebrew Poetry: Defining Meter,” read at the Annual Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Region of the Society of Biblical Literature, 1991.

NIV Cross Reference Project, 1982.

Professional Capabilities

Teaching

Qualified to teach:

- North-West Semitic languages, literatures, and cultures
- Old Testament languages and literatures
- History, archæology, and geography of ancient Israel
- New Testament languages and literatures
- Apologetics

Research

Articles, dissertation, and monographs published. Plan to write for both scholarly and popular audiences.

Languages

Ancient

Sumerian

Coptic

Greek (Homeric and New Testament)

Latin (Classical and Medieval)

North-East Semitic: Old Akkadian, Babylonian, Assyrian

North-West Semitic: pseudo-hieroglyphic inscriptions of Byblos, the Proto-Sinaitic inscriptions, Amorite, Ugaritic, Proto-Canaanite inscriptions, Hebrew (Old Hebrew Inscriptions, Biblical, Tannaitic, Mishnaic, and Medieval), Phoenician and Punic, Moabite, Aramaic (Syriac, Old Aramaic Inscriptions, Imperial, Biblical, and Targumic)

Modern

Hebrew, German, French, Italian, Spanish

Professional Societies

American Schools of Oriental Research

Association of Literary Scholars and Critics

Biblical Archaeological Society

National Association of Professors of Hebrew

National Association of Scholars

Society for Pentecostal Studies

Society of Biblical Literature

Honors

Oral Roberts University Scholar of the Year 2008–09

School of Theology and Missions Nominee for Oral Roberts University Scholar of the Year 2007–08

Alumni Award for Professionalism in the Classroom 2004–05

School of Arts & Sciences Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year 2004

Servant Leadership Award 2003

Oral Roberts University Scholar of the Year 2001

Who's Who Among America's Teachers, 1998, 2000, 2004.

Departmental Faculty Member of the Year, 1996, 2004.

Who's Who in Biblical Studies and Archaeology, 1992–93.

Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities, 1990–91, 1991–92, 1992–93.

First student to teach Hebrew Reading at the Iliff School of Theology, 1990–92.

Scholarship for Iliff School of Theology, 1988–89.

Graduate Fellow at Oral Roberts University School of Theology, 1979–80.

Public Service

Served on the Prioritization Committee of the CDBG, 2006–Present

President of the Kensington Homeowners Association, 2005–2006

Church Life

Member of Central Church of the Nazarene in Tulsa, Oklahoma, 1996–Present

Teacher of the New Covenant Bible Fellowship Class, 2000–Present

Leader and Teacher of Home Fellowship group, 1998–Present

Personal

Divorced with one child: Stephanie Anne. Interests include Macintosh computers and the Internet, science fiction, weight lifting, tennis, and apologetics.