



Jerusalem Center for Bible Translators

The Home for Bible Translators - an Accredited Hebrew University Program since 1995

TEXT IN CONTEXT: **The Book of Proverbs**

Hybrid classes: November 25 – December 13, 2024

Instructors: Murray Salisbury and Ronit Maoz

The goal of this intensive, **full-time** course is to equip you with proverb-specific tools of exegesis and of poetry analysis that will help you make informed decisions about the most likely meaning. More exegetical variations among the translations can be found for Proverbs 10-29 than for any other comparable stretch of Scripture. Translating from any poetic text is not easy. The challenge is even greater for these one-verse 'poems' – individual proverbs that offer little or no context for finding clues that might help us to disambiguate the many ambiguities.

Fortunately, the poets give us clues in other ways – often embedded in the poetry! We will discuss the functions of the poetic devices they use – and how they might point to their intended meaning. You will also learn to examine the cultural, geographical, and historical contexts.

Much of what you will learn can be applied to other poetic parts of the Hebrew Bible, one third of which is written in such beautiful poetry that ambiguities abound.

Hybrid classes

We offer you two options. For the fuller experience, we recommend that you come to Israel and experience the interactions and field trips in person. If that is not possible, then you can apply to join the class by Zoom.

About the instructors: Murray Salisbury is a translation consultant with thirty-three years of experience training 1850 consultants and translators around the world. Ronit Maoz is a licensed Israeli guide. She will take you out on five full-day field trips, giving you hands-on experience with some of the Bible's metaphorical language: Israel's flora, fauna, horticultural and farming practices, geography, weather, seasons, etc.

Prerequisite

Students should ideally have an **advanced** level of Biblical Hebrew. Or **intermediate** if you can put in the extra work to prepare to read poetic texts in class with understanding.

Times

Classes will be held Monday – Friday:
09:00 – 12:00 Israel time (07:00 – 10:00 UTC)
Plus, about 3 hours each day preparing for the next class by completing the exercises.

Applications are open – closing on October 1st for in-person students and on October 31st for online students. The cost for in-person students is US\$2000, including meals, housing, and trips (excluding airfares and visas). The fee for online students is US\$350 to cover the administrative and technical costs. A limited number of scholarships for national consultants and translators are available on application. Class size (including online) is limited, so **apply early**.

Jerusalem Center for Bible Translators, PO Box 40258, Mevasseret Zion, 9080500, ISRAEL

Office Phone: +972-2-579-0201. Email: Office@BibleTranslators.org

Website: <https://bibletranslators.org>