EGYPTIAN (EGYP)

EGYP 110a, Introduction to Classical Hieroglyphic Egyptian I  Staff
Introduction to the language of ancient pharaonic Egypt (Middle Egyptian) and its hieroglyphic writing system, with short historical, literary, and religious texts. Grammatical analysis with exercises in reading, translation, and composition.  L1

EGYP 117a, Elementary Biblical Coptic I  Camille Angelo
The native Egyptian language in the Roman and Byzantine periods. Thorough grounding in grammar and vocabulary of the Sahidic dialect as a basis for reading biblical, monastic, and Gnostic texts. Credit only on completion of EGYP 127.  L1 RP

EGYP 120b, Introduction to Classical Hieroglyphic Egyptian II  Staff
Continuation of EGYP 110. Prerequisite: EGYP 110.  L2 RP

EGYP 127b, Elementary Biblical Coptic II  Ramona Teepe
Continued study of the native Egyptian language in the Roman and Byzantine periods. Thorough grounding in grammar and vocabulary of the Sahidic dialect as a basis for reading biblical, monastic, and Gnostic texts. Prerequisite: EGYP 117.  L2 RP

* EGYP 131a, Intermediate Egyptian I: Literary Texts  John Darnell
This course engages in close reading of Middle Egyptian literary texts in hieroglyphic transcription, along with an introduction to the hieratic (cursive) Egyptian script of the original sources. Primary sources include the Middle Kingdom stories, principally those known by the modern titles “The Story of Sinuhe” and “The Tale of the Eloquent Peasant.” Assigned secondary literature includes reviews of grammatical topics in Middle Egyptian and analyses of the cultural, religious, and historical context of the literary texts. We also read portions of texts from other genres—historical, administrative, etc.—that serve to illuminate concepts and practices appearing in the literary compositions. Prerequisite: EGYP 120 or permission of instructor.  L3

* EGYP 141b, Intermediate Egyptian: Historical Texts  Staff
Close reading of Middle Egyptian historical texts in original hieroglyphic and hieratic script. Initial survey of ancient Egyptian historiography and grammatical forms peculiar to this genre of text. Prerequisite: EGYP 120. Counts as L4 if taken after EGYP 131.  L3 RP

* EGYP 229a, Ancient Egyptian Epistolography  John Darnell
This course engages in close reading of ancient Egyptian letters, along with the development of further proficiency in the hieratic (cursive) Egyptian script (students who have no previous experience with hieratic are given an introduction to the writing system). Primary sources include material of Old Kingdom, Middle Kingdom, New Kingdom, and Third Intermediate Period date. Assigned secondary literature includes analyses of the cultural, religious, and historical context of the letters. Prerequisite: At least one L3 or L4 course or permission of instructor.  L5 RP

* EGYP 230a, Medinet Habu Texts  John Darnell
This seminar engages in close reading of a selection of the myriad of inscriptions in the mortuary temple of Ramesses III at Medinet Habu, on the west bank of ancient Waset (Thebes, modern Luxor). The course provides an overview of the most complete temple to survive from the New Kingdom, a “Temple of Millions of Years.” Readings sample the full range of inscriptions from the temple, including bandeau texts referring to the temple’s construction, historical inscriptions recounting the Sea Peoples invasion and other wars of Ramesses III, religious texts including the processions of Sokar and Min, etc. Additional readings cover supporting materials, such as passages from the Great Papyrus Harris, other monuments of Ramesses III, and late variants of the Book of the Dead. Readings are primarily of hieroglyphic texts, although the course provides an introduction to the cursive hieratic script as well. Prerequisite: at least one L3/4 course or permission of the instructor.  L5 RP

* EGYP 231b, Historical Texts of Egypt and Nubia  John Darnell
This course examines textual evidence regarding Egypt’s relationship with Nubia from the Old Kingdom through the Ramesside Period, focusing on close reading of the texts of royal monuments, private autobiographical inscriptions, military dispatches, and graffiti from the Nubian deserts. Background reading about the history and archaeology of ancient Nubia supplements the interpretation of the texts. Some texts are read in the original hieratic script. Prerequisite: at least one L3 course.  L5 RP