Building on the foundation of RELI /JWST211, this course further explores the linguistic background of the Hebrew Bible, with particular focus on the literary aspect of biblical interpretation. We will consider what it means for the Bible to be a "literary" text, and explore the implications of this claim for our understanding of the Bible in view of its original historical-cultural settings. At the same time, students will deepen their knowledge of Classical Hebrew grammar through an overview of the verbal system, with emphasis on verbal forms, constructions, and sequences that have direct bearing on literary interpretation. The course will include a term paper that provides students the opportunity to present a synthetic interpretation (historical, cultural, literary, and linguistic) of a passage from the Hebrew Bible.