

Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization

HEBR 411, 412, 413

ELEMENTARY MODERN HEBREW

M-T-W- TH -F

Section A 9:30-10:20; Section B 10:30-11:20

Goals:

The sequence HEBREW 411, 412, 413 is a full year course of elementary Modern Hebrew.

The goals of this course are:

- 1) Ability to write and to read both print and script
- 2) Ability to participate in and understand basic conversation on everyday topics
- 3) Ability to compose and understand simple written materials on everyday topics
- 4) Acquisition of a vocabulary of approximately 1000 words
- 5) Understanding of the principles of the structure of the Hebrew language
- 6) Basic acquaintance with the culture expressed through the Hebrew language

Required Texts:

- 1) *Ivrit min hahathalah hehadash (The New Hebrew from Scratch) Level I*, by Shlomit Hayat, Sarah Yisraeli, and Hilah Kobliner (required). Accompanying CDs strongly recommended.
- 2) *Rav milon (The MultiDictionary)*
- 3) Coursepack – available at RAMS copy center

Recommended Texts:

You may wish to consider acquiring the following materials.

- 1) *Speak Hebrew!* Interactive CD-ROM (recommended)
- 2) *501 Hebrew Verbs* - Shmuel Bolozky (recommended).
- 3) *Modern Hebrew: An Essential Grammar*, Lewis Glinert or *a Reference Grammar of Modern Hebrew*, Edna Coffin and Shmuel Bolozky

Website and links

The UW Modern Hebrew program website is accessible at:

<http://depts.washington.edu/modheb/>

The website includes links to a number of resources for learning the language. A particularly useful one is the link to the ulpan (Hebrew language class) at Hebrew University of Jerusalem, which includes exercises for learning the Hebrew alphabet. Additional alphabet exercises, prepared at UW, are available at:

<http://depts.washington.edu/bibheb/modalef/modalef.html>

Student Responsibilities and Grading:

Students are responsible for daily preparation of readings and exercises. Class time will be spent primarily on activities designed to provide practice in reading, writing, listening and speaking. These will include: conversational activities, discussion of texts, listening to and discussing auditory materials, grammatical exercises, and student oral presentations.

Class participation is critical; some of what we do in class will not be in the textbook. The tests will include questions on material covered in class but not found in the textbook. Reviewing new vocabulary and grammatical patterns nightly is important; language learning requires consistency and is inherently cumulative. You can't learn a language without practice.

The textbook is accompanied by CDs for listening practice. You may listen to this material in the Language Learning Center in Denny Hall or purchase a set at the UW Bookstore. During the year we will also be using Speak Hebrew!, an interactive CD-ROM available for use in the Language Learning Center or for purchase (see details on p. 5).

Assignments:

1. There will be 5 tests of equal weight in each quarter. The lowest test score will be dropped.
2. Three compositions in each quarter will be assigned. Handwritten work is fine, but *double space!* If you wish, you may go to the LLC to use their equipment for word-processing in Hebrew.
3. Homework will be assigned daily. Not all homework needs to be turned in; some of it we will go over together in class. At any time, however, the instructor may ask students to turn in homework assignments, and this work will count toward

the homework grade. If students wish to turn in additional homework to get more feedback, the work will be corrected and returned, but not graded.

4. In-class assignments may include dictations, group work, and more. These activities contribute toward a class participation grade.
5. There will be frequent quizzes -- both announced quizzes and pop quizzes. The lowest quiz score will be dropped.

Final grades will be determined as follows:

Tests: 45%
Compositions: 30%
Quizzes: 10%
Participation (in-class assignments): 10%
Homework: 5%

The grading scale is:

4.0 = 95
3.9 = 94
3.8 = 93 etc.

For compositions: A = 95, A- = 91.5, B+ = 88, B = 85, B- = 81.5, C+=78, C=75, C-=71.5.

* Compositions must be submitted on time. The composition's grade will drop one letter grade for each day it is late. Students may submit corrections of their compositions to raise the grade: for example, from a C- to a C; or from a B+ to an A-. Corrected work must be turned in by the date set by the instructor. Only completely corrected assignments will be raised a mark. Compositions that were submitted late cannot be resubmitted.

* Make up policy: There will be ***no*** make-up tests or quizzes. If you miss a test, the instructor will drop that score. In cases of emergency, if you miss an additional test, you have two options: a) receive a zero or b) complete an assignment designated by the instructor. This work will not receive a grade, but satisfactory completion of the assignment will remove the 0 from your record of grades.

*Students who miss in-class assignments because of illness and who wish to make up the work need to provide the instructor with a note from a medical caregiver. The make-up assignment will be designated by the instructor.

*Students are expected to arrive in class on time. Students who arrive late and miss quizzes given at the beginning of the hour will not be able to make up the missed quizzes.

*It is understood that some students will not attend class on religious holidays. Students who miss class for observance of religious holidays will be allowed to make up missed work.

***Turn off all cell phones during class!**

* Extra credit: Occasions may arise during the academic year when students can earn extra credit. A typical occasion would be one that involves attending a lecture, poetry reading, theater production, film or other event that directly concerns Modern Hebrew language, literature or culture. The instructor will inform students of such opportunities. Students will be expected to attend and to write a short composition, in Hebrew, about the event in order to earn .1 on their final grade. (Maximum extra credit: .1 per quarter).

* If you would like to request academic accommodations due to a disability, please contact Disabled Student Services, 448 Schmitz, 543-8924 (V/TDD). If you have a letter from Disabled Student Services indicating you have a disability that requires academic accommodations, please present the letter to the instructor and discuss the accommodations you might need for the class.

* Students should keep a copy of each graded assignment. This is very useful if for any reason an instructor's records get lost or damaged, or if students have a question about calculation of grades. Protect yourself and keep your work. Students should also keep a copy of this syllabus.

*In cases of academic misconduct, such as plagiarism, copying someone's homework, getting inappropriate help with compositions, or cheating on quizzes or exams, the offending student will be penalized in accordance with the policy of the College of Arts and Sciences.

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By enrolling in this class students make a commitment to regular attendance and class participation. Continued enrollment signifies that they have received a copy of this syllabus and that they have been notified of the requirements and grading policies for the course.

If you have any concerns about a course offered by the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization or about a lecturer or teaching assistant in the course, please see that instructor about these concerns as soon as possible. In modern Hebrew classes, if you are not comfortable talking with that instructor or not satisfied with the response you receive, you may contact Prof. Naomi Sokoloff at 206-543-7145 or naosok@u.washington.edu . If you are not satisfied with Prof. Sokoloff's answers, you may contact the Chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilization, Prof. Scott Noegel at 206-543-6928 or snoegel@u.washington.edu.