LANGUAGE EXAMS FOR MODERN HEBREW

Are proficiency exams available for Modern Hebrew language?

Yes. Students who are not enrolled in Modern Hebrew classes, but who wish to satisfy language requirements by demonstrating sufficient knowledge may take a Proficiency Exam. The exam is administered through the Testing Center in the Office of Educational Assessment, located in 440 Schmitz Hall; telephone: 206.543.1171; webpage: http://www.washington.edu/oea/services/testing_center/exams/foreign_language.html#HEBREWTesting. Information on fees and testing dates should be available from those sources. Students must pass this test with a score of 75 or higher. Graduate students taking Modern Hebrew language classes must receive a minimum grade of 2.7 in order to earn credit toward their degrees.

Three exams are available:
1) Deficiency Exam: an exam covering material from the first two quarters of Elementary Modern Hebrew (HEBR 411,412). To receive 10 credits toward an undergraduate degree, students must pass this test with a score of 75 or higher.
2) First Year Proficiency Exam: an exam covering material from all three quarters of Elementary Modern Hebrew (HEBR 411,412, 413). To receive 15 credits toward an undergraduate degree, students must pass this test with a score of 75 or higher; by receiving a passing mark on this exam students qualify to enroll in Intermediate Modern Hebrew (HEBR 421) and they also meet the UW undergraduate foreign language requirement.
3) Second Year Proficiency Exam: an exam covering material from all three quarters of Intermediate Modern Hebrew (HEBR 421, 422, 423). To receive 15 credits toward an undergraduate degree, students must pass this test with a score of 75 or higher. By receiving a passing mark on this exam students meet the NELC requirements and the Jewish Studies Program requirements for 2 years of Hebrew language study.

Is there a placement exam for Modern Hebrew courses? What class should I enroll in?

No. There are proficiency tests, but not placement tests. Students who wish to enroll in a Modern Hebrew language class and are not sure what level is most appropriate should contact Professor Naomi Sokoloff by phone at 206.543.7145 or by e-mail at naosok@uw.edu. The 15 credit elementary sequence (HEBR 411,412,413) is offered once annually, beginning in Autumn quarter. The class usually meets Monday-Friday at 9:30-10:20 a.m. An intensive version of this same course, also earning 15 credits, is offered in Summer quarter (HEBR 401). The class usually meets Monday- Friday 8:30-11:50. For information on enrolling for the summer, consult the following website: http://www.summer.washington.edu/summer/enroll/. The 15 credit intermediate Modern Hebrew course (HEBR 421, 422,423) is offered once annually, beginning in Autumn quarter. The class usually meets Monday-Friday at 10:30-11:20. To enroll in the intermediate course, students must pass HEBR
413, or pass an examination demonstrating equivalent knowledge, or have the permission of Professor Sokoloff.

Students who are native speakers of Hebrew cannot enroll in HEBR 411, 412, 413; HEBR 401; or HEBR 421,422,423. Students who wish to study Modern Hebrew and who are not sure if UW considers them “native speakers” should consult with the admissions office and/or with Professor Sokoloff. Students who speak Hebrew at home but have never studied the language in a formal setting are often considered “near-native speakers.” For placement questions, they should consult with Professor Sokoloff.

**What is the curriculum?**

The current curriculum is based on the textbook *Ivrit Min Hahathalah* (Hebrew from Scratch). Elementary Modern Hebrew (and the summer Intensive Modern Hebrew) cover the material from Level I. Intermediate Modern Hebrew covers the material from Level II. These are textbooks developed by the Ulpan at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. The first year of Modern Hebrew at the UW is roughly equivalent to Level Aleph at that Ulpan; the second year is roughly equivalent to Level Bet.

**Can I get credit by exam?**

Yes. Students who have learned Modern Hebrew outside of the UW and who wish to receive Credit By Examination should follow these steps:

1) During the First Week of the quarter, students should pick up the C.B.E. form in Schmitz 264.

2) Students must receive permission from the Modern Hebrew professor and the department chair to take the exam. Students may contact the NELC Undergraduate Advisor for help obtaining these signatures.

3) Once the form is filled out and signed, students take it and pay a Credit By Exam fee at the Cashier’s Office in Schmitz. Then the form goes to the Graduation and Academic Records office. The form must be filed with GARS no later than Friday of the second week.

4) Contact Testing Services to schedule the exam. Students may choose to take one of the three proficiency exams for credit. All exams taken for credit must take place during the fourth or fifth week of the quarter. Testing Center at the Office of Educational Assessment, located in 440 Schmitz Hall; telephone: 206.543.1171; homepage: [http://www.washington.edu/oea/index.html](http://www.washington.edu/oea/index.html) Information on fees and testing dates should be available from those sources. For more information about Credit By Exam please see [http://www.washington.edu/students/ugrad/advising/aif/credexam.html](http://www.washington.edu/students/ugrad/advising/aif/credexam.html).

**If I want to be admitted to UW and want to show that my knowledge of Hebrew fulfills the foreign language requirement for admission, what do I do?**

Individuals applying for admission to undergraduate programs at the UW are required to have completed 2 years of high school foreign language classes. Those who have not met this requirement (and so have a “deficiency” in their application) may take the Deficiency Exam to demonstrate sufficient knowledge of Modern Hebrew. The exam is administered through the Testing Center.

**Can I use transfer credits in Modern Hebrew towards UW language requirements?**

Students who wish to study Modern Hebrew abroad at Israeli institutions should contact the Office of International Programs and Exchanges. That office can provide information on the proper procedures to follow. Credits will usually transfer as HEBR 411, 412, 413, 421, 422, 423 or 490. If you already have transferred credits from another American or foreign university, then contact Professor
Sokoloff. Students should provide a transcript plus information about the textbooks or curriculum they have studied and the number of in-class hours they spent in their overseas courses.

Help! I tried to register for a course but the class is full. What do I do?

Some courses are often over-enrolled, especially the first quarter of Elementary Modern Hebrew. However, enrollments do shift during the first week of classes. Be sure to get your name on the departmental waiting list (contact: Professor Sokoloff, naosok@uw.edu). Priority goes to majors and minors in NELC and Jewish Studies.