

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF NEAR EASTERN LANGUAGES AND CIVILIZATIONS
Hebrew 120 A and B: Intermediate Modern Hebrew
2021-2022

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Special Covid19 message:

Please make sure to contact Irit or Osnat with any question or problem. Please DO NOT attend class in person if you have any Covid19 symptoms, or are otherwise feeling unwell. At this time, it is even more important than ever to be immediately in touch with us.

Time: M-F, TBD, 1 hour each meeting and a weekly one hour section

Please email [Dr. Aharony](mailto:Dr.Aharony) with any questions.

Course Description: This course is designed for students with a basic understanding of Modern Hebrew grammar and some experience in reading and speaking. The goal of Hebrew 120 is to prepare students for academic work in Hebrew by developing their language skills: grammar and syntax, expanding vocabulary, comprehension, conversation, writing, rapid passive-reading and close reading. At the end of the course the students are expected to be able to conduct a conversation in Hebrew, to understand orders and explanations in Hebrew, and to read the newspaper or texts in light Hebrew. This will be done by handling of various Hebrew texts, from Biblical to modern, fiction (short stories), poetry, popular songs, newspapers and scholarly articles. The class will also provide the students with a view of the multifaceted Israeli culture. The class includes group discussions, oral presentations, viewing and discussion of Israeli movies and other internet and media resources. The class is conducted almost entirely in Hebrew.

Prerequisite: Hebrew B or equivalent.

Tests: There will be 7-8 quizzes during the semester, mostly on Fridays.

Final examination will take place during exam period according to the FAS exam schedule.

Assignments: There will be a short daily assignment. There will also be 2-3 larger assignments during the semester. All assignments will be submitted in handwriting, photographed and sent as attachments by mail.

The students will read a short book in light Hebrew in each of the semesters and submit a weekly report of half a page about their progress.

Grades:

30% quizzes

20% final exam

30% assignments

20% engagement and participation in class and projects

Attendance and Participation: All instructors and TAs will keep an attendance record. If a student misses more than 3 times a semester from classes or conversations total, the final grade will be affected. If students have an emergency and cannot attend class or the quiz, or cannot meet the deadline of an assignment, they should discuss it with the instructor and TA in advance.

Sections: A weekly mandatory 1 hour informal conversation sections will start on the second week of the semester.

Reading period: Review sessions will be conducted during the reading period and class hours will be held as usual. All students are expected to attend these sessions like the regular classes.

Course Materials: All course materials are digitized and can be found on the course canvas site.

Course Site: The students are expected to follow the course canvas site daily. It holds announcements, interactive assignments, news and drills.

Special Course Events: There will be 1-3 Israeli events a semester. Content and date TBA. All students are expected to participate.

Pedagogical tools: There are various pedagogical tools in order to help all types of learners like: digital flash cards, interactive drills and books on tape. Contemporary songs, movies, media products will be used.

Collaboration Statement: Discussion and the exchange of ideas are essential to academic work. For assignments in this course, you are encouraged to consult with your classmates on the choice of paper topics and to share sources. You may find it useful to discuss your chosen topic with your peers, particularly if you are working on the same topic as a classmate. However, you should ensure that any written work you submit for evaluation is the result of your own research and writing and that it reflects your own approach to the topic. You must also adhere to standard citation practices in this discipline and properly cite any books, articles, websites, lectures, etc. that have helped you with your work. If you received any help with your writing (feedback on drafts, etc.), you must also acknowledge this assistance. **In this course we encourage you to speak Hebrew with your peers, to watch movies with them and to create clips or presentations with them. Written homework or written assignment should be done by the students unless mentioned differently by the instructor.**



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