

AS384.115-116

1st Year Hebrew

SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

AS384.115-116 (1st Year Hebrew) is designed for students who have no background in Hebrew and wish to learn the language at an academic level, obtaining knowledge of linguistic aspects of the language as well as skills needed to communicate in Hebrew. The former aspects are acquired through lectures, and the latter through conversation. Each week will combine both elements.

The goal of the course is the simultaneous honing of four skills – speaking, listening, writing, and reading – as well as gaining familiarity with aspects of Hebrew language and culture that are necessary for linguistic competency. By the end of the year, students are expected to have acquired basic speaking and listening comprehension skills as well as the basic knowledge of grammar needed for skillful reading and writing.

The specific objectives of the course are for students to:

- master foundations of the basic grammar (other basic grammar will be covered in 2nd Year Hebrew) and be able to use grammar patterns to create sentences that are related to daily life and sentences that are pragmatically and culturally acceptable in authentic contexts;
- learn basics of Hebrew/Israeli culture, such as annual events and customs;
- understand and execute simple daily conversations to communicate in contexts where Hebrew is spoken, including self introduction, daily routine, description of surroundings, ordering food, shopping, traveling, asking directions, and so on;
- acquire comprehensive reading skills applied to short essays and stories;
- be able to write a short diary and letters.

In a language course like this, it is crucial that students attend every class, since new material is presented every day. Much learning, though, must take place outside of class. This means, among other things, that you should read and review each lesson **BEFORE** that lesson is discussed in class. That is the only way to gain maximum benefit from each class and to avoid falling behind. We would like to remind you that acquiring a language is **NOT something that can be achieved through overnight cramming; rather, it can only be accomplished through the accumulation of daily effort.**

Although attendance is not one of the grading criteria, *it is mandatory to attend all classes.* Excessively lax attendance will be reflected in your course grade, as explained below.

INFORMATION

AS384.116 Spring 2016

INSTRUCTOR

Zvi Cohen, Ph.D.
Hebrew Instructor, CLE
zcohen3@jhu.edu

צבי כהן
Krieger Hall, 5th floor
TEL: 410-516-4466

OFFICE HOURS / in classroom, OR by appointment at Krieger Hall 5th floor

Mon & Tue 12-1:00 Wed 11-12 Thurs 10:30-11:30 Friday 10-11

Please schedule appointments in advance. Other times can be arranged if needed.

CLASS HOURS room 213 in the Hillel (Smokler) building
M-W-F 9-9:50 Thurs 8:25-9:15

Note: The first week or two include a review of material covered in the previous semester.

TEXTBOOK & accompanying DVD

Brandeis Modern Hebrew: Hebrew in Context [עברית בהקשר] by Ringvald, Porath,
Peleg, Shorr & Hascal

Recommended: Zilberman's Up-to-Date English-Hebrew/Hebrew-English Dictionary

GRADING CRITERIA

2 exams (average):	35%
2 oral exam (average):	20%
Quizzes (average):	30%
Assignments (average):	15%

98 - 100	A+
94 - 97	A
90 - 93	A-
87 - 89	B+
83 - 86	B
80 - 82	B-
77 - 79	C+
73 - 76	C
70 - 72	C-
67 - 69	D+
64 - 66	D
60-63	D-

Exams:

Two exams are given during each term, a mid-term (shown in the schedule) and a final exam (during the final exam period).

The written exams do not go beyond the specified time, although an oral component may exceed time depending on the given tasks. These exams cover materials introduced in class up to the day each exam is given. Detailed information will be provided in class.

Quizzes:

Quizzes will be given at the beginning of class, so it's essential that you arrive on time.

Quizzes are restricted to the first 10-15 minutes of class. The average of all quizzes excluding your lowest graded quiz is counted toward your final score.

Assignments:

Assignments will be given in class or via email, or both, and must be submitted at the beginning of the next class. Late submissions are not accepted. The average of all assignments is counted toward your final score, excluding your lowest graded assignment.

POLICY (strictly observed)

1. Our Center strictly observes the procedures regarding violations of academic integrity published on the JHU website. The following is an excerpt from the JHU website: <http://www.graduateboard.jhu.edu/integrity.htm>

Academic Integrity: In all aspects of their work, students assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the Johns Hopkins University's mission as an institution of higher education. A student must refrain from acts that he or she knows, or under the circumstances has reason to know, may impair the academic integrity of the University. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to: cheating, plagiarism; submitting as one's own the same or substantially similar work of another; knowingly furnishing false information to any agent of the University for inclusion in the academic records; dishonesty in discharging teaching assistant duties; falsification; forgery.

Student Conduct: The University expects all students to respect the rights of others, and to refrain from behavior that impairs the University's mission of teaching, research/scholarship, and outreach to the local, national, and international community. Violations of appropriate student conduct may include, but are not limited to: harassment behavior (physical or verbal); intimidation or verbal abuse; actions that are a danger to one's own personal safety or that may harm others, and actions that destroy, impair, or wrongfully appropriate property.

Students are expected to know and abide by University policies governing student conduct and academic integrity. Those who impair the University's mission are subject to expulsion. Refer to your divisional academic policies and procedures for specific information.

2. This course is not designed for students who identify Hebrew as their **first language**. The Center for Language Education reserves the right to place students in the language course appropriate to their level of language skill.
3. **No incomplete grade is given.**
4. If another course overlaps with AS384.315-316, you must choose one course or the other. Simultaneous registration is strictly prohibited.

5. If you have to miss a quiz under extenuating circumstances, it is your responsibility to contact the instructor in advance and arrange a time to make up the quiz/exam. Requests to the instructor after the fact will not be considered. (Contact the instructor directly via e-mail, phone, etc., regarding a possible delay of your arrival. Do not leave a message with the administrator in the Center for Language Education.)
6. Anyone leaving class immediately after taking a quiz will receive a score of zero on that quiz unless s/he has presented a justifiable reason **PRIOR to that class**. If you arrive more than ten minutes late, you cannot take the quiz for that day unless a legitimate reason was presented in advance.
7. Written assignments must be submitted upon your arrival to the classroom. Late submission after 3:00 p.m. of the due date is not accepted.
8. Attendance is one of the MOST IMPORTANT aspects of the course and is essential to your development of language SKILLS. In order for you to form good attendance habits, we employ the following policy:
Students missing more than 2 classes (unexcused absences) forfeit two points from their final score for every three unexcused absences beyond the first 2. For example, if you miss 5 classes in a term, the first two absences are exempted, then 2 points are lost for the remaining three and are subtracted from the final score you receive in the course. In addition, if you miss part of class time, you are considered tardy. Two “tardies” will be counted as 1 absence. If your absences add up to 20% of classes or more, you will be asked to withdraw from the course. If you must miss class due to unavoidable circumstances, let your instructor know immediately before class starts and wait for instructions.
9. In order to move on to the next term, you **must receive at least a grade of C+**. If you receive a grade of C or below and wish to continue to the next term/level, you need to study during the break and pass a placement test before the new term starts.
10. The Center for Language Education does not allow individuals to "sit in" on classes or register as audit. All students must register with a grade option. Exceptions for graduate students may be authorized by CLE on an individual basis.
11. The Center for Language Education follows Hopkins regulations and policies regarding religious holidays detailed in the student handbook. Religious holidays are valid reasons to be excused from class. Students who must miss a class or examination due to a religious holiday must inform the instructor as early in the term as possible in order to be excused and to make arrangements for make-up work. Students who expect to miss several classes because of religious holidays are encouraged to meet with their academic advisers to consider alternative courses prior to registration. Class schedules for Hebrew follow the Jewish calendar by respecting major Jewish holidays; make-up classes are scheduled.
http://education.jhu.edu/catalog/admission_registration_finance/registration/religious_holidays.html
12. Federal law and the university policies define a “disability” as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits or restricts the condition, manner, or duration under which an average person in the population can perform a major life activity, such as walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, working, or taking care of oneself.

Any student with a disability who may need accommodations in this class must obtain an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services, 385 Garland, (410) 516-4720, studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu

REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION

1. Please do not consume food during class time.
2. If you feel that you are falling behind or that you cannot avoid missing classes, please contact us immediately. Since we meet frequently, we need to keep you informed of various events, assignments and other issues.
3. Students are advised not to take a language course if they already have 18 other credits. Language courses require regular daily practice and a high level of commitment and cannot be regarded as light extra courses.
4. We recommend that you take a language course based on a letter grade and NOT as a pass/fail. In particular, a C+ or better is required to move to higher levels, and a pass/fail masks the difference between C and C+.

JHU WEBSITES FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Center for Language Education: <http://www.cledu.jhu.edu/>
Academic Calendar:
http://web.jhu.edu/registrar/academic_dates/FINAL_academic%20calendar%202015-2016.pdf
- Add/Drop Deadlines: see academic calendar
- Important Dates to Remember: <http://www.advising.jhu.edu/dates.php>
- Final Exam Schedule: <http://web.jhu.edu/registrar/forms-pdfs/Fall%202015%20Final%20Exam%20Schedule.pdf>

SPECIAL DATES (Spring 2016)

Friday, February 5	Last day to add courses
Sunday, March 6	Last day to drop courses
March 14-20	Spring break, no classes
April 4	Undergraduate registration for Fall Term 2016 begins
Friday, April 15	Last day for course withdrawal; Undergraduates last day to change to S/U option
Friday, April 29	Last day of classes
April 30 - May 3	Reading period
May 4-12	Final examination period
Wednesday, May 18	University Commencement

WEEKLY SCHEDULE / Spring, 2016 (See next page)

Week	Lesson	Quiz/Exam
Week 1 1/25-29	Review and Israeli culture: Arithmetic; shop-talk about prices: כמה זה עולה? פעל ע"ו/ע"י conjugations; Unit 3 review & enrichment	
Week 2 2/1-5	UNIT 4: groceries, new vocab צריך Needs (conjugating)	QUIZ 1
Week 3 2/8-12	Meals / diets; Restaurants, Dining out – culture לתת to give – conjugating and ordering: תן לי [give me]	QUIZ 2
Week 4 2/15-19	Infinitives ש"פ יכול/צריך/אוהב/רוצה + ש"פ ש"פ: פעל - שלמים	QUIZ 3
Week 5 2/22-26	ש"פ: פעל ע"ו/ע"י ש"פ: פעל ל"ה/ל"י Review + enrichment / culture Completing UNIT 4	QUIZ 4
Week 6 2/29-3/4	Israeli culture: Kibbutz-origins Begin UNIT 5: Family trees/relations	QUIZ 5
Week 7 3/7-11	Age – גיל; בן/בת כמה...? Israeli culture נולד – to be born <i>or</i> was born;	QUIZ 6

Week 8 3/14-18	Spring Break – <u>No Classes</u>
Week 9 3/21-25	Pronomial possessive declensions – singular; Past-tense of פעל-שלמים MID-TERM EXAM 3/25 Purim
Week10 3/28-4/1	Continue simple past-tense conjugation; Past tense of פעל ע"ו"ע"י QUIZ 7
Week11 4/4-8	View Israeli Film: Saleh Shabbati
Week12 4/11-15	UNIT 5 Review + Enrichment, Culture
Week13 4/18-21	Assorted readings – Israeli culture 4/22 Passover – No Class
Week14 4/25-29	Review and final exam preparation; Oral & Written final exam

FINAL EXAM DATE/TIME: TBA