

Modern Hebrew 301/401

Fall, 2015

Meeting Time and Place: Tuesday, Thursday 11:00-12:15, 2104 Chamberlin Hall

Professor: Judith Sone

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Office hours: Thursday 12:30-2:30 and by appointment

Course Description

This intermediate level Hebrew course is designed to support students through a critical time in their language learning. It reinforces their existing abilities as readers, writers, speakers, and listeners, and teaches them the tools necessary to advance to the next level. Through the use of short stories, songs, plays, newspaper articles, blog posts, and television episodes, students will learn intermediate linguistic elements and explore Israeli culture.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will achieve intermediate level linguistic proficiency in the four language skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening
- Students will be able to use these language skills in formal and informal settings
- Students will analyze and respond to texts in a variety of genres
- Students will continue to develop their understanding of Israeli literature and culture

Required Readings

You are required to purchase the following book, available at the campus bookstore:

1. Vardit Rigvald, Bonit Porath, Yaron Peleg, and Esther Shorr. *Brandeis Modern Hebrew: Intermediate to Advanced*. Pilot Edition. Brandeis University Press (2013).

You are required to have a good Hebrew-English/English-Hebrew dictionary.

Additional readings will be posted on the course's learn@UW page or handed out in class. Posted readings must be printed and brought to the appropriate class.

Assignments

Class participation, attendance, and regularly assigned work (15%)

Journal (Yoman) (15%)

Presentations (15%)

Quizzes (at least 2) (15%)

Tests (2) (25%)

Final writing assignment (15%)

Explanation of Assignments:

Class participation, attendance, and regularly assigned work

Regular and prompt attendance are expected and I expect that you will come to each class prepared, with homework completed, and with your textbook and other materials. You are responsible for making up any work you miss. More than two absences will affect your attendance and participation grade. You will enjoy the class and learn more from it if you participate actively and there will be many opportunities for class discussions. I will do my best to make the classroom a welcoming and inclusive environment and I hope everyone will be comfortable speaking up and joining in discussions. I expect you to be respectful, listen attentively, bring all necessary materials, and complete assignments by the due date. There will be a penalty for late assignments unless approved by me in advance of the due date. Small assignments will be given on a regular basis at the end of class and will be due the following class. These will usually be based on work in the textbook or material studied that day and will reinforce or apply linguistic concepts.

Journal

Your journal will enable me to assess your writing and comprehension of texts and provide you with feedback on an on-going basis. It will also provide you with a sense of how your writing is progressing throughout the semester and what you need to work on. I may ask you to submit a second draft. Some weeks there will be a question to respond to, and some weeks you will pick a topic. You should pay careful attention to your writing, use a dictionary, and edit your work. Your responses should show that you are engaging thoughtfully with the question or text. Please keep all returned journal entries together in a folder. Journal entries should be handed to me at the beginning of class or uploaded to the dropbox on learn@UW before class. (Dropbox can be found under the assignments tab). Electronic submissions will be accepted in pdf format only. You can miss one journal entry and have it dropped.

Quizzes

I will provide you with a detailed outline.

Tests

I will provide you with a detailed outline.

Presentations

You will be assigned at least 2 presentations throughout the semester. Detailed instructions will be given. These will also include leading a short class discussion or activity.

Final Writing Assignment

You will hand in a polished, edited final piece of writing that demonstrates your best writing and incorporates the vocabulary and linguistic elements studied during the semester. Ideally, this assignment should be typed. For 301 the minimum length is 2 pages and for 401 the minimum length is 4 pages.

Grading Scale

A: 94-100

AB: 89-93

B: 83-88

BC: 77-82

C: 70-76

D: below 70 - see me

Changes to Syllabus

I reserve the right to make changes to the syllabus as needed for the benefit of the class.

Accommodations for Disabilities: Students registered with disabilities at McBurney Disability Resource Center will receive accommodations with the presentation of the proper forms. Please meet with me to arrange these accommodations within the first two weeks of class.

Code of Academic Integrity: All students are expected to conduct their academic work according to university standards. Students should be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and do their best to avoid it. To learn more about what constitutes academic misconduct see (<http://www.students.wisc.edu/doso/academic-integrity/>). To learn more about your rights and responsibilities as a student, see <http://students.wisc.edu/rights/>

Jewish Holidays: Class will be cancelled on September 15th for the Rosh Hashanah holiday, on Sept. 29th for the Sukkot holiday, and on October 6th for the Simchat Torah holiday. This time will be made up by a film screening, discussion, and assignment.

Course Schedule

*Course schedule is subject to change with advance notice

*Assignments: some are listed on syllabus, some are assigned in class based on progress that day

Week 1: Introductions

Thursday, Sept. 3: Introductions

Week 2: Short Stories, Grammar Review

Tuesday, Sept. 8:

Due: Yoman: Response to short story

Thursday, Sept. 10:

Due: assigned work

Week 3: Interview, Short Play

Tuesday, Sept. 15: Rosh Hashanah CLASS CANCELLED

Thursday, Sept. 17:

Due: assigned work

Week 4: Interview, Short Play

Tuesday, Sept. 22

Due: Yoman- Response to story/article/play

Thursday, Sept. 24:

Quiz

Week 5: Presentations

Tuesday, Sept. 29: Sukkot: CLASS CANCELLED

Thursday, Oct. 1:

Due: Presentation on one of the authors studied and/or his works

Week 6: Grammar Review, Linguistic Structures

Tuesday, Oct. 6: Simchat Torah: CLASS CANCELLED

Thursday, Oct. 8:

Due: Yoman- Response to a presentation or topic of your choice

Week 7: Newspaper articles, Linguistic Structures

Tuesday, Oct. 13:

Thursday, Oct. 15: Test

Week 8: Newspaper articles, Linguistic Structures

Tuesday, Oct. 20:

Due: Yoman- Response to a newspaper article

Thursday, Oct. 22:

Week 9: TV episodes, Grammar

Tuesday, Oct. 26:

Thursday, Oct. 28:

Due: Yoman- Response to TV episode

Week 10: Blog posts, Grammar

Tuesday, Nov. 3:

Thursday, Nov. 5:

Week 11: Film

Tuesday, Nov. 10: Quiz

Due: Yoman: Blog about your city

Thursday, Nov. 12:

*November 9 or 11- screening of film “Dancing in Jaffa” (date to be confirmed)

Week 12: TV episodes, Linguistic Structures

Tuesday, Nov. 17:

Due: Yoman- response to film (for group discussion)

Thursday, Nov. 19: Test

*Final writing assignment will be handed out around this date.

Week 13: TV episodes

Tuesday, Nov. 24:

Thursday, Nov. 26 – Thanksgiving- NO CLASS

Week 14: Presentations / Leading a discussion or activity

Tuesday, Dec. 1:

Due: Yoman

Thursday, Dec. 3:

Week 15: Presentations / Leading a discussion or activity

Tuesday, Dec. 8:

Thursday, Dec. 10:

Week 16: Wrapping up and Reflections

Tuesday, Dec. 15: Last class

Final writing assignment due: December 23rd at noon. Assignments will be accepted early.