

Hebrew Course Syllabus

Level Aleph -Beginners

This level is the first of six levels of Hebrew learning. At this level, the student acquires the basics of Modern Hebrew, combining the four skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

We begin with the Hebrew *aleph-bet* (the source of the English word alphabet), use vocabulary to familiarize ourselves with written dialogue and everyday dialogue, and read short texts.

A. Courses during the year:

- **Fall Semester**- The course is 100 academic hours lasting approximately 14 weeks. Classes are held Monday through Thursday, either from 8:30 to 10:00 or from 10:15-11:45. (6 academic credits)
- **Winter Ulpan** -Intensive Ulpan of 100 academic hours in 4 weeks. Classes meet five days a week, from Sunday to Thursday (sometimes there are also Friday classes). Every day of learning includes five academic hours, from 8:30 to 13:00 and sometimes until 14:00. Every Wednesday after class there is a teacher's office hour. (5 academic credits)
- **Spring Semester**- The course is 100 academic hours lasting approximately 14 weeks. Classes are held Monday through Thursday, either from 8:30 to 10:00 or from 10:15-11:45. (6 academic credits)
- **Summer Ulpan (July + August)** - Intensive Ulpan of 100 academic hours in 4 weeks. Classes meet five days a week; from Sunday to Thursday (sometimes there are also Friday classes). Every day of learning includes five academic hours, from 8:30 to 13:00 and sometimes until 14:00. Every Wednesday after class there is a teacher's office hour. (5 academic credits)
- **Summer Ulpan (Online)** - Intensive Ulpan of 80 academic hours in 5 weeks. Classes meet four days a week, from Monday to Thursday. Every day of learning includes four academic hours, from 6pm to 9:30pm Israel time. (4 academic credits)

B. Examinations

Semesters- During the semester, there will be two exams and two tests. All exams and tests will take place on Thursdays. In addition to the written examinations, an oral exam will be held.

Intensive Ulpan- During the Ulpan there will be two written exams and one oral exam.

Oral Exam- Examining a student's knowledge of Hebrew through writing is one parameter.

Another important parameter is oral comprehension and speech. To this end there will be an oral exam whose purpose is to examine the student's achievements in fluent speech. Toward the end of the Ulpan, each student must give a verbal lecture in Hebrew to the class.

C. Course Books

'Ivrit Min Ha'hatchala Alef' - 'עברית מן ההתחלה א'

The course covers:

1. Reading- short texts in basic Hebrew.
2. Writing- Learning the Hebrew alphabet- print & script, writing letters, short stories.
2. Conversation -Short daily dialogues in different situations, interviews, games.
3. Listening comprehension (mostly based on the textbook): dialogue and stories.
4. Grammar:
 - a. **The verb system-** Present tense of basic verb; groups; Infinitives of active verb groups; Types of verbs stems
 - b. **Syntax and morphology** - Prepositions; Question words; Cardinal numbers (masculine and feminine); Nominal sentences; Adverbs; Nouns (masculine; feminine; singular; plural).

*In one semester, students cover approximately a third of the learning material of this entire level. Within the classroom itself there is a degree of flexibility depending on students' prior knowledge.

In advanced level Aleph , students reviewing present tense forms; acquiring past tense forms; basic verbal nouns and infinitives; direct speech and reported speech; cardinal numbers (masculine and feminine); ordinal numbers; prepositions.

D. Grades

Semester:

Intensive:

The determination of the final grade is as follows:

Periodic tests	30%	Midterm Exam	30%
Midterm Exam	20%	Final Exam	50%
Final Exam	30%	Oral Exam	10%
Oral Exam	10%	Attendance, participation, homework:	10%
Attendance/ Participation / Homework	10%		

E. Ulpan Regulations- Hebrew Classes Requirements

The following requirements apply to all students (whether they are taking Hebrew for credit or not).

1. Students will attend all classes and arrive on time.

The teacher is allowed to prohibit students who arrive late from entering the classroom. (In case of illness or personal issues, please address your teacher in private.)

2. Each student is required to fulfill the following:

- Submit daily homework assignments.
- Take each test and exam on the scheduled day. A student who is absent from a test or exam will not be permitted to take the test or exam on a later or earlier date.
- Complete his/her personal oral exam.

3. A student who missed a class is responsible to make up all the work that s/he missed.

4. A student who does not meet all the course requirements, including a student who **is absent more than 20% of the course days**, and/or does not take the final exam, will not be eligible to receive a final grade, certificate of completion, or academic credit.

Students who do not fulfill the course requirements during the semester, will be given a warning. If the situation does not improve, the student will be asked to leave the course and will not receive financial reimbursement for the remaining period of the semester.

Students who fail the course – whether through poor academic performance or because of not fulfilling all the course requirements - will not be eligible to go on to the next level of Hebrew and will need to repeat the same course if they wish to continue their Hebrew studies.