

**Modern Hebrew**  
Linguistics (LING) 2304 (CRN 21018)  
The University of Texas at El Paso  
Department of Languages and Linguistics  
Spring 2023

**Instructor:** Dr. Clayton Bench

**Time:** Tuesday/Thursday 12:00 - 1:20pm

**Room:** Classroom Building, C201

**Office Hours:** M – F, 8:30 – 9:15AM

**Office:** Worrell Hall, 210

**E-Mail:** [cbench@utep.edu](mailto:cbench@utep.edu)

**Course Description and Objectives:**

Studying Modern Hebrew is an exciting and challenging endeavor. This course will bring the student from the beginning stages of learning Modern Hebrew to the intermediate level. In this course, we will approach Modern Hebrew with three central goals. First, we will learn Hebrew using relevant topics or themes to provide context for Hebrew elements we will learn and practice in class. Second, we will learn by engaging with authentic Hebrew texts written by native speakers. Third, we will learn about Israeli and Jewish Culture. “Learning the culture of a language is an integral part of acquiring language skills. The ability to produce language of a higher quality depends on understanding the culture of the language.” (Vardit, et al. “Preface”)

**Required Texts:**

Ringvald, Vardit, et al. *Brandeis Modern Hebrew*. Waltham: Brandeis University Press, 2005 (including CD).

## **Assignments and Grade Distribution:**

20% In-class participation

20% Quizzes

20% Midterm Examination

20% Assignments and Worksheets

20% Final Examination

## **Assignment Notes:**

*In-class Participation:* Students must attend class and participate in the in-class exercises.

*Quizzes:* Quizzes will be given at the end of each unit as indicated on the course outline. The quizzes will include translation to and from Hebrew and oral exercises. Students are responsible for memorizing the vocabulary for each unit as well as other elements covered in the unit and the unit review and enrichment section.

*Midterm Examination:* The midterm examination will test the student's knowledge of Units 5 - 7.

*Assignments and Worksheets:* Students will complete all exercises from the textbook. Each exercise is titled תרגיל 'exercise'. Students will complete the exercises on loose-leaf paper or on a photocopy of the exercise and turn them in to me at the beginning of each class. Each exercise must include the page and exercise number.

*Final Examination:* The midterm examination will test the student's knowledge of Units 8 - 11.

**Note:** Late assignments will not be accepted.

**Course Outline:**

The following schedule/outline is tentative. Time constraints, unforeseen events, and class interest may result in slight alterations.

Week 1 Jan 16 - 20	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 4 Review
Thursday	Unit 5 – The Family Tree; Talking about Age;
Week 2 Jan 23 - 27	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 5 – I was born in ...; Pronominal Possessives;
Thursday	Unit 5 – Past Tense Verbs; Readings on p. 233; 235; and 239
Week 3 Jan 30 – Feb 3	Topic
Tuesday	Quiz Review
Thursday	<b>Unit 5 Quiz</b>
Week 4 Feb 6 – 10	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 6 – Days of the week; the calendar
Thursday	Unit 6 – The months of the year; Reading on p. 251
Week 5 Feb 13 - 17	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 6 – Before and After; Beforehand and Afterward; When and When;
Thursday	Unit 6 – What time is it?; Late and Early; Good night
Week 6 Feb 20 - 24	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 6 – I/h verbs in past tense; the verb “to be” in past tense;
Thursday	Unit 6 – The Three Bears; <b>Unit 6 Take Home Quiz</b>
Week 7 Feb 27 – Mar 3	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 7 – Seasons of the Year; Clothing
Thursday	Unit 7 – The Construct Form
Week 8 Mar 6 - 10	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 7 – The future tense (ef’ol); The future tense (ef’al); I/h Future tense; the verb “to be” future tense;
Thursday	<b>Unit 7 Quiz (The Unit 7 Quiz will count as the Midterm Examination) – To be taken in class</b>
Week 9 Mar 13 - 17	Topic
Tuesday	<b>Spring Break</b> – no classes
Thursday	
Week 10 Mar 20 - 24	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 8 – It is worth it to...; Permissible/Forbidden;
Thursday	Unit 8 – Possible/ Impossible; Vacation; Easy/Difficult; General Impersonal Speech
Week 11 Mar 27 – 31	Topic

Tuesday	Unit 8 – With...; Piel Verbs – present, infinitive, past, future
Thursday	Unit 8 – Readings: p. 350; personal pronoun direct object; Sports; How many times...? <b>Unit 8 Take Home Quiz</b>
Week 12 Apr 3 - 7	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 9 – The face; in order to...; the human body; Expressing physical pain; Reading: p. 398; To suffer from...; to take care of/treat (medical); to check/examine (medical)
Thursday	Unit 9 –; irregular verbs “to take” and “to give”; Idioms using ‘lev’ (heart); Hifil verbs: present, infinitive, past, future; <b>Unit 9 Take Home Quiz</b>
Week 13 Apr 10 - 14	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 10 – Professions; the verb “to have” present, past, future; bigger/smaller; similar to/different from
Thursday	Unit 10 – Superlatives; declension of the preposition “from”; expressing instructions/wishes; hitpael verbs; hitpael and metathesis; hitpael past tense; hitpael future tense; ba’al p. 516; because/therefore; imperatives; <b>Unit 10 Take Home Quiz</b>
Week 14 Apr 17 - 21	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 11 – The Lady of the Castle
Thursday	Unit 11 - Pa’al p//y Future tense
Week 15 Apr 24 - 28	Topic
Tuesday	Unit 11 – Imperative (p. 529)
Thursday	Unit 11 – Review and Enrichment
Week 16 May 1 - 5	Topic
Tuesday	Final Examination Review
Thursday	Final Examination Review
<b>Finals Week</b> May 8 – 12	
Tues, May 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Final Examination – 1:00 – 3:45PM – In Class</b>

### Grading:

Marks for assignments, tests, and exams are given in percentages, to which letter grades are also assigned, according to the table below. The percentage mark resulting from the entire term work and examination then produces the final letter grade for the course.

### Grading Scale

Percentage Grade	Letter Grade	Grade Points
90-100%	A	4.0
80-89%	B	3.0
70-79%	C	2.0
60-69%	D	1.0
0-59%	F	0.0

## **Academic Standing and Integrity:**

### **“Academic Integrity**

The University of Texas at El Paso prides itself on its standards of academic excellence. In all matters of intellectual pursuit, UTEP faculty and students must strive to achieve excellence based on the quality of work produced by the individual. In the classroom and in all other academic activities, students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity. Any form of scholastic dishonesty is an affront to the pursuit of knowledge and jeopardizes the quality of the degree awarded to all graduates of UTEP. It is imperative, therefore, that the members of this academic community understand the regulations pertaining to academic integrity and that all faculty insist on adherence to these standards.

Any student who commits an act of scholastic dishonesty is subject to discipline. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, and any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts. Proven violations of the detailed regulations, as printed in the [Handbook of Operating Procedures](#) (HOP) (available through the [Dean of Students Office](#)) may result in sanctions ranging from disciplinary probation, to failing a grade on the work in question, to a failing grade in the course, to suspension or dismissal, among others.” (“Academic Standing,” for more information, please visit <http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=61879&submenuheader=1>)

### **Special Needs**

If you have a disability and require special needs classroom accommodations, please contact *The Center for Accommodations and Support Services* Monday through Friday 8:00a.m. – 5:00p.m. at the Union East Room 106. You can also reach the center by phone at (915) 747-5148 or by email: [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu) .