

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev  
English as a Foreign Language  
Pre-Basic B  
Oct. 2019- Jan.2020

Instructor: Dr. Shlomo Chertok  
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Office hours: by appointment  
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Please write to me **only** in English; I refuse to answer e-mails written in Hebrew

## Description and requirements

### A. Purpose

One of the central purposes of the course is to provide pre-Basic Bet level students with the necessary skills to improve **reading comprehension** of Technology/Science or Humanities and Social Sciences - related texts in English. Emphasis is placed on the role of cohesion in texts and vocabulary building (general and subject-specific). The course will focus on topics from academic texts that are relevant to the students' academic literacy.

Students will engage in in-class and out-of-class tasks that focus on scientific/academic content and language. They will be exposed to three more skills: writing, listening comprehension and oral reports and tested on all four skills.

### B. Materials

1. Course reading materials will be posted on *moodle* so students should check moodle for the upcoming reference each day after class.
2. Sometimes, students may be asked to search the Internet and the BGU library for a selection of texts
3. Dictionary: Choose the format you are most comfortable with.

**No Quicktionaries, no smart phone dictionaries, no smart watches, no laptops or tablets are allowed on exams.**

**Use of such tools in class is at the teacher's discretion.**

→ *Dictionaries may not be shared nor may they beep during exams.*

### C. Departmental (BGU) rules:

1. Being punctual and attending class regularly according to **university rules** for classes where full attendance is required.
2. Bringing the assigned texts to class. **No running to copy during class time.**
3. Completing class and home assignments and handing them in on time when requested to do so.
4. Make up tests are designed for students who were absent from a test- **not for students who want to improve their grade. Only acceptable excuse (university-wide examination regulations) for missing a test, will allow a student to take a make-up test. Students have to bring the relevant *ishur*.**
5. Students who have an *ishur* for extra time or use of a computer should notify the teacher at the beginning of the semester.

### D. Grades:

The following six components are compulsory in order to pass the course (passing grade=56)

- i. Seen exam: 20%
- ii. Final Exam: 40% (with minimum **passing grade of 56**)
- iii. Writing assignment - reading a short passage and writing something relevant 10%
- iv. Listening comprehension - watching a short video and answering questions about it 10 %
- v. Oral presentation – one short topic of the student's choice to be presented in class throughout the semester 2% + an oral presentation based on an article – one on one with the teacher 8%.
- vi. Vocabulary quizzes – 10%

**CLASS GRADE = 60%, FINAL EXAM = 40%**

### Dates of exams:

Seen exam	Friday 2.12.19
Make-Up	Monday 13.1.20
Moed Aleph	Monday 27.1.20
Moed Bet	Thursday 20.2.20

A student who wishes to take *Moed Bet* (whether that student failed, wants to improve the grade, or did not take *Moed Alef*) has to register via the internet site of the examination unit.