

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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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:

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|------------|------------------|
| 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.