

English as a Foreign Language
K'dam Ofakim

Spring 2016
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Course Description and Syllabus

PURPOSE OF COURSE

The focus of this course is to prepare students for the reading and comprehension of a variety of texts including newspaper articles, magazine articles, professional journals, research articles etc. that are often encountered during academic studies. This will be done by enabling the students to handle the extensive set of skills and challenges which confront them while learning English as a Foreign Language.

Specific skills to be covered during the course include:

Reading Skills such as Scanning, Skimming, Reference Words, Finding Definitions in Context, Connector Words

Vocabulary Building such as Affixes (prefixes and suffixes), Parts of Speech: Word Families

Grammar Tenses such as those used in reading and writing comprehensible answers to a variety of questions

MATERIALS

Worksheets, reference Sheets, Articles and Activities are available. Please download them from Ben Gurion University's Moodle Site. You **MUST** bring these materials to class or you will be asked to leave and marked absent!!!!

Dictionary - You may use any dictionary you choose, including a battery-operated, electronic one. The only demand is that it knows how to be silent. **Be sure that you can shut the sound off!** Bring your dictionary to every class. During all exams (unseens and finals), only clean dictionaries (those that are not written in) will be allowed. You may **not** share dictionaries during exams.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Mobile Phones – Since ringing phones, game playing with phones or “*smsing*” disrupt concentration (this goes for computers as well), please turn off your phones and computers (unless you have an *issur* to study with one) when you are in my classroom.

Attendance - Class attendance is **MANDATORY!!!!**

If you miss more than **two** classes, you will NOT take the final exam and you will NOT receive a grade. If you come to class late or leave early, you will receive half an absence. Don't test me on this!!!

As teachers, we keep a record of attendance. If you come to class late, make sure that you are marked present at the end of class. When you return from an absence, it is **your responsibility** to show me an "issur" explaining why you have missed class. Otherwise, you will be marked absent without an excuse. It is your responsibility to find out the work you have missed. There is a syllabus and class assignments are posted on Moodle. As such, absence is **not** an acceptable excuse for coming to class unprepared. If you do not bring your assignments or dictionary to class, (this will go into effect after the second lesson), you will be considered absent without an excuse.

Assignments - All homework assignments **must** be completed. During the course, homework is given every lesson. If you do **not** do your homework, in class tasks or activities, you will receive a grade of incomplete and will not be able to finish the course until your assignments are completed.

Exams and Grades - The final exam is **40%** of the final grade, and the class grade is **70%**. The class grade will be calculated from one MIDTERM EXAM (worth **30%** of your final class grade) and the other **30%** will be based on class participation, discussions, homework assignments and a variety of activities - quizzes on content, vocabulary or text related questions.

Make-up tests are designed for students who were absent from a test - not for students who want to improve their grade. If you have an acceptable excuse ("issur" required) for missing a test, you will be allowed to take a make-up.

The passing grade for the course is 56.

A grade of less than 56 on the final exam becomes the final grade, regardless of the class grade.

MIDTERM EXAM July 27, 2016

Make-up

Moed 19.8.16 x Moed 7-9-16 b

Course Assessment

1. Class Participation/Discussions/Homework Assignments (10%)
2. Completion of In-class Quizzes/Activities (20%)
3. MIDTERM EXAM (30%)
4. Final Exam (40%)