

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

## **English as a Foreign Language**

*Basic level, Fall 2019-2020*

Instructor: Priel Cohanim

Office: to be determined

Office Hours: by appointment

Contact Information: cohanimp@post.bgu.ac.il

Please write to me **only** in English; I will not answer e-mails written in Hebrew

Class Times: Mondays 09:00-12:00, Wednesdays 16:00-19:00

Classroom: Building H4, Room 308

### **Description and Requirements**

#### **A. Purpose**

One of the central purposes of the course is to provide Basic level students with the necessary skills to improve **reading comprehension** of Technology/Science-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 excuses (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 6 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 (10%): reading a short passage and writing something relevant.
- iv. Listening comprehension (10%): watching a short video and answering questions about it.
- v. Oral presentation (10%): one short topic of the student's choice to be presented in class throughout the semester 2% + an oral presentation based on an article to be presented one on one with the teacher 8%.
- vi. Vocabulary quizzes: 10%

**CLASS GRADE = 60%**

**FINAL EXAM = 40%**

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<b><u>Dates of exams:</u></b>	Seen exam	Monday 02/12/19
	Make-Up	Monday 13/01/20
	Moed Aleph	Monday 27/01/20
	Moed Bet	Thursday 20/02/20

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.