

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
English as a Foreign Language

Advanced Aleph Tech

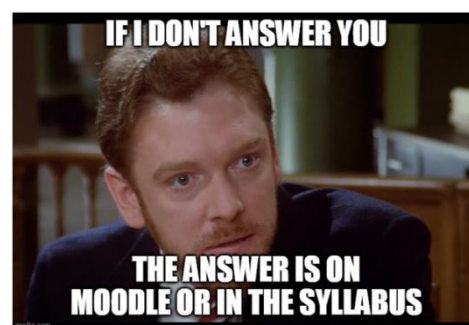
Spring 2021 ZOOM ROOM

Welcome to *Advanced Aleph Tech* English. Looking forward to an interesting and productive semester. At times, learning new concepts might appear frustrating, so feel free to contact me with questions. I will be happy to set up Zoom meetings with students before and after class as well as communicate through email. I do prefer that you write in English.

Communication

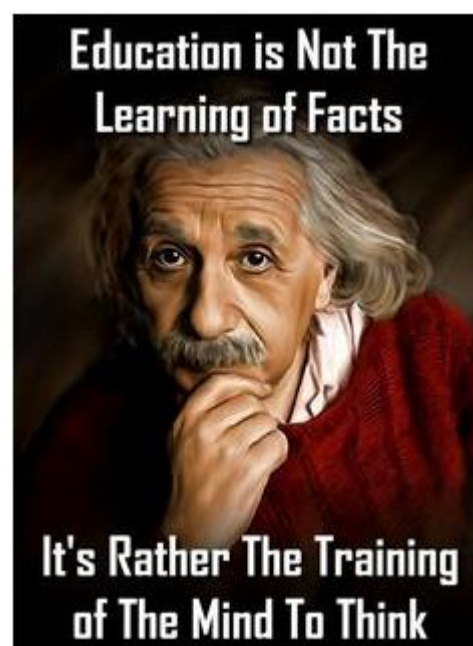
Instructor: [Dr. Dorianne Gould](#)

[English as a Foreign Language website](#)



Intentionality

One of the central purposes of the course is to facilitate Advanced Aleph students with reading and comprehension of Technology/Science texts in English. The course will focus on topics and texts that are relevant to the students' academic literacy. To advance reading comprehension, students will engage in both in-class and out-of-class tasks that focus on scientific/academic content and language. Students will be exposed to three more skills: writing, listening comprehension and oral reports and tested on all four skills.



Confidence

During this semester, we will be acquiring/reviewing and applying many different language skills. This should give you the confidence to not only succeed in this class, but also to apply these skills in other academic settings. You will be assessed in this course as follows:

Reading: Departmental Exams: Seen--20%, Moed Aleph--40% (dates to be announced on Moodle)

Speaking, Writing, Listening:

Personal Academic SEEN Project--(sections total) 20%
Personal Improvement Project --10%,

Writing: Reflections--10%

Self Control

1. Attendance with cameras open the entire class is **mandatory!**
2. 100% class attendance is one of the best ways to learn English. However, if necessary, with relevant documentation, you are allowed to miss 2 classes - in total (20% of the classes). It is your responsibility to send me the appropriate "issurim" in advance or immediately following the absence. No late issurim will be accepted.
3. Missing more than 2 classes FOR ANY REASON will result in a **failing course grade.**

Relatedness

1. Course reading materials and activities have been chosen and designed keeping the Zoom environment in mind. It is hoped that you will find the articles interesting and relevant. These articles will be posted on *Moodle*, so students should check *Moodle* regularly.
2. Dictionary: Choose the format you are most comfortable with. The old-fashioned book format seems to be the most efficient, though many prefer the electronic dictionary. Do not rely on your cellphone for in class activities. Online dictionaries are often inaccurate and insufficient for academic purposes.



When you normally spend all your time at home anyway but now the government says you have to



No Quicktionaries, no smart phone dictionaries, no smart watches, no laptops or tablets are allowed on exams. → *Dictionaries may not be shared nor may they beep during exams.*

3. Medium of instruction: Whether you choose to print materials, use a computer, tablet or phone is definitely up to you. In class, there will be discussions about the efficacy of both methods-- paper versus electronic.

Curiosity

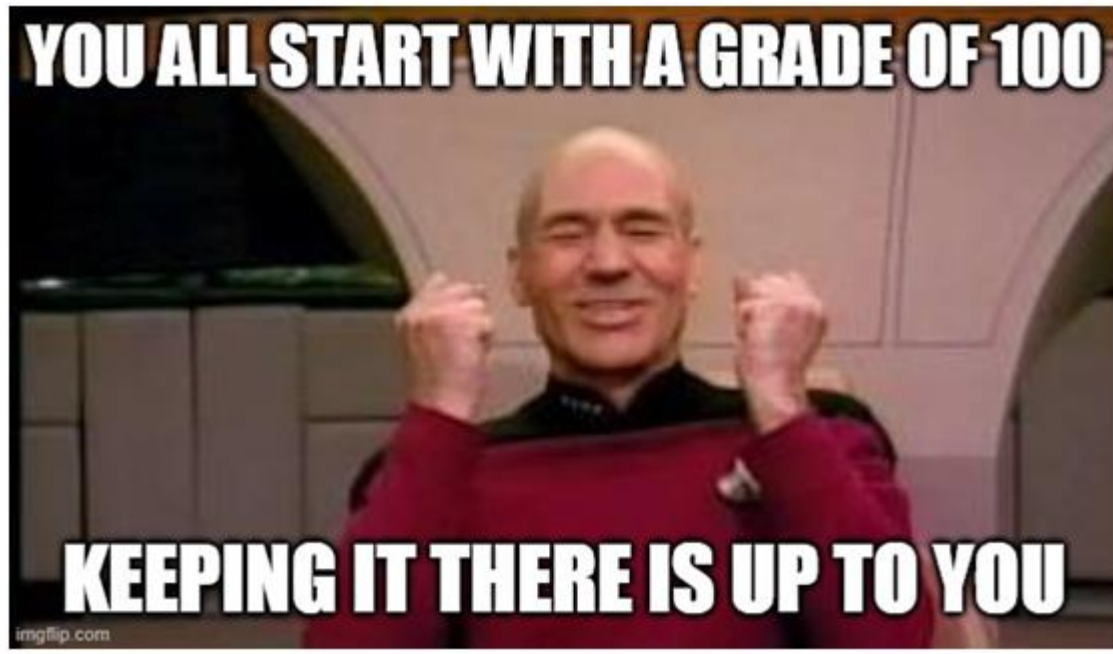
Research shows that students are more engaged in the learning of texts that they are personally interested in. For this reason, we have designed the Personal Article SEEN Project and the Personal Passion Project, thereby giving students the freedom to choose subjects relevant to their own lives and interests.



Cooperativeness

During these crazy times when people are often worried about COVID-19, job loss, and simply surviving the month, this course has been designed to take advantage of Breakout Rooms on Zoom in order to encourage social interaction. Both individual and group work will be part of class. Group work is an essential part of the learning process, but will not be a component of your grade, as it is very difficult for students to meet outside of class time.





***Please note:** If a student cannot attend the midterm exam for one of the following reasons, the grade of the moed aleph will become **60%**. For such an arrangement the student will have to apply to [Va'adat Hora'a](#) of the EFL unit with the relevant certificates.

- a. Hospitalization
- b. Reserve duty at time of exam
- c. The wedding day of the student
- d. Participation as a player in a university sports event at the time of the exam
- e. Bed rest during pregnancy, adoption, birth
- f. Religious holidays approved by the university
- g. Mourning

Students at high risk must get permission from the Teaching Committee to miss an exam by filling out a [form](#) and sending it to efl@bgu.ac.il.

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