

English Language Skills

Fall semester, 2023-24

Priel Cohanim, cohanimp@post.bgu.ac.il

Department of Foreign Literatures and Linguistics

Class Hours: Group I: Tuesday, 10:15-11:45 / Group II: Tuesday, 12:15-13:45

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description

0 Credit Points, Required Course

In this course, students will learn the rules of English grammar and practice academic communication skills through writing. Together we will learn about sentence structures, parts of speech, possession, tenses, types of sentences (simple, compound, complex), and the rules of punctuation, and apply these topics on short writing assignments about various subjects. We will also work on our verbal expression skills by practicing our abilities to present clear, persuasive, and grammatically correct arguments.

Keywords: English; grammar; writing; communication; speech.

Requirements and Grades

The course's final grade is PASS/FAIL.

Throughout the semester, students will submit 8 short writing assignments, which will receive either a PASS or NP (No Pass) grade. To pass the course, students must pass at least 6 out of 8 assignments.

Instructions for every assignment are posted on the course's Moodle site and explained in class. Assignments must be submitted on Moodle and on time, because the submission boxes close automatically on the exact time they are due. If for any reason you cannot submit an assignment on time, contact me in advance.

Attendance is mandatory. You may miss a total of 2 lessons throughout the semester, including the registration period (or, תקופת השינויים).

Student Support

This is a challenging year for all of us, and I acknowledge that meeting deadlines and completing assignments may pose difficulties for students who have lost family members, whose relatives are held captive, those who are currently displaced, serving in the military reserves, or have recently returned from duty.

In specific cases, I will grant extensions for assignments and exemptions from attendance, based on individual circumstances. If you require assistance, please reach out as soon as possible.

Plagiarism

I absolutely do not tolerate plagiarism. If you plagiarize any of your works, you will receive a failing grade and I might file an official complaint with the university's disciplinary committee, potentially resulting in you failing your studies in the Department of Foreign Literatures and Linguistics or even getting expelled.

Course Schedule

02 January **Introduction: Syllabus, Requirements and Expectations**
Parts of Speech, Word Order, Singular vs. Plural
Homework Assignment #1, Due date: 08/01/2024, 23:59.

09 January **Using Dictionaries, Compound Words, Verbal Phrases**
Homework Assignment #2, Due date: 15/01/2024, 23:59.

16 January **Possession, Subject-verb Agreement, In/Definite Article**
Homework Assignment #3, Due date: 22/01/2024, 23:59.

23 January **Sentence Patterns, Fragments**
Homework Assignment #4, Due date: 29/01/2024, 23:59.

30 January **Review of the Material So Far...**
Homework Assignment #5, Due date: 05/02/2024, 23:59.

06 February **Types of Sentences, Part 1: Simple and Compound Sentences,**
Conjunction, Run-on Sentences
Homework Assignment #6, Due date: 12/02/2024, 23:59.

13 February **Types of Sentences, Part 2: Complex Sentences, Clauses, Logical**
Connections, and Subordination
Homework Assignment #7, Due date: 19/02/2024, 23:59.

20 February **Types of Sentences: Review**
No Homework Today.

27 February **Types of Sentences, Part 3: Compound-Complex Sentences and Punctuation**

Homework Assignment #8, Due date: 04/03/2024, 23:59.

05 March **Tenses**

No Homework Today.

12 March **Passive Voice & Course Conclusion**

No Homework Today.