

Shalom!

Welcome to Hebrew 1020, Elementary Hebrew II, a four-credit-hour course. We are delighted you have joined the Hebrew program at UNT.

Classes will be held:

- Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00 – 3:20 p.m. in Room 204 (class)
- Tuesdays from 3:30 – 4:20 p.m. in Room 217 (class)
- Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:20 p.m. in Room 205 (lab)

Your final exam is Tuesday, May 12, from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. in Room 204.

Course Description

This course will continue your introduction to Modern Hebrew, as it is written and spoken in Israel today. Classes will be highly interactive, with conversations, songs and games, using as much Hebrew as possible. There will be a lot of teamwork, as we split into groups to practice new material. Most written work will be handled outside of class.

A lot of information, such as your syllabus, assignments and supplemental material will be posted on Blackboard. It is your responsibility to log into Blackboard daily and get updated.

Required materials are the textbook *Hebrew from Scratch - Part I 2007edition*, and the CDs of *Hebrew From Scratch – Part 1, A Dictionary For Learners of Hebrew*, which you can buy at the UNT bookstore. You need to keep your work in a folder or binder all semester. Do not throw away any checked assignment!

Course Objectives

By the end of Spring Semester you should be able to:

- Read printed Hebrew and write Hebrew script, without vowels.
- Understand basic spoken Hebrew, with increased vocabulary, verb usage and slang, and conduct more sophisticated conversations in present tense.
- Become familiar with verb structures.
- Learn infinitives, preposition declension and usages of adverbs.
- Learn to use a Hebrew–English dictionary.
- Increase your grasp of the history and evolution of the Hebrew language, and Israeli history and culture.

Attendance and Classwork

I expect you to come to every class and lab, to be on time, and to come prepared. Learning any language requires repetition and progression, and it is very easy to fall behind. If you cannot attend class, you are responsible for notifying me **prior** to the class – and you are still responsible for turning in all assignments on time. Unexcused absences under University policy will detract from your grade.

Class participation is very important to learning a language and will be a significant part of your grade. This is your prime opportunity during the week to hear and speak Hebrew, and you should make the most of it. Class is conducted in English and Hebrew, with as much Hebrew as possible. The more Hebrew you speak, and the more Hebrew you hear, even if you do not understand every word, the faster your comprehension will improve.

You may bring drinks to class, but no food or gum. Hebrew sounds terrible when spoken through gum.

Assignments

All assignments will be posted on Blackboard, so even if you missed class you should turn in your assignment the following class. All assignments should be turned in on time, preferably on graph paper, and not torn out of your book. Write the whole sentence and not only the words in the blanks; otherwise, you will not get credit for that exercise. The homework must be on my desk before the class starts. You need to keep your work in a folder or binder all semester. Do not throw away any checked assignment!

A missed assignment will earn a zero. Even if you do not fully understand the work, you will always get credit for trying to do the exercise. Late homework will not earn more than a 70, and must be turned in within one week. After that, the assignment earns a zero.

You will be given assignments in the language lab (room 105), which you will do on your own. The purposes of these assignments are to reinforce new material and to review grammatical concepts.

You will watch several movies in class each semester and will be required to turn in assignments corresponding to the movie. These assignments should be typed and can be sent by attachment to my UNT email address or the Blackboard email system. Do not submit them to Blackboard assignments. The movies open a window to Israeli culture and expose you to usage of the language at real speed.

Practice Log

You will team up with a classmate and meet with him/her a few times a week, or speak on the phone, to work on your reading and speaking skills for at least an hour. Each pair will submit one weekly log with the names of the participants, dates of meeting, material you worked on and the duration. This is part of your semester grade. Doing homework and studying for tests together is not considered as practice time with your classmate.

Quizzes

Every week at the beginning of the lesson the students will have a quiz. Missing a quiz or being late will earn the student a zero. This reinforces both new vocabulary and the need to be on time.

Tests

All exams for this course will be given only on the announced dates. My policy is to give make-up exams only for University-authorized absences, for religious holidays (after notification to me in writing within the first 15 days of the semester), and in cases of genuine emergency, such as a serious illness or a death in the family. In cases of emergency, to be eligible for a make-up exam, you must submit to me (a) written documentation for your excuse, and (b) a phone number I can call to verify excuses.

Cheating will not be tolerated. For UNT policies concerning cheating, including plagiarism, see the "Code of Student Conduct and Discipline" in the 2006-2007 Undergraduate Catalog.

Oral Presentation

All students will choose a topic to present in front of the class. Presentations will start in early April. At the beginning of the semester the list of topics with guidelines will be posted on Blackboard and a sign-up sheet for a presentation date will be posted in class by the end of March. Failing to keep the date will lower the grade.

Grades

Here are the components of your final grade:

Homework	25 percent	Tests (chapter tests and final exam)	40 percent
Practice Log	5 percent	Quizzes	5 percent
Participation	20 percent	Oral Presentation	5 percent

Americans with Disabilities Act statement

The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, in cooperation with the Office of Disability Accommodation, complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making accommodations for students with disabilities. Please present your written accommodation request to your instructor during the first week of class.

Keep in Touch

My office hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m., in Room 203. Otherwise, feel free to call me at 565-2311, or email me at rprecker@unt.edu to arrange a time to meet.

I hope we will have a wonderful, worthwhile semester as we build the UNT Hebrew program together. Please do not hesitate to let me know how you are doing, or what you need to succeed in this class.