

The Hebrew Program

Brandeis University

Hebrew 168: Hebrew proficiency I

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Course description:

An advanced-level course, that focuses on the theories and methodologies for teaching Hebrew. This course is designed primarily for students at the advanced level who are interested in eventually being able to teach Hebrew.

Course outcomes overview :

By the end of the course most of the students will have achieved the following:

- The understanding of the concepts of how second language is acquired as explained through the lenses of the following academic disciplines: psychology , linguistics, and education.
- The understanding of the rationale behind the variety of teaching second language methodologies.
- The ability to function in Hebrew at the advanced mid level in all four language skills as described in the Hebrew Proficiency guidelines.

In speaking and writing, learners will be able to:

- *Initiate, sustain, and bring closure to a wide variety of communicative tasks, including those that require an increased ability to convey meaning and to narrate and describe with paragraph-length connected discourse.*

In listening and reading, learners will be able to:

- *Understand main ideas and most details of connected discourse on a variety of topics that are conceptually abstract and linguistically complex. Additionally, they be able to understand texts which involve aspects of target-language culture.*

By the end of the course, most of the students will be able to :

- differentiate between theories, methodologies and approaches
- describe and compare teaching methodologies and second language acquisition theories
- narrate and analyze their own experience as second language learners
- identify second language theories and methodologies “in action,” in real life context as well as in a language classroom. They will summarize it in writing using formal/academic Hebrew
- use the main concepts embedded in the learned theories and methodologies when evaluating their own experiences as learners of other disciplines
- create and articulate, in writing, their own theory on how second language is acquired , using formal /academic Hebrew
- teach a model lesson in Hebrew using the appropriate teaching methodologies