



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Rothberg International School  
Division of Hebrew Language Instruction



## Syllabus for Level Vav – Upper Advanced

### General Information

Level *Vav* is the most advanced level out of six levels of Modern Hebrew language instruction at the Hebrew University. Students who pass the P'tor (Exemption) exam, at the end of the course, are exempt from further Hebrew study at the University, subject to their grade in this exam. Courses on level *Vav* are offered at the RIS in the following frameworks:

- **Jerusalem Ulpan:** (Subject to sufficient registration) Generally 140 academic hours over up to six weeks in late June-July. Studies are held Sunday-Thursday, and occasionally on Friday, 5-6 academic hours per day. (\*)
- **Summer Ulpan:** Generally 200 academic hours over up to two months in August-September. Studies are held Sunday-Thursday, and occasionally on Friday, 5-6 academic hours per day.
- **Academic Year:** Courses are held on a semester basis. In the *Division of Graduate Studies*, classes extend over 14 weeks, 8 academic hours per week, for a semester total of 112 academic hours. In the *Preparatory Program*, classes extend over 14 weeks, 6 academic hours per week, for a semester total of 84 academic hours.
- **Winter Ulpan:** (Subject to sufficient registration) Generally 100 academic hours over 3-4 weeks in between the autumn and spring semesters (January-February). Studies are held Sunday-Thursday, and occasionally on Friday, up to 6 academic hours per day. (\*)

(\*) *The opening of a level Vav class is subject to sufficient registration.*

### Course Objective

This course is designed to enable the student to use Hebrew freely, incorporating all of the language skills – comprehension, conversation, reading and writing – with exposure to a wide range of vocabulary, language structures, and academic and scientific texts. Attention is paid to lexical collocations and semantic fields.

The course concentrates on the written language, especially scientific writing, as well as elements of Biblical and Mishnaic Hebrew, literature from earlier periods and complex written material. Students read a variety of newspapers and journals as well as Israeli literature, scientific articles and legal documents. They have an excellent command of synonyms and idiomatic Hebrew. They are able to write academic papers in Hebrew. By the end of the course, students should be fluent in Hebrew. They should know all verbal and syntactical structures, and their extensive vocabulary enables them to fully partake in all academic activities.

### Examinations

**The Mid-term exam** contains four parts: reading comprehension, Cloze exercises, grammatical exercises and an essay.

**The Final exam** resembles the structure of the mid-term exam and encompasses all the material learned from the beginning of the course.

*Note:* In the Summer Ulpan, there is an additional final exam on scientific text comprehension.

**The Level exam** is an external exam of the RIS Division of Hebrew Language Instruction, which is prepared and graded by other RIS Hebrew teachers (i.e., not by the class teacher).

**The Final Exam of the course is the Exemption exam (*Bhinat P'tor*)** which is an external exam of the RIS Division of Hebrew Language Instruction, prepared and graded by other RIS Hebrew teachers (and not by the class teacher). Students who pass this exam are exempt from further Hebrew language study at the Hebrew University. In order to pass the exam and obtain exemption, a minimum a grade of 75 is required by all Hebrew University departments, exempt for the faculty of Law, which requires a minimum grade of 85.

### **Quizzes**

Quizzes will be given on a regular basis.

### **Project**

Students will write a project, based on various texts. e.g. literature, newspaper articles or films.

### **Books and Study Materials**

**עברית תמיד – Always Hebrew** (*Ivrit Tamid*), or **קובץ להבנת הנקרא ולהעשרה** (*Kovetz le-Havanat ha-Nikra u-le-Ha'asharah*), to be purchased from the Academon bookstore on campus or over the Internet: [www.magnespress.co.il](http://www.magnespress.co.il).

Students will be asked to purchase additional grammar books at the beginning of the course.

**Audio Programs – Listening to Hebrew** for practicing oral comprehension in the Language Laboratory, can be purchased from the Academon bookstore on campus or over the Internet: [www.magnespress.co.il](http://www.magnespress.co.il)

**Multimedia courseware** is available for free on the RIS website  
<http://overseas.huji.ac.il/hebrewmultimedia>

**Hebrew literary works**, including poetry, available in the Rothberg School Library in book form and on CDs.

### **Final Grade**

The final grade is based on the following:

- Attendance, class participation, homework, quizzes, and project: 50% (exact value of each component is according to the framework of the course)
- Mid-term exam: 15%
- Final exam or Level exam: 35%

**Note:** In order to obtain an exemption from further Hebrew language studies, students must pass the Exemption exam with a minimum grade of 75 (or 85 for the Faculty of Law).