



Rothberg International School  
בית הספר לתלמידים מחו"ל ע"ש רוטברג  
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM  
האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים



## Syllabus for Level Aleph (A)

### General Information

Level Aleph is the first, elementary level out of five levels of Modern Hebrew language instruction at the Hebrew University. On level Aleph, students acquire the foundations of the language; therefore, this level requires more hours of instruction to complete than any other level. Hebrew classes in level Aleph are generally subdivided into Aleph Beginners (for absolute beginners) and Aleph Advanced Beginners (for students with basic background knowledge, including the alphabet and limited vocabulary).

Prior to the course, all Level Aleph students will receive a link to our Aleph-Bet self-study program, which comprises 10 asynchronous on-line lessons. Completing this program is a mandatory requirement to join the Hebrew course.

### Course Objective

The course is designed to enable students to recognize the fundamental structures of the Hebrew language and its basic forms, as well as to acquire the necessary vocabulary for everyday conversations, reading and writing on a limited scale.

### Examinations

**The midterm exam** comprises all the material learned until the middle of the course.

**The final exam** resembles the structure of the midterm exam and comprises all the material learned throughout the course.

A **listening comprehension test** is held at the end of the course.

An **oral examination** is held also at the end of the course. This test assesses students' oral communication skills and revolves around texts learned in class and topics prepared in advance.

**Quizzes** will be given on a regular basis.

## Course Description

Absolute beginners learn to read and write the Hebrew alphabet in both block and script letters, along with very basic morphology and syntax. By the end of Level Aleph, students usually know 1000 words. They gain experience in a variety of skills:

- **Comprehension:** Listening to short stories and recorded conversations.
- **Conversation:** Simple dialogues and stories.
- **Reading:** Dialogues and texts in easy Hebrew on various topics.
- **Writing:** Short dialogues and passages on the topics taught in class.
- **Grammatical Skills:** Elementary grammatical structures, inflection of the strong verb in the past and present tenses; frequent weak verbs.

## Final Grade

The final grade is based on the following:

- Homework, quizzes, the oral exam, the listening comprehension test and the midterm exam constitute 65% of the course grade (the exact weight of each grade component is established according to the framework of the course).
- Final exam (Beginners) or level exam (Advanced Beginners) : 35%.
- To pass to the next level (or Aleph Advanced), students will be required to attain a minimum grade of 65 in the level exam and a minimum grade of 70 in all other grade components.