

The University of Toronto

INTERMEDIATE YIDDISH

German 360H / Fall 2016

Instructor:	ALEXANDRA HOFFMAN	Dept:	German
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Hours:	W 12-1 (& by app.)	Tel.:	647-609-7215

Class meets in **NF 205 (tentative)** on **Wednesdays 10-12 and Fridays 10-11**

DESCRIPTION AND COURSE GOALS

Welcome to intermediate Yiddish! This course will build on the knowledge and skills you've acquired in beginner's Yiddish. Emphasis will shift slightly towards reading, listening and speaking. We will read selections from folk tales, Glatshteyn's *Emil un karl* (or another text), and finish *College Yiddish*. You will write compositions and summaries, acquire new vocabulary words, listen to recordings, watch films, and give presentations. We will sing and play games. We will also go on a tour of Yiddish-speaking Toronto (past and present).



As you can see from the grading system, active classroom participation is very important, as are daily homework assignments - always due on the next class. I am always happy to meet with you to discuss any questions or concerns you may have about the class, or to give you additional help that you might need.

You will be asked to present the results of a small creative project during the last class. You have a wide variety of options for project topics and formats. It can be a research or a translation project, or you may want to write and/or perform a story, poem or skit in Yiddish. You may want to work on your project individually or in a group.

REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION

Preparation, participation and presentations	30%
Compositions and Quizzes	30%
Final Exam	30%
Final project	10%

MATERIALS

Uriel Weinreich, *College Yiddish*

Comprehensive Yiddish-English Dictionary subscription (verterbukh.org)

Yankev Glatshteyn, *Emil un Karl* (on Blackboard)

Additional materials (available from instructor and on Blackboard)

CALENDAR

Note: The purpose of this calendar is to provide a general idea of how this course is structured. It may be subject to change. A binding course syllabus will be provided at the first class session.

- Week 1 Sweet beginnings: the diminutive and folk tales.
- Week 2 Review of the past participles and “zayn” verbs; College Yiddish 20; konverbn.
- Week 3 Telling a story; College Yiddish 21; clauses.
- Week 4 Manger’s “Porets’s vontses”; summarizing; articulating opinion.
- Week 5 College Yiddish 22; dates; fractions
- Week 6 Jewish life in Poland and other videos; College Yiddish 23; emphasizing a sentence unit.
- Week 7 Emil un karl; College Yiddish 24; translation.
- Week 8 College Yiddish 26; comparative and superlative; Sholem aleykhem’s superlatives.
- Week 9 College Yiddish 27; present participle; the conditional; Goldfaden’s legacy.
- Week 10 College Yiddish 28; nouns from verbs; feminine suffixes.
- Week 11 College Yiddish 29; dative of reference and indirect discourse
- Week 12 College Yiddish 30; review; project presentations.