

The University of Toronto
BEGINNING YIDDISH 2
GERMAN 260 / Spring 2019

Instructor: **ALEXANDRA HOFFMAN** Dept: German
Office: Odette Hall 326 Email: sasha.hoffman@utoronto.ca
Hours: F 11-1 (& by app.) Tel.: 647-609-7215

Class meets in **Odette Hall 323** on **Wednesdays 10-12** and **Fridays 10-11**

DESCRIPTION AND COURSE GOALS

You will now continue to improve your language skills, and study more complex grammatical structures and idiomatic expressions. You will expand your vocabulary and learn to talk about ideas and emotions. We will start reading simple folk tales and modern Yiddish literary texts. You will be required to write short weekly compositions.



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.

Please don't hesitate to email or call me with any questions, concerns, comments, etc.

REQUIREMENTS / EVALUATION

Participation and prep (regular homework, presentations, attendance): 35%
Compositions and rewrites: 20%
Quizzes: 20%
Term test: 15%
Final Project - 10%

MATERIALS

Dictionary or two (I recommend verterbukh.org); coursepack available from the instructor and online.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS, DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS, AND ATHLETIC COMMITMENTS

If you will be observing any religious holidays this semester which will prevent you from attending a regularly scheduled class or interfere with your fulfilling any course requirement, inform your instructor of the dates of your religious holiday(s) within two weeks of the beginning of the semester or immediately if your holiday is near the beginning of the semester so that we may make appropriate alternative plans. In order for your disabilities and athletic activities to be appropriately accommodated, you must provide documentation during the first two weeks of class (or as soon as possible if a disability, including mental illness, emerges during the semester).

The University's Accessibility Services Office is located at 455 Spadina Avenue, 4th Floor, Suite 400; Phone: **416-978-8060**; Email: accessibility.services@utoronto.ca.

The University's Health & Wellness Centre is located at 214 College Street, 2nd Floor. Phone: **416-978-8030**. They are not open in the evenings or weekends. This link has a list of places that have better hours: <http://www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/hwc/emergencies#node-1084>

GENDER PRONOUN PREFERENCES

Gender plays a large role in Yiddish grammar. Of course, as we are learning the language, everyone is likely be misgendered or to misgender other students occasionally! Accidental misgendering is a grammatical error, in contrast with intentional misgendering, which is a form of harassment. Please let me know if I can help you establish your preferences for this class.

CALENDAR

I will be giving you detailed schedules with assignments every month.

- Week 1 Review
- Week 2 The story of hanukka and the past.
- Week 3 Short stories; body parts
- Week 4 Dative of reference; “vey ton”
- Week 5 Past-present-future; prepositions+dative
- Week 6 Numbers, arithmetic, time expressions
- Week 7 Konverbn; Hershele Ostropolyer
- Week 8 Legends; habitual past.
- Week 9 Comparative and superlative
- Week 10 Periphrastic verbs
- Week 11 The verb “zoln” and the reflexive
- Week 12 Review and final projects