

The University of Toronto

INTERMEDIATE YIDDISH

German 360H / Fall 2019

Instructor:	ALEXANDRA HOFFMAN	Dept:	German
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Hours:	Wed. 1-3 and Thurs. 11-1	Tel.:	647-609-7215

Class meets in Alumni Hall 402 on Wednesdays 12-1 and Fridays 10-12

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 rewrites (5% each, with the lowest grade dropped)	20%
Quizzes: (5% each, with the lowest grade dropped)	20%
Term test	20%
Final project	10%

MATERIALS

Uriel Weinreich, *College Yiddish*

Comprehensive Yiddish-English Dictionary subscription (verterbukh.org)

Additional materials (available from instructor and on Blackboard)

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.

JEWISH HOLIDAYS

Roshashone (Rosh Hashana, New Year): Mon., Sept. 30 – Tues., Oct. 1

Yonkiper (Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement): Wed, Oct. 9

Sukes/Sikes (Sukkot, Feast of Tabernacles): Mon, Oct. 14 – Mon, Oct. 21

Simkhes toyre (Simchat Torah): Tues, Oct. 22

Khanuke/Khanike (Hanukkah): Mon, Dec. 23 – Mon, Dec. 30