

Cultural Center Handbook

Modern Hebrew

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All Levels

Handbook Contents and Introduction

This is your Hebrew Cultural Center handbook. It is your guide to all the resources available to you as a student of ORU that can help further your knowledge of Hebrew. In all of the classes in Hebrew up to level 204 a certain amount of hours must be spent in the cultural center for a grade. This guide is here for you to choose the best type of activity for your level and learning style.

Should you be past the 204 level, the cultural center is a great tool to hone your skills. Because it is of no cost to you, this is a highly recommended resource to exploit. Many of the activities available in the cultural center are still challenging at higher levels.

I encourage you to take advantage of the wonderful resources you have available to you at the Cultural Center! Shalom!

*Note - a shortcut to the verbs and book lists can be found on the main Language Lab website: http://www.oru.edu/current_students/my_academics/resources/language_lab/. This handbook is simply a guide to the resources listed there.

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Learning Style Guide

Determining your learning style can help you in many, many areas of life, even outside of college. It is included in this packet as a tool to help you on your quest to learn Hebrew. When you know how you best learn and what your thinking style is, you can study more efficiently and learn more quickly.

The following link will take you to a free 70 question test (it takes about 10 minutes) which gives an accurate evaluation of how you are processing information and how you best learn. It also gives links to descriptions of the learning styles.

Identifying your learning style can help you choose the best activity to do when you are completing your cultural center hours. The activities in this packet are listed according to learning style for this purpose.

Here is the link:

<http://www.learning-styles-online.com/inventory/>

A list of the learning styles included in this packet is below (the list is from the website above):

Aural (auditory):

- If you are an auditory learner, listening to languages and hearing words sounded out are most helpful to you.
- You should focus on hearing as much Hebrew as possible (with understanding!) in order to get the most benefit of your class.
- Reading and writing may be more difficult for you, unless visual learning is your secondary style.

Logical:

- If you are a logical learner, understanding the “nuts and bolts” of the language is very helpful to you grasping the grammatical concepts.
- Finding ways to understand the “why” behind a grammar concept will be most efficient for you.
- Very “foreign” concepts can be difficult; in this case, it is best to be able to just take the concept for what it is, even if you don’t understand it, and practice it anyway.

Physical:

- If you learn physically, you need to connect Hebrew with physical objects that you encounter in daily life.
- Using the words with your day to day activities is the best way to learn for you.
- More abstract words such as prepositions (“even,” “as,” and “like,”) can be difficult for you. Try to connect them physically, or use your secondary learning style to pick these up and practice them often.

Verbal:

- This is perhaps the learning style most adapted to learning languages. If this is your style, words make sense to you in most forms.
- You should utilize as many avenues with as many senses as possible in order to grasp Hebrew best.
- The more abstract and cultural aspects of a language might be lost on you. Immersion in the culture is one way to overcome this challenge.

Visual:

- If this is your learning style, you need to see it in order to get it.
- If this is your style, make sure you are able to view a diagram of the concept, or look at the vocabulary word in order to learn it.
- Verbal learning is perhaps the most difficult challenge for many visual learners, and thus, you should pair verbal learning with visual in order to understand best.

Social:

- You tend to learn best in groups, sharing the Hebrew language with others. Practice and personal feedback work best with you.
- Try to practice with a classmate, and maybe even bring a friend to the cultural center with you.
- It can be difficult or boring for you to learn alone, and thus, you should seek out ways to interact personally with the language.

Solitary:

- You prefer quiet and solitude in order to study.
- Perhaps interacting in class is difficult, or you are shy about speaking Hebrew with another person. You need a strong foundation of personal study before stepping out socially.
- Make sure you study it yourself, and own the material yourself, before practicing it with others.

Books

The Cultural Center has many books in Hebrew to choose from. Even if you cannot read Hebrew easily, or don't have a large vocabulary, these books will help you practice your reading skills and develop a larger vocabulary.

Levels: All

Learning Styles: Verbal, Visual, Solitary, Aural (if you read them out loud)

Children's Books:

Goodbye in Antarctica - להיתראות באנטארקטיקה

My Aunt from Prophet Street - הדודה שלי מרחוב הנביאים

Nurit Zarchi - נורית זרחי

The Vineyard and the Workers - הכרם והפועלים

Stories from the Pentateuch - חמשי

סיפור פו חדר: מישהי משפר - Winnie the Pooh: Someone's Lying

אצבעוני - Thimbles

מעת לעת - From Time to Time

עמי ותמי - Ami and Tammy

החתול במגפים - Puss in Boots

שלגיה - Snow White

עלית ישוע המשיח - Ascension of Jesus the Messiah

במשפחה שלי - In My Family

לכלוכית - Cinderella

יש לנו למה - We Have A Llama

מה טוב - Mah Tov

עולם גדול - Olam Gadol

Other Books

The Tamarisk and Other Short Stories

Selected Stories of Asher Barash

תוכן הענינים - Search the Scriptures

שלום עם אלוהים - Peace with God

במלכות הסמים - The Drug Trap

למה רווקה אני - Why me?

נסיעות עם תינוקות - Travels with Babies

ספר תהילים ועבודה עלהים - The Book of Psalms and the Worship of God

כיצד ללמוד את כתבי הקדוש - How to Study the Bible

מלך היהודים - King of the Jews

The Mark of Cain

עדת הדממה - 14 Years in Communist Prisons

מרטין לותר - Martin Luther Translation

הביאי בנייך מרחוק - Let My People Go

The Tevye Stories

נסים - Miracles (C.S. Lewis)

היהודים מכורש עד הורדוס - The Jews from Cyrus to Herod

אלהים תמיד גדול יותר - God is Always Greater

Movies

We have a selection of movies that either have Hebrew subtitles or that have Hebrew audio. These are always an enjoyable way to spend your cultural center hours, but just make sure you listen to the movies in Hebrew audio - this is required.

Levels: All, but generally the lower levels (101-203).

Learning Styles: Visual, Verbal, Aural, Social or Solitary

Here is a link to the list of the movies available, as well as the number to give to the receptionist in order for him/her to pull the movie down for you.

http://www.oru.edu/current_students/my_academics/resources/pdfs/hebrew_dvds_2012.pdf

Games

Self-explanatory, this is a collection of Hebrew board games and group games that can be played. They are highly interactive and a lot of fun. Ask at the desk to check out a game for a bit.

Levels:

Beginner - 101-102

Intermediate - 203-204

Advanced - 301 and up

Apples to Apples, Jewish Edition

- A good resource for cultural and religious vocabulary. Will help you to learn the significance of a cultural word in English before learning it in Hebrew.
- Level: Beginner and up. Fun to play for those that know the terms and humor.
- Learning Types: Visual, Verbal, Aural, and Social

Scrabble, Hebrew

- A wonderful way to practice vocabulary and spelling. The ultimate Hebrew crossword puzzle. Recommended to play before a vocab quiz!
- Level: Any.
- Learning types: Visual, Verbal, Physical, Logical, and Social

Monopoly, Hebrew

- A great way to build vocabulary and practice reading skills. The whole game is in Hebrew.
- Level: Intermediate to Advanced. You need good reading skills to follow the game. Will also help improve reading skills and vocabulary.
- Learning types: Visual, Verbal, Social.

Websites

Alphabet Websites:

Here is a group of links to specific websites that are targeted towards the Modern Hebrew student. This is a rich resource with varied practice settings and interesting activities, encompassing many different learning styles.

-Aleph-Bet Song: A must have for learning the Hebrew alphabet. You'll never forget this song.

Level: Beginner

Learning Style: Aural, Visual

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UiCzoTs1AdE>

-Cartoon Hebrew.com: A cute and thorough explanation of the alphabet with good imagery.

Levels: 101-102

Learning Style: Visual, Verbal, Logical

<http://www.cartoonhebrew.com/>

Grammar and Vocabulary Websites:

- Hebrew For Christians: A thorough website on Hebrew culture, language, and beginning grammar. Very clear.

Level: 101-203

Learning Style: Visual, Aural, Logical

<http://www.hebrew4christians.com>

- Aleph-Bet on the Net: A wonderful interactive vocabulary self-quiz - recommended before a vocabulary test!

Level: 101-204

Learning Style: Visual, Verbal, Physical

<http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~ylcflx/Aleph-Bet/index.html>

-Learn Hebrew Verbs: A fantastic verb-reference site. Can look up many verbs in lots of tenses.

Levels: 101-301

Learning Style: Visual, Logical

<http://www.hebrew-verbs.co.il>

Audio Websites

- Hebrew At Stanford: A site with a lot of videos with storylines covering vocabulary and grammar, as well as grammar drill videos.

Levels: 102-204

Learning Style: Aural, Visual, Logical

http://www.stanford.edu/class/hebrew/hsa/lessons1_10.html

News/Culture/Religion Sites

The Cultural Center website has a list of Jewish news sources, Messianic websites, and Israeli News websites. http://www.oru.edu/current_students/my_academics/resources/language_lab/websites_hebrew.php

Newspapers and Magazines

Here at the Cultural Center we are subscribed to various Israeli, Hebrew, and American newspapers and magazines that not only help with language learning but with cultural learning as well. It is vital to learn the culture behind the language, and the Hebrew language has one of the richest cultures as its background! Feel free to take advantage of our subscriptions and read some newspapers straight from the Land of Israel. The learning styles accommodated here are: Visual, Aural (if read aloud), Physical, Verbal, and Solitary.

Newspapers in English

- The Jerusalem Report
- The Jerusalem Report (Christian Edition)
- Israel Today
- The Jerusalem Post

Highly Recommended Hebrew-English Newspaper:

- Jerusalem Post Ivrit (In Hebrew and English side by side)

Newspaper in Hebrew

Sha'ar Lamat'hil שער למתחיל
(Completely in Hebrew)

Rosetta Stone

The famous Rosetta Stone program is also available here at ORU's Cultural Center for your use as a student. We have Level 1 available, which covers the alphabet and important grammatical concepts from adjectives, verbs, numbers, singular and plural, extensive vocabulary, adverbs, pronouns, and more. This covers a variety of most learning styles. It is appropriate for the beginning levels (101, 102, 203).

More information on Rosetta Stone can be found at the ORU Cultural Center website, here:

http://www.oru.edu/current_students/my_academics/resources/language_lab/rosetta_stone.php

