

Hebrew

The Hebrew major is offered by the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures and includes courses in language, culture, literature, and linguistics. Students studying Hebrew progress from an elementary working knowledge of the language toward oral and written proficiency. Once students have mastered the unique writing system of the language, they are introduced gradually to basic patterns of speech and grammar. The rich body of Hebrew literature is first studied in English translation; as students progress in the major and develop their language skills, they continue their readings in Hebrew.

Pursuing Hebrew at Ohio State

All Ohio State freshman applicants are considered within a competitive admission process for the Columbus campus. The primary criteria for admission are the completion of the applicant's high school college preparatory program, performance in that program as indicated by class rank and/or grade-point average, and performance on either the ACT or SAT. Upon admission to the university, students can declare a major in Hebrew within the Arts and Humanities. Interested students should contact the undergraduate advisor in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures and in Arts and Sciences Advising.

Hebrew Requirements

A major consists of a minimum of Hebrew 205, 620, and 35 hours of courses numbered 400 or above. Students may select up to 10 hours of course work in allied disciplines in consultation with their major advisor.

The undergraduate courses offered in Hebrew falls into two general groups, literature and language. Students may emphasize one or both of these areas of study.

Core courses include Hebrew 101 through 104. These courses do not apply toward the major.

Additional electives and General Education Curriculum requirements totaling 181 hours are required by the College of the Arts and Sciences for graduation.

Success in Hebrew requires a commitment to daily preparation and a willingness on the part of the student to use the opportunities provided in class to speak the language. Students interested in studying abroad during their junior or senior year can get specific information about various

programs from the coordinating advisor in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures.

Co-Curricular Opportunities

Ohio State offers many opportunities for students to learn and grow outside of the classroom. These range from cooperative education (co-op) and internships to study abroad programs to student organizations. Co-ops and internships place students in professional environments while they are Ohio State students. Ohio State offers more than 100 study abroad programs in 40 countries around the world. In addition, there are hundreds of student organizations on campus to meet the interests of a diverse student population.

These experiences enable students to gain valuable work experience, learn about cultures, and take on leadership roles before they enter the workforce. All of these experiences enhance learning and may provide an advantage in the job market.

Honors & Scholars Opportunities

Ohio State offers the Honors and Scholars programs to create an environment of intellectual support and stimulation within a close-knit community of high-ability undergraduate students. Through these programs, students have access to smaller classes, undergraduate research opportunities, close working relationships with faculty, priority scheduling, and unique housing options.

Honors and Scholars programs represent great opportunities to be part of a smaller community within a large university. Good candidates for these programs will receive additional information after admission to the university. Learn more about the Honors and Scholars program at honors-scholars.osu.edu.

Career Prospects in Hebrew

Hebrew is applicable in a variety of settings in the United States and abroad. Mastery of Hebrew allows students to consider careers in such fields as education, government, international trade, banking, print or electronic media, or tourism.

Careers in which Hebrew is the primary emphasis include teaching Hebrew at all levels; interpreting and translating for the United Nations, government, or for private and public organizations; and a variety of positions in the travel and tourism industry at home or abroad, such as flight attendant, travel agent and tour guide. Careers in which proficiency in

For more information, check these web sites:

Near Eastern Languages and Cultures: nelc.osu.edu

Arts and Humanities: artsandhumanities.osu.edu

Ohio State: osu.edu

Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu

Multicultural Center: multiculturalcenter.osu.edu

First Year Experience: fye.osu.edu

Curriculum Sample

This is the sample list of classes a student may take to pursue a degree in Hebrew. Since university students need more than a specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete the General Education Curriculum (GEC). The GEC will allow students to develop the fundamental skills essential to collegiate success across major programs. Course work options satisfying the GEC often come from a variety of academic areas of study allowing students to tailor their GEC toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in Hebrew. Consult the departmental web site, nelc.osu.edu, for details on how the major may be completed.

Freshman Year:

GEC (arts and humanities)	10
GEC (history sequence)	10
GEC courses	25
Arts and Humanities Survey	1
Freshman Seminar	1
Total hours	47

Sophomore Year:

Modern Hebrew Grammar, Composition, and Conversation	5
Review of Grammar and Composition	5
GEC courses	40
Total hours	50

Junior Year:

Intermediate Hebrew Conversation and Composition	5
Modern Hebrew Poetry	5
Modern Hebrew Short Story	5
History of the Hebrew Language	5
GEC courses	5
Electives	15
Total hours	40

Senior Year:

The Bible as Literature: Selected Readings	5
Introduction to Hebrew Literary and Cultural Texts	5
Comparative Semitics	5
GEC courses	5
Electives	25
Total Hours	45

Hebrew is a good secondary tool include banking and finance, business, sales, export purchasing, foreign market analysis, journalism, foreign correspondence, science and research, library science, hotel management, publishing, and radio broadcasting. All who study Hebrew find that the experience sharpens their understanding of language in general and enables them to use their own language more effectively.

Beginning salaries depend on candidates' skills and experience, and whether Hebrew is of primary or secondary importance in daily job performance. Hebrew language graduates find their marketable skills considerably enhanced by their humanities education.

More About Hebrew

Many scholarship, internship, and study abroad opportunities are available for students majoring in Hebrew. Study abroad programs include the following:

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
Hebrew University in Jerusalem
Tel Aviv University

For more information regarding any of the programs listed above, refer to the Office of International Affairs at oia.osu.edu.

The Melton Center for Jewish Studies at Ohio State coordinates a large and diverse Jewish Studies program around the university, and as such it constitutes a major resource for Hebrew majors. For more information about the Melton Center, see meltoncenter.osu.edu.

Career Counseling and Job Placement

Students can explore career options by utilizing Career Connection as well as the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office. Providing complimentary services, Career Connection focuses on helping students establish a career direction, while the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office assists students with finding internships—experiences that are essential to testing out the suitability of career fields they are considering. Located in 48 Townshend Hall, the Arts and Sciences Career Services Office also assists seniors and recent graduates with finding entry-level career employment. More information about both offices is found at asccareerservices.osu.edu and careerconnection.osu.edu.

Apply to Ohio State

Students wishing to apply for admission have a number of options. Those with Internet access can download application materials or apply online by visiting undergrad.osu.edu/apply.html. Students may also contact Undergraduate Admissions and First Year Experience at (614) 292-3980 or askabuckeye@osu.edu to have an application mailed.

Revised September 2009. For the most up-to-date information on the Hebrew program, please visit nelc.osu.edu.

Contact information:

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