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 freshman applicants are considered within a competitive admission process; find admissions criteria at go.osu.edu/admissions. Upon admission to the university, students can declare a major in Hebrew within the College of Arts and Sciences. 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 2105, 4101, a literature in translation course and 21 hours of courses numbered 4000 or above. Students may select a limited number of courses in allied disciplines in consultation with their major advisor.

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

Core courses include Hebrew 1101 through 1103. These courses do not apply toward the major.

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.

The Honors and Scholars Programs represent great opportunities to be part of a smaller community within a large university. Find more information 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 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.

For more information, check these websites:

Near Eastern Languages and Cultures: nelc.osu.edu
College of Arts and Sciences: artsandsciences.osu.edu
Ohio State: osu.edu
Admissions: undergrad.osu.edu
Multicultural Center: multiculturalcenter.osu.edu
First Year Experience: fye.osu.edu
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. 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 can be found at asccareerservices.osu.edu and careerconnection.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 specific education in a narrow field, they also will take classes to complete General Education (GE) requirements. Because GE courses come from a variety of academic areas of study, this course work helps students develop fundamental skills essential to collegiate success and allows them to tailor these courses toward their interests. Note: This sample represents one of several possible paths to a degree in Hebrew. Consult the departmental website, nelc.osu.edu, for details on how the major may be completed.

Freshman Year:
- Elementary Hebrew I 4
- Elementary Hebrew II 4
- Culture of Contemporary Israel 3
- Survey course 1
- Freshman Seminar 1
- GE courses 17
- Total hours 30

Sophomore Year:
- Intermediate Hebrew I 4
- Modern Hebrew Grammar 4
- Comparative Semitic Linguistics 3
- History of the Hebrew Language 3
- GE courses 16
- Total hours 30

Junior Year:
- Review of Grammar and Composition 4
- Modern Hebrew Short Story 4
- Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation 3
- Readings in the Mishnah 3
- GE courses 8
- Elective courses 9
- Total hours 31

Senior Year:
- Biblical Hebrew Grammar 3
- The Bible as Literature 3
- Introduction to Hebrew Literature and Cultural Texts 3
- Readings in Rabbinic Literature 3
- Israeli and Palestinian Literature 3
- GE courses 3
- Elective courses 12
- Total hours 30

Revised June 2012. Information subject to change. For the most up-to-date information on the Hebrew program, please visit nelc.osu.edu.

Contact information:
Justin Acome | Near Eastern Languages and Cultures
300 Hagerty Hall | 1775 College Road | Columbus, Ohio 43210-1340
614-292-9255 | acome.1@osu.edu