

BEGINNING YIDDISH LANGUAGE II—YDSH 102/JWST 032
SYLLABUS—Spring 2007
T-Th 12-1:30—Williams 23

FOUR SEMESTERS OF YIDDISH FULFILL THE LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT!

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, you will continue to **improve and advance the skills** you began to learn in the Fall semester, in reading, writing, speaking, understanding, and enjoying Yiddish. We will supplement our textbook, Sheva Zucker's *Yiddish: Introduction to the Language, Literature, and Culture*, along with its accompanying audio CDs, with photocopies of **songs, poems, and stories**, and a **Yiddish film**, Joseph Green's *Mamele* (Poland, 1938, again featuring Molly Picon). We'll learn more songs from Eleanor G. Mlotek's *Mir Trogn a Gezang*, a collection of popular Yiddish songs. I recommend that you buy Uriel Weinreich's *English-Yiddish, Yiddish-English Dictionary*, a classic work essential for reading "real" Yiddish books, which we will start this semester.

We will research and present **Yiddish websites** and have a class session on the **history of Yiddish songs** at the Robert and Molly Freedman Jewish Music Archive in Van Pelt Library, and explore **the Yiddish collections of Penn's libraries**. One highlight of the semester will be a **group project**, devised and executed by the class. This project will entail our putting the Yiddish skills we've acquired to use in the world. Last year, the students **interviewed 5 native Yiddish speakers** on the meaning of Yiddish in their lives. The interview was recorded digitally, and we will work with that recording. This year, it's up to you, the students, to dream up a project and carry it out!

II. TEXTS: Available at the Penn Book Center—34th and Sansom Streets (215-222-7600)

1. Sheva Zucker, *Yiddish: An Introduction to the Language, Literature, and Culture*, Vol. 1 (Ktav / Workmen's Circle, 1994)
2. Sheva Zucker, *Yiddish: An Introduction to the Language, Literature, and Culture*, Vol. 1 (CDs or audio cassettes)
3. Eleanor G. Mlotek and Joseph Mlotek, *Mir Trogn a Gezang* (songbook)
4. Uriel Weinreich, *Modern English-Yiddish, Yiddish-English Dictionary* [recommended]
5. *Vayter* (monthly Yiddish newspaper for students, handed out in class).

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Your **attendance and participation in class are essential** to the learning process, as is your faithful fulfillment of the written homework assignments (*di heymarbet*). Homework will be due **in class** on the dates specified below. **Instead of a midterm, you will have in-class quizzes approximately every other week, as well as a small library or music project and presentation, and a final exam.** Grades will be based on all of these aspects of the course in the following allocation:

Class attendance and participation:	20%
Homework:	15%
Quizzes:	25%
Library Project:	10%
Final exam:	30%

IV. SCHEDULE:

Date	Assignment
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Jan. 9	OPENING CLASS: Review Final Exam from Fall 2006 (Zucker, Units 1-6)
Jan. 11	Read: Review Zucker, Unit 6 , Reading, pp. 85-92, “ <i>Der veter</i> ,” Imperative; Use of <i>es</i> as Subject; Adverbs formed from Adjectives; More about Present Tense—Modal Verbs; Specific Endings; Irregular Infinitives Write: Paragraph with Unit 6 vocabulary; using pp. 86-89, with nominative and accusative forms; Selected Exercises, pp. 96-99. Song: “ <i>Abi gezunt</i> ,” by Molly Picon (93-96)
Jan. 16	Read: Zucker, Unit 7 , <i>Di mayse fun khanike</i> (103-107) Write: A paragraph using Unit 7 vocabulary. Songs: “ <i>Khanike, oy khanike</i> ” and “ <i>Borukh ate, zingt der tate</i> ” (107-110) “ <i>Tum balalayke</i> ,” in <i>Mir trogn a gezang</i> (30)
Jan. 18	Read: Zucker, Unit 7 , Grammar (111-113)—the Past Tense. Write: Paragraph using Unit 7 vocabulary, pp. 104-9. QUIZ ON 7 VOCABULARY
Jan. 23	Read: Sholem Aleykhem, “ <i>Khanike gelt</i> ,” (113-115) Write: Unit 7 Exercises (116-119)
Jan. 25	Read: <i>Vayter (di onheybers tsaytung)</i> Write: <i>A tsaytung artikle</i> , in the past tense. QUIZ ON 7 GRAMMAR

- Jan. 30 Film: Molly Picon in *Mamele* (dir. Joseph Green, Jan Nowina-Przybylsik; Warsaw, 1938) (90 minutes) (screen in class)
Research: Find a Yiddish website online
Write: Print out a sample and write a paragraph (*af yidish*) describing the website. In the next few classes, each of you will present your website; we will link them all to our course Blackboard site.
- Feb. 1 Read: Zucker, Unit 8A, Reading, pp. 121-124, "*Mishpokhe*"
Write: *A mayse vegn dayn mishpokhe mit di verter fun 8A.*
Student presentation of Yiddish website.
- Feb. 6 Read: Children's *mayselekh* ("*Yingele tsingele*," "*Di feygele*"), Miriam Margolin; and *Der zeyer hungeriker opfreser (mayse mit bilder)* (HANDOUTS)
Songs: *Di grine katshke (lider)*
Write: *A maysele far kinder*, using the past tense.
Student presentation of Yiddish website.
- Feb. 8 Read: Zucker, Unit 8A, Grammar, pp. 124-128.
(Possessive adjectives; One of someone's; *voynen* and *lebn*)
Song: "*Unzer nigndl*" (126-127)
Write: Paragraph using Unit 8A vocabulary, pp. 123-124; 128.
Student presentation of Yiddish website.
- Feb. 13 Read: Zucker, Unit 8B, Reading, 133-6, "*Tsvey brider.*"
Write: Unit 8A Exercises, 128-132.
Student presentation of Yiddish website.
- Feb. 15 Read: Zucker, Unit 8B, Grammar, 136-141.
(Consecutive word order; Article vs. possessive adjectives; adjectives used as nouns.)
Song: Itzik Manger, "*Afn veg shteyt a boym*," 145-7.
Write: Paragraph using Unit 8B vocabulary, 135-6.
QUIZ ON 8A
- Feb. 20 Read: Zucker, Unit 9A, Reading, 149-152, "*Kleyder.*"
"Bahit," Malka Heifetz Tussman (poem)
Song: "*Vu bistu geven?*" (156-157)
Write: Unit 8B Exercises, 141-144.
Student presentation of Yiddish website.
- Feb. 22 Read: Zucker, Unit 9A, Grammar, pp. 152-157.

(Past Tense with *zayn*; Numbers; Approx. numbers; Mathematical expressions; Cardinal numbers; Plural of *dolar*; *onton* and *zikh onton*).

Write: Paragraph using Unit 9A vocabulary, 150-151.

QUIZ ON 8B

Feb. 27 Read: Poem on immigration: Morris Rosenfeld, "*Mayn yingele*" (*Gezang*, 148-9).
Bring Weinreich's dictionary to class.

Write: Unit 9A Exercises, 158-162, II (even), III (odd), VIII.

Student presentation of Yiddish website.

March 1 Read: Zucker, Unit 9B, Reading, 165-6, "*Hershele Ostropolier un di gvirishe kleyder*"

Song: "*A mol iz geven a mayse*" (Zucker, 162-3; *Gezang* 104-5).

Write: A poem or story using Unit 9B vocabulary.

QUIZ ON 9A

March 6 NO CLASS—SPRING BREAK

March 8 NO CLASS—SPRING BREAK

March 13 Read: Zucker, Unit 9B, Grammar, 167-172.
(Dative, Sentence units, Word order).

Song: "*Yome, yome*" (Zucker, 172-3).

Write: Paragraph using 9B vocabulary.

**March 14 MAKE-UP CLASS (exact time and place to be arranged)
(dinner included) (*mir veln esn af yidish in a yidishn restoran!*)**

Read: Zucker, Unit 10A, Reading, 183-188, "*Esn: in a yidishn restoran*"

Write: Unit 9B Exercises, I (even); III; V (all).

March 15 **"Transition to Modernity: Yiddish Songs, 1850-1939"**
**Special Presentation by Bob Freedman in the Freedman Jewish Music
Archive, 6th floor, Van Pelt Library**
YIDDISH SONGS—HANDOUTS
**START LIBRARY PROJECTS (either connected to the Freedman Jewish
Music Archive or the Yiddish literature collection in Van Pelt Library.)**

March 20 Read: Zucker, Unit 10A, Grammar, 189-193.
(Telling Time, Constructions after *veln*, *Vartn oyf*).

Song: "*Rozhinkes mit mandlen*," *Gezang* 4.

Write: Paragraph using 10A vocabulary.

QUIZ ON 9B

March 22 Read: Zucker, Unit 10B, Reading, 199-203, "*Esn: a negidishe prezshenitse*"
Write: Unit 10A Exercises, I, IV, V (odd).

March 27 Read: Zucker, Unit 10B, Grammar, 203-208.
(Verb + Infinitive; *Es* as subj.; D.O. pronoun; Word order and d.o.; Some, any; Verb minus *du*).
Song, "*Lomir ale zingen a zemer!*" (Zucker, 209-10).
Write: Paragraph using 10B vocabulary

QUIZ ON UNIT 10A

March 29 Read: Zucker, Unit 11A, Reading, 217-220, "*Arbet*"
Write: Unit 10B Exercises, I-VI (odd).
Songs: *Pesakh lider af yidish: "Di fir kashes," "Dayenu," "Khad gadye"*
and *A yidishe hagode* (Handouts)

April 3 PESAKH—NO CLASS

April 5 Read: Zucker, Unit 11A, Grammar, 220-223.
(Future tense; Feminine suffixes; Declension of nouns).
Song: "*Her nor, du sheyn meydele*" (Zucker, 224-226).
Write: Paragraph using 11A vocabulary.

QUIZ ON 10B

APRIL 10 PESAKH—NO CLASS

APRIL 11 or 18: CLASS PROJECT—TO BE ARRANGED!

April 12 Read: Zucker, Unit 11B, Reading, 233-236.
Song: "*Hob ikh mir an altn daym,*" in *Mir trogn a gezang*, 66.
Write: Unit 11A Exercises, I (even), II (odd); III (odd); IV (odd); VI; VII (odd).

April 17 Read: Zucker, Unit 11B, Grammar, 236-9.
(Past participles without *ge*; This and That; Omitting the Article).
Songs: "*Gebn dir mayn tokhter*" (Zucker 239).
Write: Paragraph using 11B vocabulary.
CONTINUE LIBRARY PROJECTS.

April 19 Read: Reuven Ayzland, "*Fun unzer friling*" (Zucker, 245-7)
Write: Unit 11B Exercises I (odd); II (even); III, IV, V, VI (as many as you can)

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**QUIZ ON UNITS 11A AND 11B.
ORAL PRESENTATION OF LIBRARY PROJECTS.**

Reading Days: REVIEW SESSION for Final; Written library projects due

Tuesday, May 1 FINAL EXAM (9-11 AM)