

Programme Specification 2021-22

Advanced Diploma in Hebrew Studies

Awarding body	University of Cambridge
Teaching institution	University of Cambridge
Accreditation details	None
Name of final award	Advanced Diploma
Programme title	Hebrew Studies
HECoS Code(s)	101117 (ancient Hebrew language) 101269 (modern Hebrew language)
Relevant QAA benchmark statement(s)	None
Qualifications framework level	6
Date specification produced	April 2018

The Department of Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Cambridge provides teaching in Arabic, Hebrew and Persian, as well as teaching provision in the South Asian languages Hindi and Sanskrit. The Faculty has one of the largest Hebrew sections in the UK and a close relationship with the Taylor-Schechter Genizah Research Unit in the University Library. This research unit manages and develops research on the manuscripts of the Cairo Genizah, which is one of the most important collections of medieval Hebrew manuscripts in the world. The teaching of Hebrew Studies at Cambridge typically involves visits to the collection and studies of manuscripts.

Educational aims of the programme

The course provides instruction in Hebrew language for students with a first degree whose knowledge of the language is at an intermediate or lower intermediate level at the time of entry with the objective of bringing their knowledge up to an advanced level. The learning outcome of advanced level Hebrew is intended to prepare students for two possible pathways after the course: (i) an MPhil degree with a research component, with a view to advancing thereafter to a PhD another career requiring high level language and research skills (ii) a career in specialist Hebrew language teaching.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

At the end of the course students will be expected to (i) read Classical Hebrew texts with good understanding of the grammatical structure of the language and its vocabulary (Module 1), (ii) read and speak Modern Hebrew with good fluency and understanding (Module 2), (iii) have a good scholarly knowledge of the history of the language or have extended their language skills to include a knowledge of Aramaic up to preliminary level (Module 3).

Skills and other attributes

- Understanding of scholarly bibliographical tools and digital resources;
- Knowledge of the production of medieval Hebrew manuscripts (based on visits to the Cairo Genizah collection in the University Library);
- Presentation skills.

Programme structure

The Graduate Diploma in Hebrew Studies is a taught graduate course. It consists of three taught modules, assessed by written and oral examinations at the end of the course. It begins 1 October and end 30th June.

Module 1 (MT, LT and ET)
Classical Hebrew language

Module 2 (MT, LT and ET)
Modern Hebrew language

Module 3 (LT and ET)
Special subject: (i) History of the Hebrew language OR (ii) Introductory Aramaic

Teaching methods

Teaching is delivered in small group classes, seminars and supervisions. There are 6 contact hours per week for the three modules, one of which would be a supervision. Assignments and class work includes written work, reading practice, oral and aural skills and presentations.

Assessment methods

Assessment is by written examination and oral examination (for Modern Hebrew) during the examination period in June:

Module 1: one written examination paper
Module 2: one written examination paper + oral examination
Module 3: one written examination paper

Entry requirements

The entry requirement is 2.1 or the equivalent in a first degree.

Student support

Students would receive support from UTOs and college, as well as the student and post-doctoral community of the Department.

Management of teaching quality and standards

- The University ensures high standards of teaching and learning in the following ways:
- The completion of Annual Quality Updates by each Faculty and Department, to enable central overview of provision and assist in dissemination of good practice
- Scrutiny of the reports of External Examiners for all teaching programmes
- Encouraging student engagement at both the local level, through involvement in Faculty and Departmental Committees, and at a central level by participation in nationally-benchmarked surveys

- Holding reflective, centrally-coordinated, Learning and Teaching Reviews for all teaching institutions every six years to explore provision and suggest constructive courses of action
- Mentoring, appraisal, and peer review of staff, and encouraging staff participation in personal development programmes

Graduate employability and career destinations

Preparation for employment in general is provided in the opportunities for the acquisition of relevant transferable skills outlined in this programme specification.

The Careers Service maintains links with employers and takes their needs and opinions into account in the services which it provides for students. The Careers Service also allocates a Careers Adviser to each College, faculty and department to act as a point of contact.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this programme specification. At the time of publication, the programme specification has been approved by the relevant Faculty Board (or equivalent). Programme specifications are reviewed annually, however, during the course of the academic year, any approved changes to the programme will be communicated to enrolled students through email notification or publication in the *Reporter*. The relevant faculty or department will endeavour to update the programme specification accordingly, and prior to the start of the next academic year.

Further information about specifications and an archive of programme specifications for all awards of the University is available online at: <https://www.camdata.admin.cam.ac.uk/>