

July 29, 2021

To All First Year BA Students,

Subject: **Mandatory registration for English courses during the undergraduate degree**

Course registration is approaching, and we would like to inform you of some mandatory degree requirements. In accordance with a decision by the Council for Higher Education, all students in Israel beginning their undergraduate studies from the 2021-22 academic year and onward, will be obligated at some point (not necessarily in their first year) to complete two English courses as a precondition for completion of their degree. The specifics of these two courses will depend on the English level at which the student was admitted to the university, as follows:

- Students whose English grade (up to 119 on the psychometric/Amir/Amirim) requires at least **two English as a Foreign Language courses**; that is, Advanced English A and Advanced English B – those courses will serve as their mandatory English requirements (just like before). These courses will not count toward their departmental degree requirements.
- Students whose English grade (between 120-133 on the psychometric/Amir/Amirim) requires a **single English as a Foreign Language course**; that is, Advanced English B – will be required to take also **one content course** in English (EMI – English as a Medium of Instruction). This will be a departmental course in the department's discipline (for example, a physics course or a history course given in English, as relevant), of 2 semester hours. This EMI course will, of course, count as credits (*nekudot zechut*) toward the degree.
- Students whose English grade (134 or more on their psychometric/Amir/Amirim) **exempts them from English as a Foreign Language**, will be required to take two EMI courses of two semester hours each (not one course of 2 annual credit hours!). These two courses will count as credits toward the degree.

When you register for courses, check which English language courses are being offered. Be sure to fulfill this requirement at some point in your years of study, whether this year or in subsequent years, before completing your degree. The English content courses are indicated as such in the Inbar portal.

- English courses will strengthen your abilities in the international language in which a large part of professional, business and academic activity takes place.
- Improving your English will allow you to read and understand academic articles and other academic material in English in the course of your studies.
- It will help you find a job and be successful in it in the future, and will enable you to continue on to graduate school.

The departmental advisors will be happy to assist you with any related questions or issues.

Sincerely,



Prof. Arie Reich
Vice Rector