Why Learn A World Language?

- In an increasingly globalized world, the knowledge of a world language becomes an indispensable skill important not only for personal enrichment, but also for broadening employment opportunities.
- According to a study from the University of Chicago, knowledge of a world language helps you boost decision-making skills.
- Students who study world languages score higher on standardized tests, as a study from York University in Toronto showed.
- Students who study a world language for at least one year score an average of 38 points higher on the SATs.
- Knowledge of a world language increases your chances of landing a good job, as demonstrated in a recent poll of The Economist.
- An MIT study shows that people who know two or more languages earn an average of $128,000 more over their lifetimes.
- Learning a second language has compelling health benefits, as suggested by a study from York University in Toronto that connects prevention of the onset of dementia with foreign language learning.
Modern Hebrew is a language of international significance due to the economic, political, and cultural place it occupies not only in Israel but the rest of the Middle East, the US, the world stage. Moreover, it is a fascinating language because it defied its ancient status when it was innovatively revived as a fully functioning medium of written and verbal communication of modern times. Furthermore, studying Hebrew offers many career and job opportunities. Israel is fast emerging as one of the most technologically advanced economies, making it an important trading partner with many countries. Within the US, Hebrew is considered by the government and the military as one of its critical languages which automatically offers stable, career opportunities with many prospects in journalism, intelligence, translation, trade, and diplomacy. Considering the historical heritage and immense impact of Hebrew through the Bible/Torah, students of history, anthropology, comparative religion, and ancient civilizations will have a useful tool for research. Exchange students and tourists will find no problem communicating with native speakers.

Who speaks Modern Hebrew?
Hebrew is now the language of 9 million people worldwide, of whom 7 million are from Israel. The United States has the second largest Hebrew speaking population, with more than 400,000 fluent speakers, mostly from Israel.

Famous people of Jewish Descent:
• Albert Einstein - most influential physicist of the 20th century who developed the theory of relativity
• Rahm Emanuel - 55th Mayor of Chicago
• Itzhak Perlman - Israeli-American violinist
• Natalie Portman - actress, producer, and director
• Bar Refaeli - Israeli model, television host, actress, and businesswoman
• Jerome David Salinger - American literary legend of the 20th century, author Catcher in the Rye.
• Steven Spielberg - Academy Award winning director, producer and screen writer
• Adam Sandler - American actor, comedian, screenwriter, entrepreneur, film producer, and musician
• Elie Weisel - Nobel Laureate, professor, political activist

Why Study Modern Hebrew?
Languages

Indiana University is home to as many as 70 world languages!

- Akan/Twi
- American Sign Lang
- Arabic
- Avestan
- Azerbaijani
- Bamana
- Bengali
- Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian
- Bulgarian
- Catalan
- Chinese
- Czech
- Dari
- Dutch
- Egyptian (Demotic)
- Egyptian (Middle)
- ESL
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- German (Old High)
- Greek (Classical)
- Greek (Modern)
- Haitian Creole
- Hausa
- Hebrew (Biblical)
- Hebrew (Modern)
- Hindi
- Hungarian
- Indonesian
- Italian
- Japanese
- Kazakh
- Korean
- Kurdish
- Kyrgyz
- Lakota
- Latin
- Macedonian
- Mongolian
- Norwegian
- Old Church Slavonic
- Pashto
- Persian
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Quechua
- Romanian
- Russian
- Sanskrit
- Spanish
- Thai
- Tibetan
- Turkish
- Turkish (Ottoman)
- Turkmen
- Ukrainian
- Urdu
- Uyghur
- Uzbek
- Wolof
- Yiddish
- Yoruba
- Yucatec Maya
- Zulu

Learn these everyday phrases!

• Hello and Goodbye (general greeting): (Shalom)
• How are you?: (Ma shalomkha?)
• I'm fine, thanks!: (Tov, toda)
• What's your name?: (Aich korreem lecha?) (m) / (Aich koreem lach?) (f)
• My name is ____: (Hashem Sheli ____)
• Good morning: (Yom tov / boker tov)
• Good evening: (Erev tov)
• Goodnight: (Layla tov)
• Thank you (very much): (Rav todot)
• You’re welcome! (for “thank you”): (Eyn davar)