



Ministry of Education

**Identified Competency Focus Areas and Selected
Courses for Ethiopian Higher Education Institutions'
Exit Examination**

**Program: - BA in Ethiopian Language and
Literature – Amharic**

Prepared By

Agegnehu Tesfa, University of Gondar

**August 2022
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia**

Contents

1. Introduction	1
❖ Objective Objectives of the Exit Examination.....	1
❖ Significance of the Document	2
2.Profile of Graduate	2
3. Expected Competencies & Learning outcomes	3
3.1 Competencies	3
3.2 Learning Out comes	8
4. Courses to be included in the exam.....	11
5. Conclusion.....	12

Courses and Competencies Identified for Exit Exam 2015 (First Draft)

1. Introduction

Quality of education in Ethiopia has been an issue at all levels of the education System. Due to these the Ethiopian government in general Ministry of Education in particular has been developing different strategies one of these strategies is implementing exit exam in higher education. In this regard, it has been believed that realizing exit examination in the universities will support the process of improving the poor quality of education.

Ethiopian Language(s) & Literature – Amharic has been one of the programs given in many universities of the country. Hence, the purpose of this guide is to set competencies & identify core courses from the harmonized curriculum of the program. So that we have set the competencies & identified basic courses in line with the four thematic areas of the Program. Those are Linguistics, Literature, and Language Skills & Research Methods. Under these themes, it has been identified 15 basic courses among 33 major Courses of the curriculum in line with the set minimum learning or required competencies. .

To prepare this exit exam the required competencies & Courses are selected from the four thematic areas, based on the curriculum of the program in 2015 E.C.

❖ Objectives of the Exit Examination

The national Amharic exit exam shall have the following objectives:

- To produce skilled and competent manpower to national market
- Assessing students' educational achievement in major areas of Ethiopian Languages and Literature – Amharic.
- Ensuring the graduates profile of Ethiopian Languages and Literature – Amharic with regard to at least common standards of knowledge, attitudes and practical skills.
- Improving stockholders (Media, Education, PR ...) trust and confidence
- Facilitating the efforts of students to revise the core learning outcomes of the courses covered by the exit examination
- Ensuring graduates of Ethiopian Languages and Literature – Amharic satisfy the requirements of the labor market and employability through the nationwide implementation of competency-based exit exam
- Creating competitive spirit among Ethiopian Languages and Literature – Amharic departments in Ethiopia with the views to encouraging them to give due attention to the national standards

- To ensure producing competent graduates in Ethiopian languages and literature.

❖ **Significance of the Document**

It is important to set competency areas of the subject matter (program) in order to measure how much graduates are acquired the necessary skills, knowledge and attitudes. The following are some of the significance of this exit exam:

- Enable students to be competitive.
- Help universities to evaluate the effectiveness of their organizations
- Enable employers to get competent graduates.
- Improve quality of education in Ethiopian languages and literature – Amharic

1. Expected profile of graduates

On successful completion of the program students should be able to acquire the following list of competencies as they work their way through the courses will be able to serve/work as:

- Analyze reading texts for its structure and contents-
- Demonstrate the ability to analyze and write for various rhetorical situations
- Develop efficient and effective techniques for generating, organizing, drafting, and editing written texts
- Specify a purpose, audience, and format for a given writing and speaking tasks
- Develop a persuasive argument and support it with evidence and effective appeals that target (their) intended audience
- Write an essay using multiple sources and appropriate techniques and styles
- Demonstrate ability to translate texts from Amharic to other languages and vice versa
- Understand basic linguistic principles to undertake language study
- Analyze reading texts and literary works for its structure and characteristic stylistic features
- Master the conventions and techniques of literary criticism
- Understand and appreciate literary works
- Understand how to conduct quantitative and qualitative research
- Understand multilingual and multicultural issues in multilingual and multicultural contexts
- Understand basic features of Ethiopian languages
- Transcribe different materials

- Consult in issues related to language, literature and culture
- Write and edit children's fiction and none fiction texts

3. Competencies and Learning Outcomes

Competencies and learning outcomes are two related educational terms that can create confusion. Competencies and outcomes can be written to describe the learning gained by students in individual courses (course outcomes) or for the program as a whole (program outcomes). They DO NOT mean the same thing.

Hence, Competency is a *general* statement that describes the desired knowledge, skills, and behaviors of a student graduating from a program (or completing a course). Competencies commonly define the applied skills and knowledge that enable people to successfully perform in professional, educational, and other life contexts. On the other hand, outcome is very *specific* statement that describes exactly what a student will be able to do in some measurable way. There may be more than one measurable outcome defined for a given competency. Based on this concept we identified the following competencies & learning outcomes which help to prepared exit examination for Amharic BA program.

3.1. Expected Competencies

A. Cognitive /knowledge

- Describe and classify the sounds of languages according to how they are articulated
- Describe the sound system (phonology) of language in terms of basic units (phonemes, distinctive features) and rules
- Explain how meaning is encoded in words and sentences, using primarily examples from any language
- Critique common perspectives on meaning in language
- Explain the difference between sentences and utterances in context, and how context affects meaning
- Discuss phrase and sentence structures of Amharic
- Explain types of Amharic phrases and sentences
- Discuss some Amharic transformational rules
- Identify the relations /differences between language & society
- Discuss different terms of language varieties

- Describe language planning, policy & standardization
- Define broad notions of multiculturalism and multilingualism from different perspectives
- Express the Philosophical, psychological, and sociological foundations of Multiculturalism
- Identify strategies for managing linguistic and cultural diversity
- Define Translation & Identify the significance of Translation; Explain the different concepts of Translation;
- Explain the basic differences between SL and TL emphasis Methods of Translation
- Explain the role of the translation in translating different texts and messages
- Explain the role of Linguistics in Translation
- Identify types of equivalences in translating different texts, texts types and translation strategies
- Understand problems of equivalence
- Translate different texts, idioms, figurative speeches and proverbs
- Identify translation procedures, techniques of adjustment in translating different texts
- Explain the historical development and features of children literature
- Define the characteristics of the types and genres of children's literature
- Explain the nature and features of art
- Discuss the major trends, movements and developments of Literature
- Explain concepts, significance and functions of literature
- Classify literature under oral and written
- Classify literature under prose and verse categories
- Describe elements and techniques of literature
- Discuss the concepts of literary criticism
- Show the thematic and technical preoccupations of the Amharic short story
- Begin to demonstrate an awareness of how to frame a research or creative problem and devise ways of addressing it in the context of creative writing
- Classify Amharic poetry & Explain the major features of Amharic versification
- Analyze the elements and techniques of the novel , short story drama & Poetry using sample short stories, novels, dramas & poems.
- Discuss & explain the concept, origin, feature and development of literary criticism.
- Discuss the principles and functions of literary criticism

- Display knowledge of several classic children's novels, as well as more recent contributions to the genre
- Understand the theories of reading
- Identify different types of texts and the best strategies for reading them
- Develop an awareness of the different views of the reading process and the fundamental features of effective reading; •
- Identify & analyze different types of texts and the best strategies for reading them;
- Identify kinds & elements of discourse and differentiate oral discourse from written discourse;
- Select relevant/ usable topic for writing an essays
- Identify different types & parts of essays and .determine the audience
- Identify parts of essay &
- Prepare sample organized oral and written discourse
- Clarify , extend ,edit written text which reflect their thinking about different texts
- Define Technical Report & Explain the nature of Technical Report
- Identify parts of Technical report and the nature of Informal & formal Report
- Select relevant/ usable topic for writing an essays
- Accomplish standardized academic and personal essays
- Define Research & Explain the characteristics of it ;
- Identify different approaches of research;& Basic Research Procedures;
- Interpret research findings

B. Psychomotor / Skills

- Analyze sound patterns of any languages
- Analyze the structure of words in any language
- Analyze sentences in terms of their syntactic structure using tree diagrams
- Transcribe words and phrases phonetically as well as phonemically
- Analyze the structure of words in any language
- Explain the difference between sentences and utterances in context, and how context affects meaning

- Explain how meaning is encoded in words and sentences, using primarily examples from any language
- Label different Amharic phrases in tree diagram
- Discuss agentless Amharic sentences
- Transcribe Amharic words phonetically and phonemically
- Discuss monolinguals, bilingualism, and multilingualism
- Analyze the ways in which multilingualism can be a resource at the national and individual levels
- Explain the notions of multilingual discourses (code mixing and code switching)
- Express the relationship between culture and identity, culture and language, culture and communication, etc.
- Identify A Research Problem;
- Translate words, phrase, sentences, proverbs, idioms and passages mainly from English into Amharic and vice versa;
- Develop the skills of evaluating translation work
- Translate Paragraphs, texts and passages mainly from English into Amharic and vice versa;
- Develop the skill of evaluating translation works
- Classify children literature by genre, style and age & Read literary texts critically.
- Analyze literature as a cultural and interactive phenomenon.
- Explain the thematic concerns of early Amharic literatures
- Discuss the major issues raised in modern Amharic literatures
- Analyze different poems, short stories & dramas based on their styles critically
- Carry out literary criticism on selected literary works
- Produce polished and carefully edited samples of creative writing
- Critically evaluate their own and others written materials
- Explain the major approaches of literary criticism
- Carry out literary criticism on selected literary works
- Explain the major features of Amharic versification
- Classify Amharic poetry
- Explain the major thematic preoccupations of Amharic poetry, short stories & drama

- Produce effective sentences & write an effective essays;
- Discover ideas concerning the writing topic
- Identify the connotative and denotative meaning of words
- Demonstrate improved reading speed and comprehension
- Develop the art and techniques of interpreting and evaluating a piece of writing;
- Develop different reading strategies to be applied during reading unfamiliar texts independently
- Practice reading strategies.
- Prepare sample oral and written discourse;
- Clarify their thinking about different texts;
- Rewrite and edit defective essays
- Accomplish standardized academic and personal essays
- Express themselves in writing accurately and appropriately
- Construct paragraphs & Write an effective essays;
- Draft ,Rewrite and edit different written texts
- Develop effective written texts which demonstrate unity and coherence.
- Differentiate informal report from the formal report
- Write different types of technical reports that consistently achieve the intended impact
- Determine the audience & Rewrite and edit defective essays
- Develop a paragraph or an essay using different techniques of paragraph or h development methods
- develop effective essay which demonstrate unity and coherence
- Write Objectives of the Research & Determine the information needed and how to obtain it;
- Prepare data collection instruments;
- Collect, Organize, analyze, and interpret data;
- Write research report
- Conduct quantitative and qualitative researches in language skills, the field of Linguistics Literature & Public relations

C. Affective /Attitude

- Critique common perspectives on meaning in language

- Explain the issues of language contact
- Define language maintenance and language shift
- Appreciate language varieties in a given language
- Familiarize and give explanation with some concepts, approaches, and theories used in the examination of culture and society
- Explain social values and norms in a society
- Explain the essentials of translation
- Discuss the role of children's literature in Ethiopian society
- Analyze and appreciate literary texts.
- Understand and appreciate literary discourse
- Respond critically and creatively to the world around
- Understand and appreciate literary discourse
- Relate the contents of literature works with historical, political, social and economic ideal of the respective periods.
- Appreciate & Provide critical analysis on different poetry , short stories dramatic styles
- Critically evaluate their own and others written materials
- Appreciate different literary works cultural values and oral literature aspects
- Think rigorously about contemporary texts and the context of their production
- Appreciate various text organizations and discourse patterns;
- Encourage to become involved with a text;
- Be encouraged to share their initial responses through different reflective activities;
- Evaluate and appreciate different essays;
- Express themselves in writing accurately and appropriately
- Be encouraged to share their initial responses through different written reflective activities
- Identify traits of technical writing
- Express themselves in writing accurately and appropriately
- Participate in conducting quantitative and qualitative researches in language skills, the field of Linguistics Literature & Public relations
- Implement ethical aspects of research.

3.2 Learning outcomes

At the end of the program, the students will be able to:

- Describe and classify the sound system (phonology) of language in terms of basic units (phonemes, distinctive features) and rules
- Transcribe words and phrases phonetically as well as phonemically
- Analyze sound patterns of any languages & explain the phonological processes
- Analyze the structure of words in any language
- Analyze sentences in terms of their syntactic structure using tree diagrams
- Explain how meaning is encoded in words and sentences, using primarily examples from any language & critique common perspectives on meaning in language
- Explain the difference between sentences and utterances in context, and how context affects meaning
- Identify & explain types of Amharic phrases & Amharic sentences
- Discuss phrase and sentence structures of Amharic & some Amharic transformational rules
- Label different Amharic phrases in tree diagram & discuss agentless Amharic sentences
- Define broad notions of multiculturalism and multilingualism from different perspectives
- Familiarize and give explanation with some concepts, approaches, and theories used in the examination of culture and society
- Give explanation about the historical origin of multilingualism and multiculturalism
- Develop cross cultural competency with National culture, with their own subculture and within and a cross different sub societies and cultures
- Express the Philosophical, psychological, and sociological foundations of Multiculturalism
- Express the reasons why diversity is a key work in our country today as well as learn new strategies to deal with diversity
- Express the relationship between culture and identity, culture and language, culture and communication, etc.
- Give logical explanation on concepts like ethnicity, race, class, and gender.
- Explain social values and norms in a society
- Identify strategies for managing linguistic and cultural diversity
- Discuss basic concepts of Areal Linguistics & different methods of language classification
- Identify different types of language models & explain the classification of African languages

- Identify and discuss major language families of Africa & Ethiopia
- Determine linguistic features of Ethiopian languages
- Define Translation & Explain the different concepts of Translation
- discuss the history of Translation and Identify the significance of Translation
- Translate words, phrase, sentences, proverbs, idioms, paragraphs passages or texts and figurative speeches mainly from English into Amharic and vice versa
- Explain the basic differences between SL and TL emphasis Methods of Translation
- Explain the historical background of translation
- Identify translation types and Explain the role of Linguistics in Translation
- Explain the role of the translation in translating different texts and messages
- Develop the skill of evaluating translation work & Understand problems of equivalence
- Identify types of equivalences in translating different texts, texts types and translation strategies
- Identify translation procedures, techniques of adjustment in translating different texts
- Explain the nature and features of art
- Discuss the major trends, movements and developments of Literature
- Explain concepts, significance and functions of literature
- Classify literature under oral and written and under prose and verse categories
- Describe elements and techniques of literature
- Discuss the concepts of literary criticism
- Explain the historical development and features of children literature
- Classify children literature by genre, style and age
- Define the characteristics of the types and genres of children's literature
- Discuss the role of children's literature in Ethiopian society
- Display knowledge of several classic children's novels, as well as more recent contributions to the genre
- Explain what a Novel is & the rise and development of it
- Identify Major techniques of the Novel
- Appreciate various text organizations and discourse patterns
- Practice reading strategies
- Define discourse and stylistics and explain the origin and development of discourse

- Identify kinds of discourse & explain functions of discourse
- Identify elements of discourse and differentiate oral discourse from written discourse
- Analyze different texts and Prepare sample oral and written discourse
- Compare oral and written discourse
- Encourage to become involved with a text
- Clarify and extend their thinking about different texts
- Be encouraged to share their initial responses through different reflective activities
- Reflect and evaluate on texts that they have read
- Demonstrate their understanding and appreciation of a text by analyzing the ideas and themes found in the text.
- Select relevant topic for writing a paragraph & discover ideas concerning the writing topic
- Identify different types of paragraph & create a coherence overall for the paragraph
- Develop effective paragraphs using different techniques of paragraph development methods
- Identify the connotative and denotative meaning of words
- Select relevant/ usable topic for writing an essays
- Write an effective essays; and rewrite and edit defective essays
- Express themselves in writing accurately and appropriately
- Accomplish standardized academic and personal essays
- Identify parts of essay; & Evaluate and appreciate different essays;
- Define Research and explain its characteristics;
- Identify different approaches of research, Basic Research Procedures and a Research Problem;
- Write Hypothesis of the Research; or/and Write Objectives of the Research;
- Determine the information needed and how to obtain it;
- Prepare data collection instruments;
- Collect, Organize, analyze, and interpret data;
- Write research report.

4. Courses to be Included in the Exit Exam

Thematic Area	Course Titles	Course Codes	Credit Hrs.	ECTS
Skills	Amharic Reading skills	ELAm2011	3	5
	Amharic advanced composition	ELAm2016	3	5
	Workshops in Text Editing	ELAm4012	3	5
	Technical Writing	ELAm3011	3	5
	Amharic Critical Reading and Text Analysis	ELAm4013	3	5
Linguistics	Translation Theories and Practice I and II	ELAm 4024 and 4024	3	5
	Amharic syntax	ELAm3028	3	5
	Survey of Ethiopian Languages	ELAm 4022	3	5
	Issues in Multilingualism and Multiculturalism	ELAm2024	3	5
	General Linguistics	ELAm 2022	3	5
Literature	Practical Literary Criticism	ELAm 4035	3	5
	Amharic Novels	ELAm 3033	3	5
	Fundamentals of Literature	ELAm2031	3	5
	Children Literature	ELAm 4033	3	5
Research	Research Methods	ELAm3052	3	5

5. Conclusion

This document has been used as preliminary document to prepare exit examination for prospective graduates of Ethiopian language & literature_ Amharic in the Ethiopian higher education.. The document will serve as bases to develop Amharic exit examination in the four thematic areas of the program which are Linguistic, Literature, Language skills & Research areas. In order to achieve these objectives the document will be revised based on the comments given by different instructors from different universities where the program has been realized.

Evaluated by

Mellese Gelaneh	Bahir Dar University
-----------------	----------------------

Kibebe Tsehay	Debre Birhan University
Tibebu Shitie	Jimma University
Girama Bekele	Wollega University

Courses and Competencies Identified for Exit Exam 2015 (First Draft)