Syllabus

The Sasanian Empire in Light of its Material Culture - 38273

Last update 01-09-2015

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: islamic & middle east stud.

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Michael Shenkar

Coordinator Email: michael.shenkar@gmail.com

Coordinator Office Hours: Sunday 14:00-15:00.

Teaching Staff: Dr. Shenkar Michael
Course/Module description:
The course will focus on selected topics in social, religious and cultural history of Iran in the Sasanian period (third-seventh centuries CE). The Sasanian Empire was the summit of the pre-Islamic Iranian civilization and a place of special importance is reserved for its legacy in Iranian history and culture even today. We shall focus mostly on the primary sources and the material culture. We shall discuss the urban planning, the architecture, the Sasanian royal inscriptions and rock reliefs, iconography of coins and seals.

Course/Module aims:
Acquaintance with the main historical and cultural processes and basic facts in the history of the Sasanian Empire through its material culture.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
To be acquainted with the main historical events of the Sasanian period and with the principal monuments of the Sasanian culture. Ability to deal with primary sources for the period.

Attendance requirements(%):
80

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The Lecturer's exposition of the subject followed by a discussion.

Course/Module Content:
1) The Iranian plateau on the eve of the Sasanian era.
2) The written sources.
3) The inscriptions.
4) Urban layout and architecture.
5) Rock Reliefs.
6) Religious architecture and the Zoroastrian religion in the Sasanian period.
7) Religious iconography.
8) Coinage.

9) Society and Ideology.

10) Silver vessels.

12) The Sasanians in the East.

13) Conclusion: The Sasanian Empire and its legacy.

Required Reading:


Additional Reading Material:

General surveys. History:


General surveys. Material culture:


http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/archeology-iv

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 80 %
Assignments 20 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: