Syllabus

conceptualizing hebrew political Thought: From the Bible to the State and Back - 56714

Last update 05-09-2016

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: political science

Academic year: 0

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Professor Dan Avnon

Coordinator Email: dan.avnon@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesdays 18:00 - 19:00

Teaching Staff:
Prof Dan Avnon
Course/Module description:
This is a research course/seminar focusing on the development of Israeli-Hebrew political concepts and idioms from their origins in Biblical Hebrew, through various layers of traditional Hebrew to their use in contemporary current Israeli-Hebrew political discourse. In addition to mapping this particular field of conceptual analysis, the seminar will deal with the implications (for research and for politics) of using in contemporary Hebrew concepts and idioms whose current usage include includes traditional "baggage."

Course/Module aims:
To establish a methodological and theoretical basis for analysis of concepts that include traditional connotations (on the one hand) and modern applications (on the other hand).

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
1. To study the cultural origins of basic Hebrew-Israeli political concepts.
2. To study relations between identical words used in different traditional and modern areas of language.
3. To understand the different forms of life created through using identical terms in different regions of language and according to dissimilar language games.
4. To develop and deploy research methods for analysis of the conflation of traditional and modern meaning in one and same Hebrew concept or idiom.
5. To conduct independent research of Israeli political concepts or idioms through use of methods and theories studied in the course of the seminar.

Attendance requirements(%):
80% (during 2nd semester some of the seminar meeting will be replaced by personal tutorials)

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Seminar meeting will combine lecture, presentation of bibliographical summaries prepared by participants and discussion. During period of research common meetings will be replaced by individual tutorials. At end of year each participant will present his or her research.

Course/Module Content:
1. Methodological and theoretical foundations.
2. Background research on the development of the Hebrew language.
3. Hebrew as a Holy tongue
4. Transition for Hebrew as Holy tongue to Hebrew as language of a modern, civic nation-state.
5. Orthodox objections to the new Israeli Hebrew.
6. Jewish and cognitive-linguistics approaches to listening and hearing traditional texts.
7. Scholarly approaches to the study of contemporary Hebrew.
8. Critical approaches to the use of Hebrew as the language of the Jewish state and its Israeli civic culture.

Required Reading:


Young, Ian (2013), "What DO We Actually Know about Ancient Hebrew?" Australian


קוזק ובדווי. תל אביב: עם עובד, עמ' 40–30.


Additional Reading Material:


Young, Ian (2013), "What DO We Actually Know about Ancient Hebrew?" Australian


**Course/Module evaluation:**

End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 25 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 25 %
Research project 50 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

**Additional information:**

The course teacher reserves the right to change the syllabus and the course requirements according to his judgement and according to developments in the seminar’s learning process.