Syllabus

SOCIAL RIGHTS IN JEWISH LAW - 62473

Last update 10-08-2016

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: law

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Benjamin Porat

Coordinator Email: benny.porat@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: by appointment

Teaching Staff:
Dr. Benny Porat
Course/Module description:
Under the framework of social rights law, the law defends the rights of those weaker sectors against property owners. This course aims to trace the various socio-economic conceptions of Jewish law, as reflected in the field of social rights law.

Course/Module aims:
Exploring key issues of social rights in Jewish law, while comparing them to parallel modern socio-economic theories.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
By the end of the course students are expected to:

Identify special approaches of Jewish law in the field of social rights

Apply fundamental ideas of Jewish law to current legal dilemmas of social rights

Compare various doctrines of social rights in Jewish law with modern law doctrines

Remember major research literature on social rights in Jewish law

Properly analyze primary texts of Jewish law

Attendance requirements(%):
none

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures, final exam

Course/Module Content:
1. Introduction

2. Six Biblical Distributive Principles I

3. Six Biblical Distributive Principles II

4. Language and Social Justice

5. From Biblical Mechanisms to the Laws of Charity
6. Charity as a Tax System

7. The Poor

8. The Individual and the Public

9. The Theology of Charity

10. Unjust Enrichment as a Distributive Mechanism

11. The Right for Education

12. Tax Law and Distributive Justice

13. The Disabled

**Required Reading:**


- Leon Rosenberg, 'Theological and Historical Aspects of Charity,' in Theological and Historical Aspects of Charity (תשמ"ג), pp. 97-181.


Additional Reading Material:

14. Berman Joshua, Created Equal: How the Bible Broke with Ancient Political Thought, Ch. 3 'Egalitarianism and Assets: God the Economist', 81-108.


19. Englard Izhak, Corrective Justice and Distributive Justice (Oxford, 2009), Ch. 5


23. Levine Aaron, Equity in Taxation as Discussed in Rabbinic Literature, xvi Intercom, Association of Orthodox Jewish Scientists (1976), 7-28.


29. Schwartz Seth, WERE JEWS A MEDITERRANEAN SOCIETY? RECIPROCITY AND SOLIDARITY IN ANCIENT JUDAISM (Princeton, 2010) Ch. 1 [Reciprocity and Solidarity], 1-20


32. Twersky Isadore, 'Some Aspects of the Jewish Attitude Toward the Welfare State', 5 Tradition (1963)

**Course/Module evaluation:**

End of year written/oral examination 100 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

**Additional information:**