

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

MASTERPIECES OF WORLD LITERATURE - II - 10515

Last update 06-09-2020

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: School of Ancient & Modern Literatures

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Gur Zak

Coordinator Email: gur.zak@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tue, 15-16

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Gur Zak

Course/Module description:

The aim of the course is to offer a survey of a variety of literary masterpieces that shaped Western culture from the later Middle Ages up to the twentieth century. In each class we shall focus on one literary masterpiece, analyze its content and form, and consider the possible reasons for its inclusion in the "canon". Among the themes we shall focus on in our analysis are: identity and gender, love and death, representation and reality, and the dialectics of modernity.

Course/Module aims:

To offer introduction to a variety of literary masterpieces that shaped Western culture from the later Middle Ages to the twentieth century.

To provide students with basic tools through which to analyze and discuss literary works

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

To discuss in an intelligent and informed fashion central literary masterpieces that shaped the west.

To understand the general line of development of Western literature from the Middle Ages to the modern age.

To offer analysis of literary works based on the main themes that dominate them, their relationship to the historical contexts in which they were shaped, and their dialogue with the literary tradition from which they developed.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Frontal lectures

Course/Module Content:

- 1. Autobiography and the Discovery of the Self: Augustine and Petrarch*
- 2. Renaissance, Reform, and Women Writing: Marguerite de Navarre's Hecatemer*

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3. *Being and Madness: Shakespeare's Hamlet*
 4. *Hamlet Continued.*
 5. *The Dangers of Reading: Cervantes's Don Quixote*
 6. *Enlightenment and Its Limits: Voltaire and Rousseau*
 7. *The Uncanny and the Sublime: Goethe and Hoffman*
 8. *Russian Novel I: Dostoevsky*
 9. *Russian Novel II: Tolstoy*
 10. *Beauty and Tragedy: Thomas Mann*
 11. *The Fragmentation of Consciousness: Woolf*
 12. *The Postmodern Novel: Morrison*
 13. *Conclusion*

Required Reading:

1. Petrarch, *The Ascent of Mount Ventoux*.
The Sonnets.
2. Marguerite de Navarre, *Heptameron*, Prologue and Day 1, Stories 1-4
3. Shakespeare, *Hamlet*
4. Shakespeare, *Hamlet*, Cont.
5. Cervantes, *Don Quixote*, Book 1 Part 1
6. Voltaire, *Candide*
Rousseau, *Confessions*, Book 1
7. Goethe, *The Sorrows of Young Werther*
Hoffman, *The Sandman*
8. Dostoevsky, *Brothers Karamazov*, Book 10
9. Tolstoy, *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*
10. Thomas Mann, *Death in Venice*

11. Virginia Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*

12. Toni Morrison, *Beloved*

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 100 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: