

## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

## *Sacred Violence: Jews and Christians in Late Antiquity - 13221*

*Last update 07-09-2020*

*HU Credits:* 2

*Degree/Cycle:* 1st degree (Bachelor)

*Responsible Department:* History of Jewish People & Contemporary Jewry

*Academic year:* 0

*Semester:* 1st Semester

*Teaching Languages:* Hebrew

*Campus:* Mt. Scopus

*Course/Module Coordinator:* Osnat Rance

*Coordinator Email:* [osnatemily.rance@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:osnatemily.rance@mail.huji.ac.il)

*Coordinator Office Hours:* Wednesday 12:30-13:30

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Teaching Staff:

Ms. Osnat Rance

Course/Module description:

*This course explores the place of Jews within the urban fabric of the Late Roman Empire (4th-7th centuries) through a close reading of varied Christian sources describing incidents of inter-religious violence. Examined critically, these sources shed light on the factual-historical core of the incidents described, thus offering a window into the intricate social and religious dynamics of Late Antiquity.*

Course/Module aims:

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

See Hebrew

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

- Introduction: Late Antiquity – Time, Place and Society
- Historiography and the Historian
- Home and Away
- The Triumph of Christianity
- Callinicum (388)
- Alexandria (415)
- Minorca (418)
- Antioch (491)
- The Journey of Bar Sauma
- Summary

Required Reading:

1. מבוא: שלהי העת העתיקה – מקום, זמן, חברה

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2. היסטוריוגרפיה ומלאכת ההיסטוריון:

David Engels and Peter Van Nuffelen, "Religion and Competition in Antiquity: An Introduction," in *Religion and Competition in Antiquity*, David Engels and Peter Van Nuffelen (eds.), Brussels 2014, 9-44

John G. Gager, "Who Did What to Whom?: Physical Violence between Jews and Christians in Late Antiquity", in *A Most Reliable Witness: Essays in Honor of Ross Shepard Kraemer* (Brown Judaic Studies 358), Susan Ashbrook Harvey et al. (eds.), Providence 2015, 35-48

3. קרובים קרובים? על הרמוניה ושיתוף

Glen Bowersock, "The Greek Moses: confusion of ethnic and cultural components in later Roman and early Byzantine Palestine", *Religious and Ethnic Communities in Later Roman Palestine* (1998), 31-48.

4. "ניצחון הנצרות":

Hunt, "The Church as a Public Institution", in: *The Cambridge Ancient History*, Volume 13: *The Late Empire, AD 337-425* (CAH2 XIII), pp. 238-276

Peter Brown, "Christianization and Religious Conflict", in: A. Cameron & P. Garnsey (eds.), *The Cambridge Ancient History* (The Cambridge Ancient History, Volume 13: *The Late Empire, AD 337-425*), Cambridge 1997, pp. 632-664.

5. קליניקום (388) – האירוע הראשון?

John H.W.G. Liebeschuetz (trl. & introd.), *Ambrose of Milan: Political Letters and Speeches* (Translated Texts for Historians 43), Liverpool: Liverpool University Press 2005, pp. 95-123 (Epistula 74 (Maur. 40).

Oded Irshai, "Jewish Violence in the Fourth Century CE – Fantasy and Reality", in: *Jewish Identities in Antiquity: Studies in Memory of Menahem Stern*, Daniel R. Schwartz and Lee I. Levine (eds.), Tübingen 2009, pp. 391-416.

6. בר־צומא

Gunter Stemberger, *Jews and Christians in the Holy Land: Palestine in the Fourth Century*, Edinburgh 2000

Andrew Palmer, "Editing a Syriac Hagiography: The Life of Barṣawmo the Northerner", Pages 89-108 in *Syrische Studien: Beiträge zum 8. Deutschen Syrologie-Symposium in Salzburg 2014*. Edited by Winkler, Dietmar W. *Orientalia – Patristica – Oecumenica* 10. Wien: LIT Verlag, 2016.

7. אלכסנדריה (415)

Oded Irshai, "Christian Historiographers' Reflections on Jewish-Christian Violence in Fifth-Century Alexandria", in: Natalie Dohrmann et al. (eds.), *Jews, Christians, and the Roman Empire*, Pennsylvania 2013.

8. מינורקה (418) – אמת עטופה בסמל?

Severus of Minorca, *Letter on the Conversion of the Jews*, Scott Bradbury (ed.), Oxford 1996

Joseph E. Sanzo and Ra'anan Boustan, "Mediterranean Jews in a Christianizing

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Empire," in: *The Cambridge Companion to the Age of Attila*, Michael Maas (ed.), New York 2014, pp. 358-375.

9. אנטיוכיה (491)

Michael Whitby, "Factions, Bishops, Violence and Urban Decline", in: Jens-Uwe Krause et al. (eds.), *Die Stadt in der Spätantike - Niedergang oder Wandel?* (Historia-Einzelschriften, Band 190), Stuttgart: Steiner 2006, pp. 441-461

10. סיכום

Harold A. Drake, "Intolerance, Religious Violence, and Political Legitimacy in Late Antiquity", *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 79 (2011), 193-235.

#### Additional Reading Material:

1. מיכאל אביזונה, בימי רומא וביזנטיון, ירושלים תשכ"ב
2. Peter Brown, *The World of Late Antiquity: from Marcus Aurelius to Muhammad*, London 1971
3. Fergus Millar, *Empire, Church and Society in the Late Roman Near East: Greeks, Jews, Syrians and Saracens* (collected studies, 2004-2014), Leuven ; Paris : Bristol, CT 2015
4. Thomas Sizgorich, *Violence and Belief in Late Antiquity*, University of Pennsylvania 2009
5. Majastina Kahlos, *Religious Dissent in Late Antiquity, 350-450*, Oxford 2019.
6. Gaddis, Michael, 'There is no Crime for Those who Have Christ'. *Religious Violence in the Christian Roman Empire* (Transformation of the Classical Heritage 39), Berkeley: University of California Press 2005.

#### Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %  
Presentation 0 %  
Participation in Tutorials 20 %  
Project work 60 %  
Assignments 0 %  
Reports 20 %  
Research project 0 %  
Quizzes 0 %  
Other 0 %

#### Additional information: