

## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

## *Herzlian Zionism between Assimilation and Nationalism - 13921*

*Last update 19-09-2016*

*HU Credits: 2*

*Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)*

*Responsible Department: history of jewish people & contemporary jewry*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 1st Semester*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Dimitry Shumsky*

*Coordinator Email: [dimitry.shumsky@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:dimitry.shumsky@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: by appointment*

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Teaching Staff:

Dr. Dimitry Shumsky

Course/Module description:

The course will trace the socio-cultural and political roots, contents and goals of Theodore Herzl's Zionism. A particular emphasis will be placed on the dialectics of assimilation and Jewish collective self-assertion, which was essentially inherent to earlier political Zionism. Likewise, we will address national perceptions and socio-cultural profile of Herzl's followers.

Course/Module aims:

The seminar is meant to introduce students to the socio-cultural roots and ideological contents of Theodore Herzl's political Zionism, in the context of multiethnic fin-de-siecle Central Europe and the German-Jewish acculturation and identity patterns. It is also meant to provide students with the tools to independently deal with the scholarly topics of their choice.

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

critically analyze the ideologically biased "Assimilation / Nationalism" dichotomy in the history of modern Zionism in general, and in the case of Herzl's political Zionism in particular; master new scholarship on the founder of modern Zionism; conduct comparative studies of Herzl's Zionism vis-a-vis case studies of non-dominant nationalities national movements in the Habsburg Central Europe; assess contribution of fiction as a historical source

Attendance requirements(%):

90

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture, seminar, analytical reading of historical sources and scholarship

Course/Module Content:

Assimilation and Nationalism: definitions and concepts; Habsburg monarchy, nationalities conflicts and Central European Jews; Herzl: biographical background, German-Jewish identity context; "the New Ghetto"; "Der Judenstaat"; "Altneuland"

Required Reading:

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John, Michael. " 'We Do Not Even Possess Our Selves': On Identity and Ethnicity in Austria, 1880-1937". *Austrian History Yearbook* 30 (1999): 17-64

Wistrich, Robert S. "The Jews and Nationality Conflicts in the Habsburg Lands". *Nationalities Papers* 22 (1, 1994): 119-139

Robertson, Ritchie. "'The New Ghetto' and the Perplexities of Assimilation", in *Theodor Herzl, Visionary of the Jewish State*, ed. G. Shimoni and R. S. Wistrich (Jerusalem 1999), pp. 39-51

Kornberg, Jacques. *Theodor Herzl: From Assimilation to Zionism*. Bloomington & Indianapolis, 1993.

שוורץ, יגאל. הידעת את הארץ שם הלימון פורח. אור יהודה תשס"ז  
פנסלר, דרק. "הרצל והערבים הפלשתינים: מיתוס ומיתוס שכנגד". ישראל 6 (תשס"ו): 149-161  
אלמוג, שמואל. "לאומיותו של הרצל במבט מפולש". יהדות זמננו 11-12 (תשנ"ח): 3-21  
הרצל, תאודור. הגטו החדש. תל אביב, 1992  
הרצל, בנימין זאב. מדינת היהודים: ניסיון לפתרון מודרני של שאלת היהודים (ירושלים: הספרייה הציונית, תשל"ג)  
הרצל, תאודור. אלטנוילנד (תל-אביב: בבל, תשס"ד)  
פונקנשטיין, עמוס, "דיאלקטיקת ההתבוללות". זמנים 55 (1996): 64-71

#### Additional Reading Material:

##### Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %  
Presentation 0 %  
Participation in Tutorials 10 %  
Project work 45 %  
Assignments 45 %  
Reports 0 %  
Research project 0 %  
Quizzes 0 %  
Other 0 %

#### Additional information:

Two grades will be given: one for the seminar paper, and one for the course