



## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

## *Major Trends in Medieval Jewish Philosophy - 14628*

*Last update 14-09-2023*

*HU Credits: 2*

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

*Responsible Department: Jewish Thought*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 2nd Semester*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Reimund Leicht*

*Coordinator Email: [leichtreimund@googlemail.com](mailto:leichtreimund@googlemail.com)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday 15-16*

*Teaching Staff:*

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Dr. Werthmann Tanja

Course/Module description:

The course provides a survey of the important Jewish thinkers of the middle ages from Saadia Gaon to the late middle ages/Renaissance in the form of lecture and common reading of selected primary sources.

Course/Module aims:

Acquaintance with the main Jewish philosophers of the middle ages and their thought within their cultural and historical contexts.

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

Basic acquaintance with the classical works of Jewish philosophy and ability to read primary texts. Familiarity with important questions of modern research.

Attendance requirements(%):

80

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture

Course/Module Content:

1. Introduction
2. What is Jewish Philosophy?
3. The beginning of Jewish Thought in the middle Ages in the Islmaicate World: al-Muqammis and Saadia Gaon
4. "Jewish Neoplatonism": Isaak Israeli and Salomon Ibn Gabirol
5. Asceticism, "Ethics" and Philosophy in al-Andalus in the 11th and 12th century
6. Jewish philosophy in al-Andalus in the 12th century: Abraham Ibn Ezra and Abraham ibn Daud
7. Criticism of philosophy in the name of religion: Judah ha-Levi
8. Maimonides

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9. and 10. After Maimonides: Followers and Critics

11. Levi ben Gershom

12. Jewish Thought in the later middle Ages

13. Summary

Required Reading:

*Basic acquaintance with the classical works of Jewish philosophy and ability to read primary texts. Familiarity with important questions of modern research.*

Additional Reading Material:

*All texts for the course (short primary sources, one article/chapter of a book per meeting) will be provided on Moodle.*

Grading Scheme:

*Written / Oral / Practical Exam 100 %*

Additional information:

*no*