Syllabus

Wars and Kings in Jewish Thought - 14724

Last update 07-10-2015

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Jewish Thought

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. David Flatto

Coordinator Email: David.flatto@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours:

Teaching Staff:
Prof. David Flatto
**Course/Module description:**
The course will analyze Jewish philosophical attitudes towards warfare and kingship in seminal writings from Second Temple and Rabbinic literature.

**Course/Module aims:**
To become familiar with primary texts and concepts in Second Temple and Rabbinic literature that relate to warfare and kingship.

**Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:**
Students will become familiar with primary texts in Second Temple and Rabbinic literature that relate to warfare and kingship; and will be able to reconstruct the political philosophy underlying these texts.

**Attendance requirements (%):**
90%

**Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:** lecture and discussion

**Course/Module Content:**
The course will analyze attitudes towards warfare and kingship in seminal writings from Second Temple and Rabbinic literature. The first part of the course will focus on several issues related to warfare, including religious and apocalyptic attitudes towards warfare, the different kinds of wars and the laws that apply to them, and the question of the legitimacy of warfare on Sabbath. The second part of the course will survey attitudes toward the monarchic institution in several leading works of Second Temple and rabbinic literature, including the relationship between the king, God, and priests, the king's role in judicial administration, and the nature of royal responsibilities.

**Required Reading:**
1QM (קֵューֵמ) מַגֵּילת הַמַּכְבִּים (קֵューֵמ) ספר מַכְבִּים (קֵューֵמ) אֲנָדוֹרָת אֲרִיסְטָטֶס (קֵューֵמ) מַזוּמְרוֹת שֵלֶמה (קֵューֵמ) בְּרִית הַמַּדְשֶׁה (קֵューֵמ)


Martin Goodman, Rome and Jerusalem (2007), chapter eight


Nadav Sharon, Opposition to the Hasmoneans and Resistance to Rome, Reactions to Empire: Sacred Texts in their Socio-Political Contexts (WUNT II/372; Tbingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2014), pp. 41-54

Brent D. Shaw, Tyrants, Bandits and Kings: Personal Power in Josephus, pp. 176-204

Ernst Kantorowicz, *The King's Two Bodies* (republished 1998), *Introduction*

*The Cambridge History of Greek and Roman Political Thought* (2005), pp. 366-389

**Additional Reading Material:**

**Course/Module evaluation:**

End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 25 %
Project work 65 %
Assignments 10 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

**Additional information:**