

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Messianic Thought during the Holocaust - 14940

Last update 20-04-2015

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Jewish Thought

Academic year: 1

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Gershon Greenberg

Coordinator Email: greenbe@american.edu

Coordinator Office Hours: appointment in advance

Teaching Staff:

Gershon Greenberg

Course/Module description:

Analysis of Jewish messianic responses to the Holocaust through the catastrophe (1938-1948) in Nazi-occupied Europe, the Land of Israel and the United States, in the overall context of modern messianism.

Course/Module aims:

To acquaint the student with messianic thought through the Holocaust, and the crisis it created for the Jewish religion in the aftermath.

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

- 1)
Analyze wartime texts on messianism, against broader patterns of Jewish messianic thinking.
- 2) *Relate textual material about redemption to the respective author's overall thinking.*
- 3) *Analyze central terms, including Ikveta di'meshiha, Hevlei mashiah, Geulah, Athalta di'geulah.*
- 4) *Prepare Avodot or Avodot seminariyot, comparing two messianic thinkers in terms of their writings and the potentially problematic legacies.*

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Frontal lectures with student participation.

Course/Module Content:

List of subjects and required readings

- 1) *Introduction: Characteristics of Jewish messianism*
- 2) *Passive expectation of redemption*
Shelomoh Zalman Ehrenreich, Derashot lehem shelomoh, Brooklyn 1976
Hayim Yisrael Tsimrman, Tamim po'alo, Tel Aviv 1946
- 3) *Activist participation in bringing redemption*
Yissakhar Taykhtahl, Em ha'banim semehah, Budapest 1943
Menahem Rizikov, Palgei shemen, New York 1939
- 4) *Changing the world from within*
Bentsiyon Halberstam, "Igeret hakodesh...5699 Bobov"

5) *Joining time and eternity*

Yehezkel Sarna, *Li'teshuvah u'litekumah*, Jerusalem 1944

Yosef Yitshak Schneersohn, *Ha'keriyah vеха'kedushah*, Brooklyn 1941-1943

6) *Redemption through the Land of Israel*

Mosheh Avigdor Amiel, *Li'nevukhei hatekufah*, Jerusalem 1943

Reuven Katz, *Dudaei reuven*, Jerusalem 1954

7) *Redemption as Da'at torah*

Elhanan Wasserman, *New York* 1938

8) *Lurianic kabbalah*

Aharon Roth, *Shomer emunim*, Jerusalem 1942

Ya'akov Mosheh Harlap, *Mei merom: Mima'ayanei hayeshua*, Jerusalem 1963

Mordekhai Atiyah, *Mekor hayim*, Mexico City 1953

Required Reading:

See list of subjects

Additional Reading Material:

Menahem M. Kasher, *Hatekufah hagedolah*, Jerusalem 1969.

Joseph Dan, *Hameshihiyut hayehudit hamodernit*, Erets yisrael 1999.

Yisrael Kolat, "Tsiynut umeshihiyut," in *Meshihiyut ve'eskatologiah*, ed. Tsevi Baras, Jerusalem 1984.

Shemuel Almog, "Hameshihiyut ke'etgar letsiyonut," in *Meshihiyut ve'eskatologiah*.

Rivkah Schatz-Uffenheimer, "Ma'amad hahistoriyah vehageulah haleumi," in

Hara'ayon hameshihi me'az gerush sefarad, Jerusalem 2005.

Aviezer Ravitzky, *Haketz hameguleh*, Tel Aviv 1997.

Gershon Greenberg, "Historiyah ugeulah: Bituyim Limeshihiyut yehudit betom milhemet haolam hasheniyah," in *Hashoah behistoriyah hayehudit*, ed Dan Michman, Jerusalem 2005.

Gershon Greenberg, "From Holocaust to Redemption in Wartime Jewish Religious Thought," in *The Impact of the Holocaust on Jewish Theology*, ed. Steven T. Katz, New York 2005.

Gershon Greenberg, "Amalek bitekufat hashoah : Mahshavah yehudit ortodoksit," in *Derekh haruah: Sefer hayovel li'eliezer Schweid*, ed Yehoyada Amir, Jerusalem 2005.

Eliezer Schweid, *Bein hurban li'yeshua*, Tel Aviv 1994.

Mendel Piekaz, "Hara'ayon hameshihi bi'yemei tsemihat hahasidut be'aspaklariyat sifrei derush vemusar," in *Hara'ayon hameshihi beyisrael: Yom iyun leregul meleat shemonim shanah legershom shalom*, 24-25 bekislev 1975.

David Sorotzkin, "Binyan erets shel matah vehurban erets shel ma'alah: Harabi mi'satmar vеха'askolah ha'ortodoksit haradikalit," in *Erets yisrael behagut hayehudit bemeah ha'esrim*, ed. Aviezer Ravitzky, Jerusalem 2005.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 25 %

Project work 75 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

Submission of Avodah (about 12 pages) or Avodah seminaryonit (about 25 pages)