



## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

### *On Pain - 15998*

*Last update 19-09-2022*

*HU Credits: 2*

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

*Responsible Department: Philosophy*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 1st Semester*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Hilla Jacobson*

*Coordinator Email: [hilla.jacobson@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:hilla.jacobson@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: TBA*

*Teaching Staff:*

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Prof Hilla Jacobson

Course/Module description:

*Pains form a paradigmatic example of phenomenally conscious states, and they, as well as other experiential states with valenced "negative" or "positive" characters, possess a special significance in our mental life. The last decade has seen an upsurge of interest in the phenomenon of pain, and in particular in the following questions: What constitutes the mental state of pain? Why do pains feel the way they do, and in particular why do they "feel bad"? Do pains, like "regular perceptual experiences" possess intentional contents and represent items that are external to themselves? And if so, what do they represent? More generally, what are the relations between pains and "regular perceptual experiences"? Pains are intimately related to actions – how do they motivate us to, and provide us with reasons for, actions? What is the relation between pain and suffering, and is it possible to feel pain and yet not suffer? Is it possible to feel pain and be utterly apathetic toward it? Such questions will be at the focus of our discussion.*

Course/Module aims:

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

*Familiarity with current philosophical discussion on pain, and the ability to critically reflect on arguments and texts in this area of research.*

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:*

Course/Module Content:

*Among the central topics to be discussed:*

*Pain and its distinctive characteristics*

*Pain as an experiential, phenomenal state*

*The affective dimension of pain*

*Pain and suffering*

*Pain and reasons for action*

Required Reading:

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We will read papers by David Bain, Michael Tye and Brian Cutter, Murat Aydede, Collin Klein and others.

Additional Reading Material:

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: