



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

The Muslim Brotherhood And Its Legacy - 16342

Last update 08-10-2024

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Arabic Language & Literature

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Daniel Lav

Coordinator Email: daniel.lav@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: By advance appointment

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Daniel Lav

Course/Module description:

The course will introduce students to the history, thought, and practice of the Muslim Brotherhood and its offshoots, starting from its founding in Egypt (1928) and up to present-day Ḥamās. The Muslim Brotherhood has been the most influential Islamist movement in the Arab Sunnī regions, from Morocco to the Gulf States and the Levant, and thus in addition to studying the movement itself the course will likewise address its place in wider regional dynamics.

Course/Module aims:

To teach students to analyze the Muslim Brotherhood and its ideology through reading of key texts, with attention to both their Islamic religious dimensions and their concrete sociopolitical context.

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

Cogently explain the key features of the Muslim Brotherhood as an ideology and as a movement as well as the nature of and reasons for the variations in form it has assumed in different countries.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Instruction will focus on reading primary sources together in the classroom setting, with guidance from the instructor. Students will be expected to prepare the readings in advance of each class. The instructor's lectures will serve primarily to introduce new topics and provide essential context for the readings.

Course/Module Content:

Background: Islam and Modernity in Twentieth-Century Egypt

Ḥasan al-Bannā and the Founding of the Muslim Brotherhood

The Brotherhood in Pre-War Egypt: Islam and Society

A Movement in Crisis: Revolutionary Egypt and the Prison Years

Sayyid Quṭb and His Legacy

The Syrian Muslim Brotherhood between Participation and Revolt

The Gulf States and the Emergence of the Ṣaḥwa Movement

‘Abdallāh ‘Azzām and the “Afghan Arabs”

North Africa from the Algerian FIS to the Moroccan PJD

The Muslim Brotherhood, Palestine, and Ḥamās

The Brotherhood in the Arab Spring and Its Aftermath

Required Reading:

We will read texts authored by major Muslim Brotherhood figures, in addition to relevant research literature.

Examples of primary sources:

Majmū‘at rasā’il Ḥasan al-Bannā

‘Abd al-Qādir ‘Awda, al-Islām wa-awḍā’una al-qānūniyya

Aḥmad ‘Abd al-Majīd, al-Ikhwān wa-‘Abd al-Nāṣir

Sayyid Quṭb, Ma‘ālim fī’l-ṭarīq

Sa‘īd Ḥawā, Jund Allāh thaqāfatan wa-akhlāqan

‘Abdallāh ‘Azzām, Ayāt al-Raḥmān fī jihād al-afghān

‘Alī b. Ḥājj, al-Damgha al-qawwiyya li-nasf ‘aqīdat al-dīmuqrāṭiyya

Mīthāq Ḥamās (1988)

Examples of Secondary Sources:

Richard P. Mitchell, The Society of the Muslim Brothers, New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993

Brynjar Lia, The Society of the Muslim Brothers in Egypt: The Rise of an Islamic Mass Movement, 1928-1942, Ithaca Press, 1999

Mathias Ghyoot, “Supporters and opponents: a history of the Muslim Brotherhood’s

second prison ordeal, 1954-1964," Middle Eastern Studies 59/3 (2023), pp. 478-501

Raphaël Lefèvre, The Ashes of Hama: The Muslim Brotherhood in Syria, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013

Stéphane Lacroix, Awakening Islam: The Politics of Religious Dissent in Contemporary Saudi Arabia, Cambridge (Mass.): Harvard University Press, 2011

Thomas Hegghammer, The Caravan: Abdallah Azzam and the Rise of Global Jihad, Cambridge (UK): Cambridge University Press, 2020

האחים המוסלמים: חזון דתי במציאות משתנה, בעריכת מאיר חטינה ואורי מ. קופפרשמידט, הקיבוץ המאוחד, 2012

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Home Exam % 70

Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 20 %

Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 10 %

Additional information: