



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Introduction to Judeo-Arabic: Language and Literature - 16347

Last update 03-10-2021

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Arabic Language & Literature

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Miriam Goldstein

Coordinator Email: mi.goldstein@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Monday 12-13

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Miriam Goldstein

Course/Module description:

Judeo-Arabic is the language used for writing by the Jews of the Arabic-speaking world, beginning around the ninth century, and up until nearly the present day. The Arabic-speaking world included a wide variety of religions and sects, and an understanding of the literary creations of Jews composing in Arabic is an essential element in understanding the medieval and modern Arabic-speaking world.

The course aims to provide a systematic introduction to a) the Judeo-Arabic language – its unique morphology, syntax and vocabulary; b) the literary and documentary genres composed in Judeo-Arabic; and c) the history of the communities who composed this literature. The class will focus primarily on the medieval and early modern period. Text readings require a solid knowledge of Classical Arabic; we will read classic and relevant secondary sources alongside these primary sources in Judeo-Arabic.

Course/Module aims:

- a. Reading texts written in Judeo-Arabic.*
- b. Identifying shared Islamicate terms or cultural topics in Jewish texts*
- c. Connecting between class texts and secondary readings*
- d. Development of skills in summarizing major course concepts/ secondary sources in a concise form*

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

Understanding of the broad cultural phenomenon of Jewish usage of Arabic
Introduction to a broad range of texts in Judeo-Arabic

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Course lectures and guided reading in class

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 60 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 20 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 20 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: