

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Jewish and Christian Figures in Medieval Muslim - 16507

Last update 28-04-2015

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Arabic Language and Literature

Academic year: 2

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Goldstein

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

Coordinator Office Hours: Mon 11-12

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Miriam Goldstein

Course/Module description:

The reading of works by Muslim authors who describe figures from the Jewish and Christian traditions. Genres include history, exegesis and theology. Figures to be studied include Mary and Jesus. Authors include Muhammad b. Jarir al-Tabari, Abd al-Jabbar al-Hamadani as well as relevant sections of the Quran and Bible.

Course/Module aims:

To attain familiarity with the portrayal of near-mythical Jewish and Christian figures in medieval Muslim literature.

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

1. Develop tools for analyzing medieval Arabic descriptions of other religions
2. Identify classic elements in the description of each figure
3. Identify the style and tendencies of each author studied in the course
4. Illustrate the scriptural and theological background of the various descriptions

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures and reading in class

Course/Module Content:

Reading from the texts noted below.

Required Reading:

היסטוריה של העם היהודי, פרק 1, "המדינה היהודית הראשונה", עמ' 593-605
(הוצאת הוצאת ספרים, תשס"ד)
היסטוריה של העם היהודי, פרק 2, "המדינה היהודית השנייה", עמ' 135-163
רבקה ניר, הנצרות הקדומה: שלוש המאות הראשונות, עמ' 184-213 ; 264-276
Encyclopedia of Islam (2nd edn), "Ta'rikh": Historical Writing

Additional Reading Material:

Chase Robinson, *Islamic Historiography*;
Tarif Khalidi, *Arabic Historical Thought*;
F.M.Donner, *Narratives of Islamic Origins: The Beginning of Islamic Historical Writing*

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 80 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 20 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: