

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Reading in Ibn Taymiyya - 16805

Last update 06-02-2020

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Arabic Language & Literature

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Daniel Lav

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

Coordinator Office Hours:

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Daniel Lav

Course/Module description:

Ibn Taymiyya (d. 728/1328) is one of the most influential thinkers in the history of Sunni Islam, and he has been particularly influential in the modern era. In this class we will attempt to grasp essential features of Ibn Taymiyya's thought through a close reading of one of his thematic texts (e.g., Qā'ida fī'l-maḥabba, Risāla fī'l-af'āl al-ikhtiyāriyya, etc.). We will read additional texts by Ibn Taymiyya and others as appropriate in order to clarify topics in the main text, in addition to relevant research literature.

Course/Module aims:

The aim of the course is to learn Ibn Taymiyya's theological system from his own writings, and thereby to prepare the students for independent research in medieval theological writings.

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

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to analyze Ibn Taymiyya's theological writings, to explain their main features, and to situate them in relation to rival thinkers and schools.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

Sample list of topics:

*Ibn Taymiyya's conception of divinity
The meaning and aim of creation
Ethics and the human act*

Required Reading:

Sample reading list:

Selected works by Ibn Taymiyya (e.g., Qā'ida fī'l-maḥabba, Risāla fī'l-af'āl al-ikhtiyāriyya, etc.) and other primary sources

Taymiyya's Theodicy of Perpetual Optimism
Sophia Vasalou, Ibn Taymiyya's Theological Ethics
Ayman Shihadeh, The Teleological Ethics of Fakhr al-Dīn al-Rāzī

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 70 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 10 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 20 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: