

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Kitab al-Zahrah by Ibn Dawud al-Isfahani - 16880

Last update 06-10-2025

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Arabic Language & Literature

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Arabic

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Iyas Nasser

Coordinator Email: iyas.nasser@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Following the class

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Iyas Nasser

Course/Module description:

This course deals with love poetry, the theory of love and the motifs of love found in *Kitāb al-Zahrah*, an anthology of poetry compiled by Muḥammad Ibn Dāwūd al-Iṣfahānī (d. 910) that consists of one hundred chapters. The course examines the structure and content of the book, sheds light on several facets found in love poetry and investigates the anthologist's outlook and perception of love.

Course/Module aims:

The course aims to study the structure and content of *Kitab al-Zahra* and examine the theory of love in classical Arabic Literature.

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

The Students should be able to deal with additional chapters of *Kitab al-Zahra*, examining and discussing them. Furthermore, they should be able to widen their understanding of classical Arabic poetry, and characterize various aspects of the theory of love in classical Arabic literature.

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The instruction relies on lectures, discussion and papers.

Course/Module Content:

The course deals with the introduction of the anthology and focuses on other selected chapters.

Required Reading:

Raven, Wim. "Ibn Dāwūd al-Iṣfahānī," *El 3* (online).

_____. *Ibn Dāwūd al-Iṣbahānī and his Kitāb al-Zahra*. Ph. D. thesis, Leiden, 1989.

الكتاب في ١٠٠ باب. «الكتاب في ١٠٠ باب: كتاب في ١٠٠ باب» .الكتاب في ١٠٠ باب .201-222 ٢٠١٣ .الكتاب في ١٠٠ باب: كتاب في ١٠٠ باب .الكتاب في ١٠٠ باب

Additional Reading Material:

28 .الكتاب في ١٠٠ باب: كتاب في ١٠٠ باب .«الكتاب في ١٠٠ باب» .الكتاب في ١٠٠ باب

(1984) 623-651.

«... :...» .
.396-451 (2001) 15 .«

Giffen, Lois Anita. Theory of profane love among the Arabs. The development of the genre, New York, 1971.

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 60 %

Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture/ Seminar / Pro-seminar / Research proposal 30 %

Active Participation / Team Assignment 10 %

Additional information: