



## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

## *Between Hebrew and Arabic - Literature History Culture Language Identity - 17134*

*Last update 29-10-2015*

*HU Credits: 2*

*Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)*

*Responsible Department: hebrew literature*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 2nd Semester*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Mr. Almog Behar*

*Coordinator Email: [almogbehar@gmail.com](mailto:almogbehar@gmail.com)*

*Coordinator Office Hours:*

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Teaching Staff:

Mr.

Course/Module description:

*Between Hebrew and Arabic – Literature, History, Culture, Language, Identity*

Course/Module aims:

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

*In this course we will read a selection of works of Jews of the Muslim world in the 20th century, and follow the diversity of languages, genres and geography, and connect those to questions of community and immigration, Colonialism and nationalism, religion and secularization, Canon and its margins, tradition and identity.*

Attendance requirements(%):

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

Introduction

*Read chapter 4 (pp. 220-284) from: "After Jews and Arabs : remaking Levantine culture", Ammiel Alcalay, Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1993.*

*Writing in Rabbinical Hebrew and Judeo-Arabic*

*Sasson Somekh, "Arabic as a Jewish Language", lecture in three parts:*

*<http://sephardichorizons.org/Volume1/Issue4/arabic.html>*

*<http://sephardichorizons.org/Volume2/Issue1/Somekh.html>*

*<http://sephardichorizons.org/Volume2/Issue2/somekh.html>*

*Writing in Colonial languages*

*Jacqueline Kahanoff : read from Deborah Starr and Sasson Somekh, editors, "Mongrels or Marvels: The Levantine Writings of Jacqueline Shohet Kahanoff"*

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(Stanford University Press, 2011) – read the introduction and pp 1-37, 89-127.

Jacqueline Kahanoff : read from Deborah Starr and Sasson Somekh, editors, "Mongrels or Marvels: The Levantine Writings of Jacqueline Shohet Kahanoff" (Stanford University Press, 2011) – read pp 177-212, 232-259.

Albert Memmi, "The colonizer and the colonized", translated by Howard Greenfeld, Expanded ed. Boston: Beacon Press, c1991. ISBN 0-8070-0301-8

### Writing in Judeo-Spanish

Marcel Cohen, "In Search of a Lost Ladino: Letter to Antonio Saura", translated by Raphael Rubinstein, Ibis editions, 2006.  
ISBN 965-90125-4-3

### Writing in Literary Arabic (Fus'ha)

Samir Naqqash, inside: Ammiel Alcalay, editor, Keys to the Garden: New Israeli Writing (City Lights, 1996), pp. 100-132.

Reuven Snir, "From al-Samaw'al to Ibn al-Samaw'al : modern Arab-Jewish culture, its historical background and current demise", Acta Orientalia (Oslo) 67 (2006) 19-79.

Lital Levy, "Historicizing the concept of Arab Jews in the "Mashriq"", Jewish Quarterly Review 98,4 (2008) 452-469.

### Mizrahim in Israel

Ella Shohat, "Sephardim in Israel: Zionism from the Standpoint of Its Jewish Victims," Social Text, No. 19/20 (Autumn, 1988), pp. 1-35.  
<https://docs.google.com/file/d/0B7fZyxMh9kYUZTQ5MjhkZWMtZWU1MC00OGZjLTlkYTMtMDZkNzRkZjg3N2Vi/edit?pli&eq;1>

Amnon Raz-Krakotzkin, " The Zionist return to the West and the Mizrahi Jewish perspective", Orientalism and the Jews (2005) 162-181, Brandeis University Press.

### Writing Poetry in Israeli Hebrew

Reading from: Ammiel Alcalay, editor, Keys to the Garden: New Israeli Writing (City Lights, 1996), pp. 232-289 (Moshe Sartel, Shlomo Avayou, Erez Bitton, Amira Hess, Lev Hakak)

Reading from: Ammiel Alcalay, editor, Keys to the Garden: New Israeli Writing (City Lights, 1996), pp. 290-369 (Bracha Serri, Yehezkel Kedmi, Shelley Elkayam, Ronny Someck, Tikva Levi, Sami Shalom Chetrit)

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*Writing Prose in Israeli Hebrew*

Yitzhaq Shami, "Hebron stories", *Labyrinthos*, Lancaster, California, 2000. ISBN-13: 9780911437942

Shimon Ballas, inside: Ammiel Alcalay, editor, *Keys to the Garden: New Israeli Writing (City Lights, 1996)*, pp. 61-99.

Sami Michael, "Victoria", translated from Hebrew: Dalya Bilu, Macmillan, London, 1995. – The first half of the novel

Ronit Matalon, "The One Facing Us", from Hebrew: Marsha Weinstein, Metropolitan Books, New-York, 1998. – The first half of the novel

The story "Broken Tablets", inside: Haim Sabato, "Aleppo Tales", from Hebrew: Philip Simpson, Toby Press, Jerusalem, 2004. ISBN: 1-59264-126-1

Sasson Somekh, "Baghdad, Yesterday: The Making of an Arab Jew", Ibis Editions, Jerusalem, 2007.

Sasson Somekh, "Life After Baghdad: Memories of an Arab-Jew in Israel, 1950-2000", Sussex Academic Press, Portland, Oregon, 2012. Isbn 978-1-84519-502-1

Required Reading:

"After Jews and Arabs : remaking Levantine culture", Ammiel Alcalay, Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1993.

Joseph Chetrit, "Music and poetry as a shared cultural space for Muslims and Jews in Morocco", *Studies in the History and Culture of North African Jewry* (2011) 65-103.

"Mongrels or Marvels: The Levantine Writings of Jacqueline Shohet Kahanoff" (Stanford University Press, 2011) – read the introduction and pp 1-37, 89-127.

Albert Memmi, "The colonizer and the colonized", translated by Howard Greenfeld, Expanded ed. Boston: Beacon Press, c1991. ISBN 0-8070-0301-8

Marcel Cohen, "In Search of a Lost Ladino: Letter to Antonio Saura", translated by Raphael Rubinstein, Ibis editions, 2006.

Samir Naqqash, inside: Ammiel Alcalay, editor, *Keys to the Garden: New Israeli Writing (City Lights, 1996)*, pp. 100-132.

Lital Levy, "Historicizing the concept of Arab Jews in the "Mashriq"", *Jewish Quarterly Review* 98,4 (2008) 452-469.

Ella Shohat, "Sephardim in Israel: Zionism from the Standpoint of Its Jewish Victims," *Social Text*, No. 19/20 (Autumn, 1988), pp. 1-35.

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Ronit Matalon, "The One Facing Us", from Hebrew: Marsha Weinstein, Metropolitan Books, New-York, 1998. – The first half of the novel

Sasson Somekh, "Baghdad, Yesterday: The Making of an Arab Jew", Ibis Editions, Jerusalem, 2007.

Sasson Somekh, "Life After Baghdad: Memories of an Arab-Jew in Israel, 1950-2000", Sussex Academic Press, Portland, Oregon, 2012. Isbn 978-1-84519-502-1

Additional Reading Material:

*Extended Bibliography*

Lital Levy, "Reorienting Hebrew literary history : the view from the East", *Prooftexts* 29,2 (2009) 127-172.

*The emergence of modern Hebrew literature in Babylon from 1735-1950, lev hakak, West Lafayette, Ind.: Purdue University Press, 2009. Isbn 978-1-55753-514-6*

Haim Blanc, "Communal Dialects in Baghdad", Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1964.

Shelomo Dov Goitein, "A Mediterranean Society, The Jewish communities of the Arab World as Portrayed in the Documents of the Cairo Geniza", University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles.

Gil Hochberg, "'The Mediterranean option" : on the politics of regional affiliation in current Israeli cultural imagination", *Journal of Levantine Studies* 1 (2011) 41-65.

Albert Memmi, *The pillar of salt*. Translated by Edouard Roditi. Boston: Beacon Press, 1992. ISBN 0-8070-8327-5

Ilan Stavans, editor, *The Schocken Book of Modern Sephardic Literature* (Schocken, 2005).

Reuven Snir, "Arabic literature by Iraqi Jews in the twentieth century : the case of Ishaq Bar-Moshe (1927-2003)", *Middle Eastern Studies* 41,1 (2005) 7-29.

Shenhav, Yehouda (2006). *The Arab Jews: A Postcolonial Reading of Nationalism, Religion, and Ethnicity*. Stanford University Press. p. 280. ISBN 0-8047-5296-6.

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*Sami Shalom Chetrit, Intra-Jewish Conflict in Israel: White Jews, Black Jews. London and New York: Routledge. 2010. 298 pp.*

*Gil Anidjar, "Semits - Race, Religion, Literature", Stanford University Press, Stanford, California, 2008. ISBN 978-0-8047-5694-5*

*Ronny Someck, "The Fire Stays in Red", translated from Hebrew by: Moshe Dor, Barbara Goldberg, University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, Wisconsin, 2002.*

*Nancy E. Berg, "More and more equal : the literary works of Sami Michael", Lexington Books, Lanham, 2005. Isbn 0-7391-0828-x*

*Sami Michael, "Refuge", Jewish Publication Society, Philadelphia, 1988.  
Sami Michael, "A trumpet in the wadi", translated by: Yael Lotan, Simon & Schuster, New-York, 2003.*

*Yaacov Yadgar, "A Post-Secular Look at Tradition: Toward a Definition of "Traditionism"", Telos 156 (Fall 2011): 77-98.*

*A.B. Yehoshua, Mr. Mani (Doubleday, 1992)*

*Yehuda Burla, In Darkness Striving (Institute for Hebrew Translation, 1968)*

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 80 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 20 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: