



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

A City of Love and Darkness: Jerusalem in Israeli Fiction - 17840

Last update 18-09-2024

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Hebrew Literature

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Tamar Hess

Coordinator Email: Tamar.hess@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: By appointment by email

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Tamar Hess

Course/Module description:

Literature and landscapes form mutual relationships. Through the lens of poetry and fiction Jerusalem is not a “given” or static entity, but is constantly created and recreated in metaphors and stories, which depict it and reveal the hopes, frustrations and world views of the authors. In reading core literary Israeli works as well as popular contemporary fiction, this course offers multiple portraits of a city which is at the heart of Hebrew and Israeli culture.

Course/Module aims:

At the end of this course students will have read key works in contemporary Israeli fiction, both popular and canonical. Students will be able to describe varied and often contradictory ways in which Jerusalem is represented in Israeli literature. Students will be able to discuss the relationship between landscapes and historical events which took place in Jerusalem and their appearance in Israeli literary works.

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

On successful completion of this module, students should be able to: recognize, describe and critically analyze the major tropes of Jerusalem in canonical and popular contemporary Israeli literature and critically discuss the relation between land and literature.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Discussion and oral presentation. Students will share an online reading journal where you will post your responses to stories once a week. These responses will comprise 20% of your final grade. Students are advised to discuss the topic of their final written paper with Tamar before June 30, 2024.

Course/Module Content:

- 1. Introduction: Place and displacement in Literature - The case of Jerusalem*
- 2. Yoram Kaniuk, Himo King of Jerusalem*
- 3 Shulamit Hareven, A City of Many Days*
- 4. Amalia Kahanah Carmon, Naima Sasson*

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5. A. B. Yehushua, *Mr. Mani* (Chapter 1: Hagar)
 - 6-7. David Shahar, *Summer in the Street of Prophets*
 8. Haim Be'er, *Havalim*
 9. Amos Oz, *from My Michael to A Tale of Love and Darkness*
 10. Zeruya Shalev, *The Remains of Love*
 11. Sayed Kashua, *Second Person Singular*
 12. Dror Burstein, *Muck*
 13. Almog Behar, *Ana Min El-Yahud*
 14. Agnon's *Jerusalem*

Required Reading:

See under the list of topics.

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 20 %
Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture/ Seminar / Pro-seminar / Research proposal 40 %
Active Participation / Team Assignment 20 %
Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 10 %
Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture 10 %

Additional information: