



## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

## ***THE RISE OF MODERN YIDDISH LITERATURE - 18871***

*Last update 09-03-2017*

*HU Credits:* 4

*Degree/Cycle:* 2nd degree (Master)

*Responsible Department:* yiddish

*Academic year:* 0

*Semester:* 2nd Semester

*Teaching Languages:* Yiddish

*Campus:* Mt. Scopus

*Course/Module Coordinator:* Prof. David G. Roskies

*Coordinator Email:* [David.Roskies@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:David.Roskies@mail.huji.ac.il)

*Coordinator Office Hours:* Mondays 12:00-14:00

*Teaching Staff:*

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Prof David Roskies

Course/Module description:

*The rise of modern Yiddish literature on the basis of the Eastern European vernacular, speech genres that were current among the folk and new linguistic ideologies; the dialectical play of Western and native forms of self-expression in Yiddish prose, poetry and melodrama; the impact of new aesthetic movements*

Course/Module aims:

*This is the first of a 2-part survey course on the history of modern Yiddish literature, required of all students in the Inter-University MA Program in Yiddish Studies. As such its aim is threefold: (1) a chronological-generic survey of the years 1800-1914; (2) basic facility in reading modern Yiddish poetry, prose and drama; (3) an introduction to the relevant Yiddish literary scholarship;*

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

- (1) negotiate the most difficult Yiddish literary texts with the aid of a dictionary;*
- (2) recognize the stylistic and formal trends of 19th- and early 20th-century Yiddish writing and its major character typology;*
- (3) situate their own work within current trends in Yiddish scholarship;*

Attendance requirements(%):

*Attendance is compulsory; 1 oral presentation (10%); 1 midterm assignment 5-8 pp. long (30%); a take-home final exam (60%)*

*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The course is conducted seminar-style; in each class there is a frontal lecture, discussion of the assigned readings and a 5-minute oral presentations from one of the students*

Course/Module Content:

*The main genres of the Yiddish folk song; the Maskilic Song; the Hasidic Fairytale; The Maskilic Comedy; the Mendele Persona; the Bildungsroman; the mock-epic novel; between Peretz and Sholem Aleichem; critical realism; the monologue; the dangling man, the noble savage, the Symbolist tale; the Impressionist novella*

Required Reading:

*All the primary sources are contained in a carefully edited course packet that the*

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students purchased the first week of class. This course packet is designed to serve them through the entire course of their studies in the field of Yiddish.

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 60 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 30 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 10 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: