



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

How to Read a Poem - 19505

Last update 07-05-2015

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Comparative Literature

Academic year: 2

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: David Fishelov

Coordinator Email: david.fishelov@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: W, 11:00-12:00

Teaching Staff:

Prof David Fishelov

Course/Module description:

We will discuss different meanings of 'reading poetry' (as comprehension, interpretation and reading aloud) and their interrelations. We shall read several articles on voices in poetry, prosody, speaker's tone, speech acts, and the poem as drama. The discussion of these issues will be accompanied with an attentive reading of selected poems and analyzing recordings of poetry reading

Course/Module aims:

To examine the relations between understanding, interpreting and reading aloud poetry, as well as the different considerations involved in reading poem aloud

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

To systematically describe the relations between understanding, interpreting and reading aloud poetry and to analyze the considerations involved in reading aloud specific poems

Attendance requirements(%):

85

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture and discussion

Course/Module Content:

- 1 Introduction: reading as understanding, interpretation and performance
- 2 Different voices in poetry
- 3 Prosody: meter
- 4 Prosody: rhyme, alliteration
- 5 Intonation
- 6 The speaker's tone
- 7 Speech acts
- 8 The poem as drama
- 9 Dramatic monologue
- 10 Ambiguity: options of reading
- 11 Repetition: options of reading
- 12 Enjambment: options of reading
- 13 Mini-catalogs: options of reading
- 14 Concluding remarks; presentation of final papers

Required Reading:

A. Selected poems (edited by the teacher)

B. Articles

הרשב, בנימין. 2000 [1968]. האם לצליל יש משמעות?, מתוך: אמנות השירה (ירושלים: כרמל), עמ' 58-82

טשרניחובסקי, שאול. 1994 [1945]. איך לקרוא שירה? בתוך: שאול טשרניחובסקי: מחקרים ותעודות בעריכת בעז ערפלי (ירושלים: מוסד ביאליק), עמ' 563-567

צור, ראובן. לא הכל הבלים: יוסי בנאי קורא אלתרמן

http://www.tau.ac.il/~tsurxx/Alterman-Banay_web_folder/Not_all_is_vanity.pdf

Brooks, Cleanth and Robert Penn Warren. 1960. Tone. In: *Understanding Poetry* (New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston)

Brower, Reuben. 1951. *The Speaking Voice*. In: *The Fields of Light* (New York: Oxford University Press)

David Crystal. 1997. Intonation. In: *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)

Eliot, T. S. 1957. *The Three Voices of Poetry*. In: *On Poetry and Poets* (London: Faber and Faber)

Searle, John. What Is a Speech Act. In: *The Philosophy of Language*, ed. by John Searle (London: Oxford University Press)

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 5 %

Participation in Tutorials 5 %

Project work 70 %

Assignments 20 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: