



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Advanced Topics in Comparative Literature - 19814

Last update 23-08-2023

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: General & Compar. Literature

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Gur Zak

Coordinator Email: gur.zak@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tue., 15-16

Teaching Staff:

Prof Gur Zak

Course/Module description:

The course will offer an advanced introduction to the central critical perspectives in the field of comparative literature in our day. The course will be divided into three main sections: the first will explore the history of the field and the current debate over "World Literature". The second will discuss several theoretical approaches to literary analysis, particularly from the end of the twentieth century. The third part will review several current approaches, including affect studies, post-humanism and literature, and literature and the "anthropocene".

Course/Module aims:

To introduce advanced students to the main critical perspectives dominating the field of comparative literature in our day.

To expose students to various research orientations and methods in comparative literature

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

To demonstrate advanced knowledge in the field of comparative literature today

To choose in an informed manner the avenues of research that interest them

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Frontal lecture and discussion

Course/Module Content:

1. What is Comparative Literature?
2. Comparative Literature and World Literature
3. World Literature, Digital Humanities, and Translation Studies
4. Feminist Criticism and Literary Analysis
5. Queer theory and Literary Analysis
6. Post-colonial criticism and Translation
7. Testimony, Trauma, and Literature
8. Affect Theory and Literary Analysis
9. The Ethical Turn
10. Literature and Post Humanism

11. Literature and the Anthropocene

Required Reading:

1.
Jonathan Culler, "Comparative Literature, at Last," in *Comparative Literature in an Age of Globalization*, ed. Haun Saussy (Baltimore, 2006), 237-250.
Franco Moretti, "Conjectures on World Literature," *New Left Review* 1 (Jan-Feb 2000), 54-68.
2.
Erich Auerbach, "Philology and Weltliteratur," in *The Princeton Sourcebook in Comparative Literature*, eds. David Damrosch, Natalie Melas, Mbongiseni Buthelezi (Princeton, 2009), 125-139.
David Damrosch, "Goethe Coins a Phrase," in *What is World Literature?* (Princeton, 2003), 1-36.
Emily Apter, "Untranslatability and the Geopolitics of Reading," *PMLA* 134.1 (2019): 194-200.
3.
Wai-Chee Dimock, *Through Other Continents: American Literature across Deep Time* (Princeton, 2009), 1-23.
Franco Moretti, "Network Theory, Plot Analysis," *Pamphlet* 2 (2011): 1-42.
Harold Bloom, "An Elegy for the Canon", in *The Western Canon* (Harcourt, 1994).
4.
לוס איריגראי, "מין זה שאינו אחד", בתוך מין זה שאינו אחד
Shoshana Felman, *What Does a Woman Want? Reading and Sexual Difference* (Baltimore, 1993), 1-40.
בלזאק, "הייה שלום", בתוך סיפורים נפוליאוניים, תרגום עדה פלדור (תל-אביב, 1999).
5.
Lee Edelman, *No Future: Queer Theory and the Death Drive* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2004), 1-30.
ג'ודית באטלר, "חיקוי ומרי מגדרי", בתוך מעבר למיניות, עורכים יאיר קדר, עמליה זיו, אורן קנר (תל-אביב, 2003), 329-345.
בוקאצ'ו, דקאמרון, יום שני סיפור תשיעי
6.
Chinua Achebe, "An Image of Africa: Racism in Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*", in *Hopes and Impediments* (London, 1988).
Carli Coetzee, "To Refuse Containment, To Resist Translation," *Interventions* 15.3 (2013): 383-401.
שי גינזבורג, "ארון הספרים ושפת החסד ביצירת אנטון שמאס", מכאן י"ד (2014): עמ' 263-239.
7.
דומיניק לה קפרה, לכתוב היסטוריה, לכתוב טראומה, פרק ב
קאתי קארות', "טראומה, צדק והלא מודע הפוליטי", בתוך שושנה פלמן ודורי לאוב, עדות (תל אביב, 2008) 227-253.
Joshua Pederson, "Trauma and Narrative," in *Trauma and Literature*, ed. J. Roger Kurtz (Cambridge, 2018), 97-110.

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8.
Sara Ahmed, *The Cultural Politics of Emotion* (Edinburgh, 2014), 1-16, 122-143.
Martha Nussbaum, *Political Emotions* (Harvard, 2013), 257-313.
Dante, *Purgatorio* 13
9.
Walter Benjamin, "The Author as Producer," *The New Left Review* 62 (1970): 81-96.
Dorothy Hale, "Aesthetics and the New Ethics," *PMLA* 124.3 (2009): 896-905.
Molly Travis, "Beyond Empathy: Narrative Distancing and Ethics," *Journal of Narrative Theory* 40.2 (2010): 231-50.
10. Cary Wolfe, "Human,
All Too Human: Animal Studies and the Humanities," *PMLA* 124.2 (2009): 564-575.
Derek Ryan, "Following Snakes and Moths: Modernist Ethics and Post-Humanism,"
Twentieth Century Literature 61.3 (2015): 287-304.
Virginia Woolf, "The Death of the Moth"
11.
Sam Solnick, "Addressing Globalization in the Anthropocene," in *Globalization and Literary Studies*, ed. Joel Evans (Cambridge, 2022), 318-333.
Pieter Vermeulen, *Literature and the Anthropocene* (Routledge, 2020), chs. 1 and 2.

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 70 %
Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture 20 %
Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 10 %

Additional information: