

# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *Reading Dante's "Divine Comedy" - 19898*

*Last update 06-09-2016*

*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: Dr. Gur Zak*

*Coordinator Email: [gur.zak@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:gur.zak@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: Tue. 15-16*

*Teaching Staff:*

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Dr. Gur Zak

Course/Module description:

Dante's "Divina Commedia" is undoubtedly one of the most influential works in Western literature. In this course we shall undertake a close reading of selected cantos from the three sections of the work - the "Inferno", the "Purgatorio", and the "Paradiso", with the aim of elucidating the literary and philosophical merits of the work. Each week we shall read together two or three cantos (reading the Hebrew translation side by side with the original Italian), alongside several contemporary critical essays. Among the themes we shall focus on in our analysis are: the autobiographical nature of the work and the complex relationship between Dante the author and Dante the pilgrim, the ways Dante constructs his poetic authority in the work, his views of the ethical role of poetry, and his complex attitude towards the classical world

Course/Module aims:

Close reading of Dante's masterpiece

Acquaintance with central contemporary critical perspectives on the Commedia

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

Demonstrate deep knowledge of the "Commedia"

Demonstrate deep knowledge of contemporary critical perspectives on the work

Analyse in an informed and critical manner a literary masterpiece

Attendance requirements(%):

90

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

Selected cantos of the Commedia

Required Reading:

Dante, La divina commedia

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Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 10 %

Project work 80 %

Assignments 10 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: