Syllabus

PURIM IN THE HIST. OF JEWISH THR. - 20523

Last update 05-02-2014

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Theatre Studies

Academic year: 2

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Yair Lipshitz

Coordinator Email: yair.lipshitz@gmail.com

Coordinator Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Staff:
Dr. Yair Lipshitz
Course/Module description:
  Purim held a fundamental place in the complex history of Jewish theatre - whether in its folk form (Purimspiel) or in more erudite forms (early Hebrew drama). This course will examine the cultural tensions underlying this festival from it Biblical and Rabbinic roots to later customs surrounding it: tensions between Jews and non-Jews, Carnival and Order, and the beautiful and grotesque body. These tensions will serve as an interpretive key for analyzing central Jewish plays related to Purim.

Course/Module aims:
  Contextualizing Jewish plays within the ritual heritage of Purim; Understanding the overt and covert interrelations between Purim and theatrical practice; Suggesting a new view on the history of Jewish theatre by exposing leitmotifs within this history.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
  Locate Purimic and Carnivalesque elements in Jewish plays, and interpret the participation of these theatre pieces in the fundamental cultural tensions of Purim.

Attendance requirements(%):
  80

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Frontal teaching and class discussions.

Course/Module Content:
  1. Purim, performance, and carnival.
  3. The Grotesque body in Rabbinic Midrashim on Esther.
  4. Performance of Purimic customs from the Middle-Ages onwards.
  5. The Purimspiel.
  6. "Zahut bedihuta deqiddushin" as Purim play.
  7. Opposing the Purimspiel: "Frivolity and Hypocrisy".
  8. Itzik Manger's Megillah Songs.
  9. The Megillah on the Hebrew Stage: Alterman's "Queen Esther".

Required Reading:
  Plays:
  מבחר קטעי פורים-שפיל מותך ספרה של אחותה כללן
Required secondary reading:


Additional Reading Material:

ספרות מחקרית (ишע)

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 100 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: