



# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible: Methods and Approaches - 21118*

*Last update 29-08-2023*

*HU Credits: 2*

*Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)*

*Responsible Department: Bible*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 2nd Semester*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Noam Mizrahi*

*Coordinator Email: [noam.mizrahi@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:noam.mizrahi@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday, 14:30 to 16:30*

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Teaching Staff:

Prof Noam Mizrahi

Course/Module description:

Part II of the "Introduction to the Hebrew Bible" presents the main analytical methods that have developed in biblical criticism—rooted in the pioneer ideas of the 17th-century philosopher Benedict Spinoza—in order to explain the textual data and integrate it into a literary-historical picture of the formation of biblical literature from its earlier sources. The first part of the course will be devoted to Pentateuchal criticism, presenting the approaches known as the Documentary Hypothesis, Form Criticism and History of Tradition. The second part of the course will be devoted to the study of the historiographical books, discussing mainly the developing views of the Deuteronomistic School, and concluding with the Chronistic School.

Course/Module aims:

(1) Getting to know the main theoretical approaches and analytical methodologies that developed along the history of biblical research. (2) Acquiring conceptual tools for the analysis of biblical texts. (3) Broadening and deepening of the critical sensitivity for reading biblical literature and its variety of genres.

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

(1) to know the main approaches and methods developed in biblical criticism and their distinctive key concepts; (2) to exercise diverse approaches and methods when analyzing concrete texts; (3) to know the main reference books and research tools for the study of biblical literature.

Attendance requirements(%):

Full attendance

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures, accompanying reading

Course/Module Content:

See the course website via the Moodle system.

Required Reading:

See the course website via the Moodle system.

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*Additional Reading Material:*

*See the course website via the Moodle system.*

*Grading Scheme:*

*Written / Oral / Practical Exam 60 %*

*Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports  
/ Forum / Simulation / others 30 %*

*Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 10 %*

*Additional information:*