

# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *Biblical Literature in Light of the Ancient Near East: Introduction - 21348*

*Last update 22-01-2025*

*HU Credits:* 2

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

*Responsible Department:* Bible

*Academic year:* 0

*Semester:* 1st Semester

*Teaching Languages:* Hebrew

*Campus:* Mt. Scopus

*Course/Module Coordinator:* Ronnie Goldstein

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

*Coordinator Office Hours:* Wednesday 9:30-10:30

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Teaching Staff:

Prof. Ronnie Goldstein

Course/Module description:

The course will focus on a variety of literary genres (mythology, law, treaties, prophecy, historiography, hymns and prayers, wisdom) from the Ancient Near East in comparison to Biblical Literature.

Course/Module aims:

Exploring the cultural and literary background in which the bible developed, and examining the similarities and differences between ancient Near Eastern texts and the hebrew bible.

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

1. Identify the major ideas and major themes of ancient Near Eastern texts
2. Classify a variety of literary genres from the Ancient Near East in comparison to Biblical Literature.
3. Explain their importance for understanding the formation of the bible.
4. Recognize the Historical, geographical and cultural Background of the Bible.
5. Apprise and illustrate the importance of philology reading texts.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Readings and discussion.

Course/Module Content:

1. Bible and Ancient Near East : Historical, geographical and cultural Background
- 2 . The creation of the world and cosmogony
- 3 . Creation of Humanity.
4. The Flood
5. Ugaritic literature and the Bible A : Fighting the sea god
6. Law and Civil Law in the Bible and the Ancient Near East
9. Contracts and covenants.

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- 10- Historiography
  11. Prophecy
  12. Prayers and Psalms
  13. Wisdom Literature.
  14. The Persian period
  15. Esther; Daniel

Required Reading:

See: <http://moodle.huji.ac.il>

Additional Reading Material:

n/a

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 60 %

Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports  
/ Forum / Simulation / others 40 %

Additional information:

n/a