



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls - 21503

Last update 22-02-2023

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Bible

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Esther Chazon

Coordinator Email: esther.chazon@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Monday 15:15-16:15

Teaching Staff:

Prof Esther Chazon

Course/Module description:

The 940 scrolls discovered at Qumran along the western shore of the Dead Sea include biblical and parabiblical texts, sectarian rules, eschatological works, apocalypses, wisdom books, hymns and prayers (sectarian and non-sectarian). We will examine a wide selection of sectarian and non-sectarian works found in the Qumran library, consider their broader socio-historical contexts, and read recent scholarly literature on key issues such as the provenance of the scrolls, the literary growth of the ancient works, and the history of ideas, traditions, and Jewish prayer.

Course/Module aims:

1. Learn the Scope of the Qumran Library and of Scrolls Research
2. Acquire skills in accessing and reading Dead Sea Scrolls
3. Identify sectarian terms, ideas, and rules
4. Identity common traditions and modes of thought shared by different Jewish groups in antiquity.

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

1. Learn the Scope of the Qumran Library and of Scrolls Research
2. Acquire skills in accessing and reading Dead Sea Scrolls
3. Identify sectarian terms, ideas, and rules
4. Identity common traditions and modes of thought shared by different Jewish groups in antiquity.

Attendance requirements(%):

80

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The course will be team taught by Prof. Esther Chazon and Dr. Michael Johnson. Class time will be spent primarily on in-depth textual study and secondarily, on critical evaluation of scholarship. Assigned Scrolls texts and scholarly articles will be discussed by the students in class. Lectures by the teachers will put the texts studied into their broader cultural context.

Course/Module Content:

List of Topics:

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1. *The Qumran Site and Scrolls: Discovery, Controversy, History, and Publication*
 2. *The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Qumran Site: Archaeology, Artefacts, and Materiality*
 3. *Scrolls Workshop at the Orion Center Library (Rabin Building, Mt. Scopus campus)*
 4. *Sectarian Ideology in the Community Rule (Serekh ha-Yahad, 1QS 3:12-4, 8-9:11)*
 5. *Initiation and Communal Life in the Yahad (Serekh ha-Yahad, 1QS 5-6 and 4QSB,d)*
 6. *Women at Qumran: Rule of the Congregation (1QSa) and Damascus Document*
 7. *Covenant Renewal Ceremonies (1QS 1:16-3:11 and 1QSB)*
 8. *Hodayot: Sectarian Poetry of Praise and Thanksgiving*
 9. *“Offering of the Lips” – Between Sectarian and Non-Sectarian Prayer (1QS 10 and Daily Prayers)*
 10. *Pesharim: Sectarian Interpretation for the Present Era and End of Days*
 11. *Parabiblical Literature: Between Sectarian and Non-Sectarian Biblical Interpretation*
 12. *Conclusion: Inside and Outside of Qumran*

Required Reading:

Primary Scrolls texts studied in class are Required Reading!

1. *Virtual Qumran Tour with Jodi Magness, The Orion Center Website (for class 2)*
2. *Dimant, Devorah, “The Qumran Manuscripts: Contents and Significance” in History, Ideology and Biblical Interpretation in the Dead Sea Scrolls: Collected Studies (2014). Pages 37-53. (for class 3)*
3. *Hempel, Charlotte, “The Treatise on the Two Spirits and the Literary History of the Rule of the Community” in Dualism in Qumran, ed. Géza Xeravits (2010). Pages 102-120 (for class 4)*
4. *Metso, Sarianna, The Serekh Texts. (2007). Pages 7-14, 17-19 (for class 5)*
5. *Collins, John “Sectarian Communities in the Dead Sea Scrolls,” in The Oxford Handbook of the Dead Sea Scrolls, ed. T. H. Lim and J. J. Collins (2010). Pages 151-160 (for class 5)*
6. *Kugler, Rob and Chazon, Esther, “Women at Qumran,” Dead Sea Discoveries 11 (2004): 167-173 (for class 6).*
7. *Magness, Jodi, The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls. (2002, 1st edition; 2021, 2nd edition). Chapter 8: “Women and the Cemetery at Qumran.” Pages 163-179, 185. (for class 6)*
8. *Nitzan, Bilhah, Qumran Prayer and Religious Poetry. Leiden: Brill, 1994. Pages 124-139, 148-154 (for class 7). Pages 52-59 (for class 9)*
9. *Schuller, Eileen M. and Carol A. Newsom, The Hodayot (Thanksgiving Psalms): A Study Edition of 1QHa. (EJL 36; 2012). Pages 1-11. (for class 8)*
10. *Schuller, Eileen M., “Hodayot (1QH and Related Texts)” in The Eerdmans Dictionary of Early Judaism. Pages 747-749. (for class 8)*
11. *Chazon, Esther G., “Prayers from Qumran and Their Historical Implications,” Dead Sea Discoveries 1 (1994): 265-285. (for class 9)*

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12. Mizrahi, Noam, *Pesher Habakkuk (1QpHab): A Key to Prophecy from the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Jerusalem: Israel Museum & Arta Scritta; forthcoming 2023). Pages 57-89 (for class 10).
<https://openscholar.huji.ac.il/noammizrahi/pesher-habakkuk>
13. Machiela, Daniel A., *The Dead Sea Genesis Apocryphon* (STDJ 79; 2009). Pages 131-134, 140-142 (for class 11)
14. Zahn, Molly M., "Rewritten Scripture," in *The Oxford Handbook of the Dead Sea Scrolls*, ed. John J. Collins. Pages 323-334. OR Falk, Daniel K., *The Parabiblical Texts* (2007) Pages 3-17 (for class 11)

Additional Reading Material:

Additional Reading:

1. Dimant, Devorah, *History, Ideology and Biblical Interpretation in the Dead Sea Scrolls: Collected Studies* (Tübingen, 2014):
 - 1a. "The Vocabulary of the Qumran Sectarian Texts," Pages 67-91
 - 1b. "Not Exile in the Desert but Exile in Spirit," Pages 459-462.
2. Brooke, George J., "Isaiah 40:3 and the Wilderness Community," in *New Qumran Texts and Studies: Proceedings of the First Meeting of the International Organization for Qumran Studies, Paris 1992* (STDJ 15; ed. George Brooke and Florentino García Martínez; Leiden: Brill, 1994), 117-132.
3. Eric Meyers, "Khirbet Qumran and its Environs," in *The Oxford Handbook of the Dead Sea Scrolls*. Ed. Timothy Lim and John Collins (Oxford, 2010). Pages 21-45.
4. Grossman, Maxine, "The World of Qumran and the Sectarian Dead Sea Scrolls in Gendered Perspective," in *Early Jewish Writings*, ed. E. Schuller & M. Wacker. (SBL, 2017). Pages 225-246.
5. Baumgarten, Joseph, "The Cave 4 Versions of the Penal Code," *Journal of Jewish Studies* 43 (1992): 276-286.
6. Baumgarten, Joseph, "4Q502: Marriage or Golden Age Ritual?" *Journal of Jewish Studies* 35 (1983): 125-135.
7. Schuller, Eileen M. "Women in the Dead Sea Scrolls: Research in the Past Decade and Future Directions" in *The Dead Sea Scrolls and Contemporary Culture: Proceedings of the International Conference held at the Israel Museum, Jerusalem (July 6-8, 2008)*. Edited by A. D. Roitman, L. H. Schiffman, and S. Tzoref. STDJ 93. Leiden: Brill, 2010. Pages 571-588
8. Magness, Jodi, *The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002, 2021*. Chapter 6: "Communal Meals, a Toilet, and Sacred Space" Pages 105-131
9. Magness, Jodi. "Were Sacrifices Offered at Qumran? The Animal Bone Deposits Reconsidered." *JAJ* 7.1 (2016): 5-34.10. Hempel, Charlotte, "The Earthly Nucleus of 1QSa," *Dead Sea Discoveries* 3 (1996): 253-269.

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11. Hempel, Charlotte, *The Damascus Texts*, Sheffield, 2000. Pages 26-43, 56-60, 87-88.
 12. Hempel, Charlotte, *The Qumran Rule Texts in Context* (Tübingen, 2013). "Community Structures and Organization." Pages 25-45.
 13. Collins, John J., *Beyond the Qumran Community: The Sectarian Movement of the Dead Sea Scrolls*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010. Chapter 2: The Yahad. Pages 51-79
 14. Newsom, Carol A. "'Sectually Explicit' Literature from Qumran." in *Rhetoric and Hermeneutics: Approaches to Text, Tradition and Social Construction in Biblical and Second Temple Literature*. (Tübingen, 2019). Pages 111-130
 15. Newsom, Carol A. "6. The Hodayot of the Maskil and the Subjectivity of the Masochistic Sublime" in *The Spirit within Me: Self and Agency in Ancient Israel and Second Temple Judaism*. (The Anchor Yale Bible Reference Library, 2021). Pages 143-169.
 16. Newsom, Carol A. *The Self as Symbolic Space: Constructing Identity and Community at Qumran*. (2004) Chapter 5: "What Do the Hodayot Do?" Pages 191-208. Chapter 6: "The Hodayot of the Leader" Pages 287-300.
 17. Harkins, Angela Kim. "The Performative Reading of the Hodayot: The Arousal of Emotions and the Exegetical Generation of Texts." *Journal for the Study of the Pseudepigrapha* 21.1 (2011): 55-71.
 18. Chazon, Esther G., "Liturgy Before and After the Temple's Destruction: Change or Continuity? " Was 70 CE A Watershed in Jewish History? - On Jews and Judaism before and after the Destruction of the Second Temple, ed. D.R. Schwartz, Z. Weiss, R.A. Clements. (*AJEC* 78, 2012). Pages 371-392.
 19. Falk, Daniel. "The Contribution of the Qumran Scrolls to the Study of Ancient Jewish Liturgy." in *The Oxford Handbook of the Dead Sea Scrolls*. Edited by T. Lim & J. J. Collins. Pages 617-642.
 20. Lim, Timothy H. *The Earliest Commentary on the Prophecy of Habakkuk*. Oxford Commentary on the Dead Sea Scrolls. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020. Pages 1-33.
 21. Lim, Timothy H. *Pesharim*. CQS 3. London: Sheffield Academic Press, 2002. Pages 7-23.
 22. Nitzan, Bilhah, *Pesher Habbakuk*. Jerusalem: Bialik, 1986. (in Hebrew).
 23. Collins, John J., *Apocalypticism in the Dead Sea Scrolls*. London, 1997. Chapter 1: "What is Apocalypticism?" Pages 1-11. "The End" to Chapter 5: "Messianic Expectation" Pages 68-90.
 24. Zahn, Molly M. "Parabiblical Texts/Rewritten Scripture." *T&T Clark Companion to the Dead Sea Scrolls* 378-85.
 25. Machiela, Daniel. "Genesis Revealed: The Apocalyptic Apocryphon from Qumran Cave 1" in *Qumran Cave 1 Revisited: Texts from Cave 1 Sixty Years after Their Discovery Proceedings of the Sixth Meeting of the IOQS in Ljubljana*. Edited by

Daniel K. Falk. (STDJ 91, 2010) Pages 205-221.

26. Stegemann, Hartmut, "How to Connect Dead Sea Scroll Fragments" *Bible Review* 4 (1988):24-29, 43

27. Taylor, Joan E., Mizzi, Dennis, and Fidanzio, Marcello. "Revisiting Qumran Cave 1Q and its Archaeological Assemblage." *Palestine Exploration Quarterly* 149 (2017): 295-325.

28. Fidanzio, Marcello and Jean-Baptiste Humbert. "Finds from the Qumran Caves: Roland de Vaux's Inventory of the Excavations (1949-1956)" in *The Caves of Qumran: Proceedings of the International Conference, Lugano 2014*. Edited by M. Fidanzio. STDJ 118, 2016. Pages 263-300.

29. Flusser, David, "The Dead Sea Sect and Pre-Pauline Christianity," in *Judaism and the Origins of Christianity*. Jerusalem: Magnes, 1988.

30. Bernstein, Moshe J., *Reading and Re-Reading Scripture at Qumran. Collected Studies* (2013). "Rearrangement, Anticipation and Harmonization as Exegetical Features in the Genesis Apocryphon," Pages 175-194.

31. Crawford, Sidnie White. *Scribes and Scrolls at Qumran*. (Eerdmans, 2019. Chapter 7: "Who Owned the Scrolls? The Qumran-Essene Hypothesis Revisited," Pages 269-308

32. Vermes, Geza and Martin Goodman. *The Essenes: According to the Classical Sources*. Oxford Centre for Postgraduate Hebrew Studies by JSOT Press, 1989. The Sources, pages 19-57 (English & Greek available, no need to read the Greek). For more orientation to these sources, read pages 1-17.

The Dead Sea Scrolls - Editions of the Scrolls, Concordances and Bibliographical Tools:

Discoveries in the Judaean Desert (DJD, official scrolls editions).

Tov, E., *The Texts from the Judaean Desert - Indices and An Introduction to the Discoveries in the Judaean Desert Series (DJD 39).*

Abegg, M. with Bowley & Cook, *The Dead Sea Scrolls Concordance* (2 volumes; Leiden/Boston, 2003). &eq; electronic form in *Concordance Software*.

Orion Center Bibliography Online:

<http://orion.msc.huji.ac.il/resources/bib/orionBibliography.html>

Parry, Donald W. & Tov, Emanuel, *The Dead Sea Scrolls Reader Parts 1-6*. Leiden, Brill: 2005, 2014.

Charlesworth, James, *The Dead Sea Scrolls. Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek Texts with English Translations*, Princeton Theological Seminary Dead Sea Scrolls Project, Volumes 1-8. 1994-2018.

Qimron, Elisha, *The Dead Sea Scrolls: The Hebrew Writings*. 3 volumes. Jerusalem, 2010, 2013, 2014; *The Hebrew Texts: A Composite Edition* (2020, electronic version).

Broshi, Magen, ed., *The Damascus Document Reconsidered*. Jerusalem: Israel Exploration and Shrine of the Book, Israel Museum, 1992.

Hempel, Charlotte, *The Community Rules in Context: A Commentary*. Tübingen, 2020.

Metso, Sarianna, Michael A. Knibb, and Chad Martin Stauber. *The Community Rule: A Critical Edition With Translation*. EJL 51. Atlanta: SBL, 2019.

Schuller, Eileen M. and Carol A. Newsom, *The Hodayot (Thanksgiving Psalms): A Study Edition of 1QHa*. (EJL 36; 2012).

Lim, Timothy H. *The Earliest Commentary on the Prophecy of Habakkuk*. *Oxford Commentary on the Dead Sea Scrolls*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020.

Mizrahi, Noam, *Pesher Habakkuk (1QpHab): A Key to Prophecy from the Dead Sea Scrolls*. *Forthcoming in English and Hebrew*, 2023.

Nitzan, Bilhah, *Pesher Habbakuk*. Jerusalem: Bialik, 1986. (in Hebrew).

Machiela, Daniel A., *The Dead Sea Genesis Apocryphon (STDJ 79)*; Leiden: Brill, 2009).

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 70 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 10 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 20 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: