



## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

*Ancient Egyptian Artifacts: Magic and the Senses - 22724*

*Last update 22-07-2019*

*HU Credits: 2*

*Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)*

*Responsible Department: Archaeology & Ancient near East*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 1st Semester*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Arlette David*

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

*Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday 12-14:00*

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**Teaching Staff:**  
Prof Arlette David

**Course/Module description:**

The class will study the magical practices surrounding ancient Egyptian artifacts and the involvement of the senses in these practices, from the Early Dynastic to the Late Period

**Course/Module aims:**

Understanding the meaning and performance of magic in the ancient Egyptian society, its use of what we see today as 'art objects' and the particular ways in which the practice involved the senses

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

View ancient Egyptian artifacts and images as part of a ritual, magic practice; comprehend the context of magic and the importance of the senses in its performance and reception

**Attendance requirements(%):**

100

*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Frontal teaching + PPT, reading assignments*

**Course/Module Content:**

Theoretical background;  
Study of texts and artifacts focusing on hearing, taste, smell, vision, touch;  
All-encompassing performances and art

**Required Reading:**

Parts of  
Borghouts, J.F., 1978. *Ancient Egyptian Magical Spells*. Nisaba 9. Leiden: E.J. Brill.  
-- 1980. Magie. Lexicon der Agyptologie III: 1137-51.  
-- 1995. Witchcraft, Magic, and Divination in Ancient Egypt. In J.M. Sasson (ed.), *Civilizations of the Ancient Near East III*, 1775-86. Peabody: Hendrickson Publishers.  
Ritner, R.K., 1993. *The Mechanics of Ancient Egyptian Magical Practice*. SAOC 54. Chicago: Oriental Institute.

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- Szpakowska, K., 2006 (ed.). *Through a Glass Darkly: Magic, dreams, and prophecy in Ancient Egypt*. Swansea: The Classical Press of Wales.
- Wegner, J., 2009. A Decorated Birth-Brick from South Abydos: New Evidence on Childbirth and Birth Magic in the Middle Kingdom. In D.P. Silverman, W.K. Simpson & J. Wegner (eds), *Archaism and Innovation: Studies in the Culture of Middle Kingdom Egypt*, 447-96. New Haven/Philadelphia: Yale/Pennsylvania Universities.

Additional Reading Material:

- David, R., 2002. *Religion and Magic in Ancient Egypt*. London: Penguin Books.
- Dieleman, J., 2005. *Priests, Tongues, and Rites: The London-Leiden Magical Manuscripts and Translation in Egyptian Ritual (100-300 CE)*. RGRW 153. Leiden/Boston: Brill.
- Eschweiler, P., 1994. *Bildzauber im alten Ägypten: Die Verwendung von Bildern und Gegenständen in magischen Handlungen nach den Texten des Mittleren und Neuen Reiches*. OBO 137. Freiburg/Göttingen: Universitätsverlag Freiburg / Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht.
- Étienne, M., 2000. *Heka: Magie et envoûtement dans l'Égypte ancienne*. Paris: Louvre, Réunion des Musées Nationaux.
- Ghalioungui, P., 1973. *Magic and Medical Science in Ancient Egypt*. Amsterdam: B.M. Israel.
- 1973. *The House of Life: Magic and Medical Science in Ancient Egypt*. Amsterdam: B.M. Israël.
- Horstmannshoff, H.F.J. & Stol, M. (eds), 2004. *Magic and Rationality in Ancient Near Eastern and Graeco-Roman Medicine*. SAM 27. Leiden/Boston: Brill.
- Koenig, Y., 1994. *Magie et magiciens dans l'Egypte ancienne*. Bibliothèque de l'Egypte ancienne. Paris: Pygmalion G Watelet.
- 2003. *La magie en Égypte: A la recherche d'une définition*. Paris: La documentation française.
- Kousoulis, P. I. M., 2011. *Ancient Egyptian Theology and Demonology: Studies on the Boundaries between the Divine and Demonic in Egyptian Magic*. Leuven: Peeters.
- Lucarelli, R., 2010. Demons (benevolent and malevolent). In J. Dieleman & W. Wendrich (ed.), *UCLA Encyclopedia of Egyptology*. <http://escholarship.org/uc/item/1r72q9vv>.
- Mirecki, P. & Meyer, M. (eds), 2002. *Magic and Ritual in the Ancient World*. RGRW 141. Leiden/Boston/Köln: Brill.
- Noegel S., Walker, J. & Wheeler, B. (eds), 2003. *Prayer, Magic, and the Stars in the Ancient and Late Antique World*. Pennsylvania: University Press.
- Pinch, G., 1994. *Magic in Ancient Egypt*. London: British Museum Press.
- Zinn, K., 2012. Magic, Pharaonic Egypt. In R.S. Bagnall, K. Brodersen, C.B. Champion, A. Erskine & S.R. Huebner (eds), *The Encyclopedia of Ancient History*, 4227-4231. Blackwell.

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*Course/Module evaluation:*

*End of year written/oral examination* 0 %

*Presentation* 0 %

*Participation in Tutorials* 50 %

*Project work* 50 %

*Assignments* 0 %

*Reports* 0 %

*Research project* 0 %

*Quizzes* 0 %

*Other* 0 %

*Additional information:*