



# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *Essence and Functions of Ancient Images (Egypt) - 22735*

*Last update 28-08-2024*

*HU Credits: 2*

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

*Responsible Department: Archaeology & Ancient near East*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 2nd Semester*

*Teaching Languages: English*

*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: Wednesdays 12-14:00*

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Teaching Staff:

Prof. Arlette David

Course/Module description:

An analysis of the essence and functions of ancient Egyptian images: based on a system of signs, their communicative purpose, mode of action, playfulness, and ultimate goal will be examined with multiple examples

Course/Module aims:

Decoding Ancient Egyptian images as a semiotic system

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

Insight into ancient pictorial concepts

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Frontal teaching with PPT presentations, reading assignments of relevant articles to be discussed in class

Course/Module Content:

Definitions, aims, issues, nature of ancient Egyptian images, cases-examples, structuralist and semiotic concepts, beyond aesthetics, the play, the goals

Required Reading:

Mitchell, W.J.T., 1996. What Do Pictures Really Want? October 77: 71-82.  
Parts of Chandler, D., 2007. Semiotics: The Basics. London/New York: Routledge.  
Plato, Laws II, 656d-657a.  
Zeki, S., 2001. Artistic Creativity and the Brain. Science 293: 51-2.  
Laboury, Dimitri, 2010, Portrait versus Ideal Image. In Willeke Wendrich (ed.), UCLA Encyclopedia of Egyptology, Los Angeles.

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Additional Reading Material:  
*Included in the PPTs*

Grading Scheme:  
*Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 100 %*

Additional information: