



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

The Discovery and Treasure of KING tutankhamun - 22819

Last update 05-05-2024

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: Racheli Shalomi Hen

Coordinator Email: msrhen@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Racheli Shalomi-Hen

Course/Module description:

The course will focus on the boy-king Tutankhamun and his tomb in the Valley of the Kings. It will tell the story of the boy-king and of the discovery of his tomb, as well as the royal mummy and what it tells us about the king and his family. In the course we will study about the treasure, about its original owner, and about the fortunate chain of events which led to its preservation. During the course we shall study the treasure, the mummy, the tomb and examine other sources which may shed light on the life and work of the young king.

Course/Module aims:

o introduce students to historical issues, issues related to the history of research, and issues related to modern genetic research, using the only complete treasure found in a royal tomb in Egypt.

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

To know the circumstances of the finding of the grave and the echo that this find provoked.

To be familiar with the historical and geopolitical space of the end of the Eighteenth Dynasty.

Name the various theories about the cause of the king's death.

Identify key objects from the treasure, and understand their religious significance.

Discuss the complexity of the treasure and the identity of its original owners.

To recognize the significance of the find for the study of the genetic aspects of the royal family.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture, reading and presentation in class.

Course/Module Content:

Class 1, introduction: The beginning of the Nre Kingdom and the establishment of Egyptian Empire.

Class 2, Who was the Boy King?

Class 3: Royal Tombs, their Builders and visitors to the Valley.
Class 4, The Lord and the Archaeologist: The way to Tutankhamun
Class 5, the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun, the find and the echo
Class 6 Tomb No. 55 (KV55) and the mysterious mummy
Class 7, the genetics of Tutankhamun
Class 8, To whom does the treasure belong?
Class 9, the coffins and the death mask
Class 9, the royal tombs
Class 10, the cause of Death
Class 11, diplomatic entanglement

** The list is subject to change.*

Required Reading:

- Bednarski A., 'The Reception of Egypt in Europe', in: Lloyd A.B. (ed.), *A Companion to Ancient Egypt*, vol. 2 (Malden MA, Oxford and Chichester, 2010), pp. 1086-1108
- Bierbrier M., *The Tomb-Builders of the Pharaohs* (London, 1982; rep. Cairo, 2003), chapter 3, pp. 43-64.
- Burleigh N., *Mirage, Napoleon's Scientists and the Unveiling of Egypt* (Pymble, Toronto, Auckland, London and New York, 2007), pp. v-xi
- Hornung E., *The Tomb of Seti I* (Zürich, 1991), pp. 11-30.
- James T.G.H., *Howard Carter, the Path to Tutankhamun* (London and New-York, 2000), chapters 7-9.
- Parramore L., *Reading the Sphinx, Nineteenth-Century Literary Culture* (New-York, 2008), ch.4: *The Empire of the Imagination*, pp. 91-122
- Reeves N. And Wilkinson R., *The Complete Valley of the King, Tombs and Treasures of Egypt's Greatest Pharaohs* (London, 1996), Part II: *Agents of Discovery*, pp. 49-86
- Weeks K. (ed.), *KV 5, A Preliminary Report on the Excavations of the Tomb of the Sons of Ramses II in the Valley of the Kings* (Cairo, 2000)

** The list is partial and subject to change and addition.*

Additional Reading Material:

Will be given during the course.

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 70 %
Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture/ Seminar / Pro-seminar / Research proposal 10 %
Active Participation / Team Assignment 10 %

*Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports
/ Forum / Simulation / others 10 %*

Additional information: