

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Religion Mysticism and Imagination - 24503

Last update 01-09-2024

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Comparative Religion

Academic year: 0

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Jonathan Garb

Coordinator Email: Jonathan.garb@mscc.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Appointment by email

Teaching Staff:

Prof. Jonathan Garb

Course/Module description:

The course will compare views of the imagination in several religious traditions - Judaism, Islam, Indian religions, Shamanism. The main question will be if imagination is a subjective expression of psychological processes or rather reflects a different dimension of reality.

Course/Module aims:

To encompass an issue within one religious tradition, compare religions, and evaluate the findings in light of theoretical models, in and out of religious studies

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

- Organize materials from a variety of theories and religions.
- Analyze primary texts in a rich manner.
- Critique and appreciate existing research accomplishments.
- Ask questions in a focused and clear manner.
- Compare religions
- Critique the relevance of concepts such as 'learning products' for the humanities.

Attendance requirements(%):

There is no formal requirement for a specific number of classes, but keep in mind that the main points of class discussion must be reflected in the final papers. Classes are conducted assuming that the students have prepared the weekly readings

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: • General introductions that provide historical context.

- Close reading of primary texts.
- Critical analysis of scholarly articles.
- Student presentations and responses.

Course/Module Content:

A more detailed description will be uploaded on the course website towards the semester.

Imagination in Shamanism

Imagination in Indian religions

Imagination in Judaism
Imagination in Islam
Theoretical models
Student Presentations

Required Reading:

Will be included in the full syllabus on the website
Gloria Anzaldúa, Borderlands-La Frontera: The New Mestiza, San Francisco 1987, 65-75.
Moran the philosophical imagination

Additional Reading Material:

ditto

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 50 %
Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture 50 %

Additional information:

The breakdown above is for those who wish to write a seminar paper (which involves presenting a class and uploading an abstract before that). Otherwise, the final paper is 100% of the grade.