Syllabus

**TEMPLE IN LATE ANTIQUE JUDAISM AND IN HEBREWS - 24800**

Last update 06-01-2014

**HU Credits:** 2

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

**Responsible Department:** Comparative Religion

**Academic year:** 0

**Semester:** 1st Semester

**Teaching Languages:** English

**Campus:** Mt. Scopus

**Course/Module Coordinator:** Serge Ruzer

**Coordinator Email:** Serge.Ruzer@mail.huji.ac.il

**Coordinator Office Hours:**

**Teaching Staff:**
Dr. Serge Ruzer
Course/Module description:
The seminar will discuss variety of perceptions concerning the Jerusalem Sanctuary that characterized the Second Temple Judaism, as well as later reactions to the destruction of the Temple. This will further provide a backdrop for our discussion of early Christian patterns of Temple-related beliefs with an emphasis on the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Course/Module aims:
The seminar aims at outlining the variety of Second Temple Jewish attitudes to the Temple, including its possible function in the days of redemption -- as possible backdrop to the identity-shaping strategies of the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
Following their participation in the seminar, the students should develop a higher awareness of the multifaceted nature of late Second Temple Jewish attitudes toward the Temple and its eschatological function(s), as well as of the identity-shaping strategies of early Jesus followers, most prominently those reflected in the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Attendance requirements(%):

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Presentation of topics by the members of the teaching team an active participation of the students in both the discussion and presentation pointed sub-topics.

Course/Module Content:
Temple in Late Antique Judaism and in the Letter of Hebrews
Fall semester, 2013-2014
Wednesday 10:30-12:00, Room 2304
Topics:
1. OCTOBER 16th: Introduction to seminar (1) : Attitude towards the Temple as defining parameter of group affiliation in biblical times and in Second Temple Judaism. Priestly establishment and responses to priestly ideology in various Jewish sects/movements. Between pre-70 and post-destruction attitudes.
3. OCTOBER 30th: Temple and temple language in Hebrews: a cursive reading of
the epistle (1).

4. NOVEMBER 6th: Temple and temple language in Hebrews: a cursive reading of the epistle (2). Aiming at a synthesis about the temple, priesthood, and rituals in the epistle. Hebrews: undatable, unique "anti-temple" piece in the NT? Supersessionism or not in Hebrews?

5. NOVEMBER 13th: Alternative avenues of atonement. 2 Maccabees 7 on martyrdom as atonement. Jubilees and later traditions on sacrifice of Isaac (Akedah).


7. NOVEMBER 27th: Completing reading the epistle. Internalization of Temple-Centered Outlook in Philo. Notion of Heavenly Worship in Priestly Outlook

8. DECEMBER 4th: Community as Temple in the Dead Sea Scrolls: Damascus Document 6; 4QFlorilegium.


----------DECEMBER 25th – Christmas break


13. JANUARY 15th Returning to Hebrews.

**Required Reading:**


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Albert Baumgarten (The Flourishing of Jewish Sects in the Maccabean Era: An Interpretation (Leiden: Brill, 1997)


*La cuisine du sacrifice en pays grec* (Paris: Gallimard 1978)


Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 20 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 80 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: