



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Jews and the Reformation - 24894

Last update 11-09-2024

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Comparative Religion

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Karma Ben Johanan

Coordinator Email: karma.ben-johanan@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Karma Ben-Johanan

Course/Module description:

This is a joint seminar for the department of comparative religion at the Hebrew University and the faculty of theology at the University of Leipzig. The seminar includes both lectures and tours, and focuses on the troubled encounters between Jews and Protestants in Germany in the 19th and 20th centuries. The seminar explores this chapter of history from a perspective that combines comparative religion, theology, German history, Jewish thought, and the history of antisemitism.

Course/Module aims:

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

The students will become acquainted with key themes in Jewish-Christian relations in Germany, will learn on the German theological tradition directly from those who carry it, and conduct academic discussions and joint activities with theology students.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: in-class discussions, guided field trips in Leipzig and Wittenberg, guest lectures, and workshops

Course/Module Content:

- *Historical Background: Jews and the reformation*
- *The history of Protestant critical Biblical scholarship and its impact on Jewish-Christian Relations*
- *The Development of Jewish Studies (Wissenschaft des Judentums) in relation to Protestant scholarly traditions*
- *Jewish-Christian Polemic in 19th and early 20th century German academia*
- *The Church-Struggle in Nazi Germany and the question of theological antisemitism*
- *Post-Holocaust Jewish and Christian Theologies and the history of Jewish-Christian dialogue*
- *Contemporary representation of Jews in Protestant religious education and of Christians in Jewish education*

Required Reading:

A reading list in preparation for the trip will be provided in the beginning of the semester

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 80 %

Active Participation / Team Assignment 15 %

Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 5 %

Additional information:

The seminar will take place in Leipzig between June 8 and June 13. There will be one preparatory session in Jerusalem in the beginning of the 2nd semester, and the submission of one reading report towards the trip will be required. Enrolled students will be entitled to a stipend that will cover a significant part of the trip's costs. The seminar will take place in English, and both Hebrew U and Leipzig students will participate in it. The course is limited for a small number of students, please enroll if you have significant interest in the subject matter, and some relevant background.