

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

COMPARATIVE PHILOLOGY IN THE MIDDLE AGES - 25462

Last update 20-09-2015

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: hebrew language & jewish languages

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof Aharon Maman

Coordinator Email: aharon.maman@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: by appointment

Teaching Staff:

Prof Aharon Maman

Course/Module description:

This course deals with the theory of comparative Semitic philology in the Middle Ages, i.e., the comparison of Hebrew with Arabic and Aramaic, as perceived and practiced by Hebrew philologists, i.e., medieval grammarians, lexicographers and commentators of the Bible, especially from Rav Saadia Gaon (tenth century), to Rabbi Isaac Ibn Baron (early twelfth century)

Course/Module aims:

To display the field of comparative philology in general and the Semitic in particular;

To anchor this knowledge in the analysis of selected texts of medieval Hebrew linguistic and exegesis literature

To enhance the ability of etymological analysis and interpretation of the Hebrew esoteric vocabulary by comparative philology

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

Being exposed to the relevant literature

Enhancing the ability to use this literature for the study of Hebrew literature in all periods including Hebrew linguistic literature of all ages

Attendance requirements(%):

according to the Univ. regulations

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture

Text analysis

Discussion

Mini-lectures by students

Course/Module Content:

The course will discuss theoretical and methodological questions such as:

The nature of comparative languages (hence: CMPLG),

The motives of CMPLG,

The principles and objectives of CMPLG
The letters exchange theory,
The applications and expression of CMPLG in the Hebrew linguistic literature and commentaries,
The historical development of CMPLG,
The ideological restrictions imposed by various scholars over CMPLG,
The way CMPLG was poured into models,
CMPLG terminology,
The difference between medieval and modern comparative philology,
The connection between root theory and the comparative philology,
Implicit versus explicit comparisons.
We will be reading closely in the writings of Saadia Gaon, Ibn Quraysh, David Ben-Avraham alFasi, Menachem b. Saruq and Dunash b. Labrat, Rabbi Yehuda Hayyuj, R. Jonah b. Janah and others.

Required Reading:

A. Maman, *Comparative Semitic Philology in the Middle Ages from Saadia Gaon to Ibn Barun (10th-12th cent.)*, Brill, Leiden 2004

Additional Reading Material:

Eppenstein (1900) -- Eppenstein S., "Die hebr.- arabische Sprachvergleichung des Jehuda Ibn Koreisch", *MGWJ*, 44 (1900) 486-507

Eppestein S. (1900-1901) - "Ishak Ibn Baroun et ses comparaisons de l'hebreu avec l'arabe", *REJ* 41 (1900), 233-249; 42 (1901), 76-102

Bacher (1884) -- Bacher, W., *Die hebraeisch-arabische Sprachvergleichung des Abulwalid Merwan Ibn Ganah*, *Sitzungsber. Der Kais. Akad der Wissensch.; Phil. Hist. Classe* 106 (1884), 96-119 (special reprint, with Bacher 1885, Amsterdam, Philo-Press 1970)

Bacher (1885) -- Bacher W., *Die hebraeisch-neuhebraeische und hebraeisch-aramaeische Sprachvergleichung des Abulwalid Merwan Ibn Ganah* *Sitzungsber. der kais. Akad. der Wissensch.; Phil. Hist. Classe* 110 (1885)

Bacher (ZAW 1894) -- Bacher, W., *Die hebr. Arab. Sprachvergleichung des Abu Ibrahim Ibn Barun*, *ZAW*, 14 (1894), 223-249

Becker (1984) -- "תשמ אביב תל, ביקורתית מהדורה, קוריש בן יהודה של "רסאלה" ב, בקר דן -- (1984) Becker

Becker (1980) -- ברון בן ליצחק (ההשוואה ספר; &eq) אלמואזנה לכתאב השלמות', בקר ד' -- (1980) Becker
לשוננו מד (תש"ם), עמ' 293-298

Brockelmann, Carl, *Grundriss der vergleichenden Grammatik der semitischen*

Sprachen, (Verlag von Reuther & Reichard) Berlin 1908-1913 (Olms 1966)

Brockelmann (1910) -- Brockelmann, Carl, *Precis de Linguistique Semitique*, traduit par W. Marçais et M. Cohen, Paris, 1910

Guiraud (1965)-- Pierre Guiraud, *Les mots etrangers*, Presses Universitaires de France, Paris 1965 ('Que sais je', no. 1166)

Derenbourg (1895) -- Derenbourg J. "Contributions a l'histoire de la philologie hebraique et de la litterature juive-arabe au moyen-age, I, Le livre de le Comparaison de l'hebreu avec l'arabe d'Abou Ibrahim ibn Baroun par P. de Kokowzoff," *REJ* 30, 1895, p. 155-158

Hope (1971) -- T. E. Hope, *Lexical borrowing in the Romance Languages I-II*, Oxford 1971

Wechter (1941) - P. Wechter, "Ibn Barun`s Contribution to Comparative Hebrew Philology", *JAOS* 61 (1941), 172-187

Wechter (1964) -- Wechter, Pinchas, *Ibn Baruns`s Arabic Works on Hebrew Grammar and Lexicography*, Philadelphia, The Dropsie College for Hebrew and Cognate Languages, 1964

Tene (1980) -- Tene David, "The Earliest Comparisons of Hebrew with Aramaic and Arabic" in K. Koerner, ed. *Progress in Linguistic Historiography*, Amsterdam - John Benjamins B.V. 1980, 355-377 (&eq;Studies in the History of Linguistics vol. 20, Amsterdam Studies in the Theory and History of Linguistic Science, III

Tene (1983) -- א"והי' (הי' במאות הערבי' הדיבור באזור) הלשון וידיעת הלשונות השוואת, טנא ד' -- למניין המקובל), בתוך "מחקרי לשון" מוגשים לזאב בן-חיים בהגיעו לשיבה בעריכת מ' בר-אשר, א' דותן, ד' טנא, גב"ע צרפתי, ירושלים תשמ"ג, עמ' 237-287

Meillet (1937) -- A. Meillet, *Introduction a l'etude comparative des langues Indo-Europeennes*, Paris 1937

Poznanski (1916) -- S. Poznanski, "Hebraeisch-arabische Sprachvergleichung bei Jehuda Ibn Bal'am," *ZDMG*, 70 (1916), 449-476

Kokowtzow (1890) -- Kokovcov, Pavel Konstantinovic בין אלמואזנה כתאב מן הפליטה יתר אללגה אלעבראניה ואלערביה אשר חברו אבו אברהים יצחק בן ברון הספרדי, ס"ט פטרבורג בדפוס אלעזר בעהרמאן וצבי ראבינאוויטץ 1890, נתפרסם יחד עם קוקובצוב (1893)

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 15 %

Participation in Tutorials 15 %

Project work 50 %

Assignments 20 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

No knowledge of Arabic is required beyond the preparatory courses

There is no Final exam.

Instead, a final course paper should be submitted.

Students may write a seminar paper.