Syllabus

BABYLONIAN ARAMAIC - 25809

Last update 30-01-2014

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: The Department of the Hebrew Language

Academic year: 1

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Yochanan Breuer

Coordinator Email: yochanan.breuer@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Mon 12-13

Teaching Staff:
Prof Yochanan Breuer
Course/Module description:
Babylonian Aramaic is one of the Eastern Aramaic dialects. The Babylonian Talmud was composed in this dialect. In this seminar the typical features of Babylonian Aramaic will be described while examining their relationship to Classical Aramaic, on the one hand, and to the other contemporary Aramaic dialects on the other hand. Selected sections from the Babylonian Talmud and other Jewish Babylonian sources will be read. The main problems of the research in this domain will be discussed.

Course/Module aims:
Getting to know the main features of Babylonian Aramaic in comparison with other Aramaic dialect.

Getting to know the most reliable sources of Babylonian Aramaic.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
To conduct a research on a text composed in Babylonian Aramaic according to the best sources, to identify the typical Babylonian Aramaic features and to fix new rules according to their research.

Attendance requirements(%):
According to the University rules

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture, reading texts, preparation and discussion

Course/Module Content:
1. The place of Babylonian Aramaic in the history of Aramaic and its relationship with other Aramaic dialect
2. The different types of Babylonian Aramaic
3. The Aramaic of the Geonim
4. Various forms in the same function
5. The reliable sources
6. Spelling
7. Phonology
8. Morphology
9. Reading selected texts
Required Reading:


E. Y. Kutscher, "Two 'Passive' Constructions in Aramaic in the Light of Persian, Hebrew and Aramaic Studies, Jerusalem 1977, pp. 70-89

Matthew Morgenstern, "Notes on the Noun Patterns in the Yemenite Tradition of Jewish Babylonian Aramaic", Revue des études juives 168 (2009), pp. 51-83
Additional Reading Material:
Grammar Books

"The Aramaic Grammar of the Talmud Babli, Revised and Corrected, by M. Sokoloff, 1937"

Dictionaries

Aiding tools
Manuscripts and their linguistic tradition

A. Weisz and A. Grunbaum, "בוחנים לשוניים למן כותבי-יד של התלמוד הבבלי", מתקין בלשון י"ח (תש''ד), עמ' 77.
A. Weisz, "בוחנים לשוניים למן כותבי-יד של התלמוד הבבלי", מתקין בלשון י"ח (תש''ד), עמ' 338.
A. Weisz, "בוחנים לשוניים למן כותבי-יד של התלמוד הבבלי", מתקין בלשון י"ח (תש''ד), עמ' 345.
A. Weisz, "בוחנים לשוניים למן כותבי-יד של התלמוד הבבלי", מתקין贝尔שון י"ח (תש''ד), עמ' 123.

Incantation Bowls

C. D. Isbell, Corpus of the Aramaic Incantation Bowls, Missoula 1975
H. Juusola, Linguistic Peculiarities in the Aramaic Magic Bowl Texts, Helsinki 1999
B. A. Levine, The Language of the Magical Bowls
J. A. Montgomery, Aramaic Incantation Texts from Nippur, Philadelphia 1913
Joseph Naveh and Shaul Shaked, Amulets and Magic Bowls, Jerusalem 1998
Joseph Naveh and Shaul Shaked, Magic Spells and Formulae, Jerusalem 1993
W. H. Rossell, A Handbook of Aramaic Magical Texts, Ringwood Borough, New Jersey 1953

Other dialects

C. Brockelmann, Lexicon Syriacum, Halle 1928
E. S. Drower and R. Macuch, A Mandaic Dictionary, Oxford 1963
Maclean, Dictionary of the Dialects of Vernacular Syriac, Amsterdam 1960
J. Maclean, Grammar of the Dialects of Vernacular Syriac, Cambridge 1895
R. Macuch, A Handbook of Classical and Modern Mandaic, Berlin 1965
U. Melzer, West- und ostaramäische Formen im Mittelpersischen, Zeitschrift für Semitistik und verwandte Gebiete 3 (1924), pp. 296-305
T. Nyildeke, Compendious Syriac Grammar (trans. J. A. Crichton), London 1904
T. Nyildeke, Grammatik der Neusyrischen Sprache, Leipzig 1868
T. Nyildeke, Mandäische Grammatik, Halle 1875
J. Payne Smith, A Compendious Syriac Dictionary, Oxford 1903

Selected Articles

ד' ביאריו, "סירוס ספר השמ שליא בברית נבעית", לשון לוח (תשנ'ג), עמ' 116.
"הערה לחידית לא-סֵמִי-ירוּאָר למקגרד בַּלְתַּנְדוּמ הַבּוּבּית", לשון לוח (תשנ'ג), עמ' 308.
"בִיָּאֵי, "תְּשַׁבָּהָ, לשון לוח (תשנ'ג), עמ' 310.
Matthew Morgenstern, "Notes on the Noun Patterns in the Yemenite Tradition of Jewish Babylonian Aramaic", Revue des études juives 168 (2009), pp. 51-83
S. Rybak, The Aramaic Dialect of Nedarim (Dissertation), Yeshiva University 1980
S. Shaked, "Iranian Loanword in Middle Aramaic", Encyclopedia Iranica, 2, pp. 259-261

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

Additional information: