

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

The Myth of Galicia in Austrian Ukrainian Jewish and Polish Literatures - 26028

Last update 04-03-2025

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Russian and Slavic Studies

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Edward Waysband

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Coordinator Office Hours: Monday, 18:00-19:00

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Edward Waysband

Course/Module description:

A part of modern-day western Ukraine and southern Poland, Galicia was a former province of the Austrian-Hungarian empire, having been incorporated after the first partition of Poland in 1772. Austrian, Ukrainian, Jewish, and Polish literatures of this region created their own myth of Galicia, which evoked different feelings and different memories, good as well as bad. Yet the unique hybrid, multinational character of Galicia constituted a common denominator of its myths. This course will explore the literary myths of Galicia in their diversity in the writings of Karl Emil Franzos, Ivan Franko, Leopold Von Sacher-Masoch, Mykhailo Kotsiubynskyi, Joseph Roth, S. Y. Agnon, Bruno Schulz, Stanislaw Lem, Yuri Andrukhovych, and other authors from a variety of traditions. We will discuss how Galicia's complicated ethno-political situation with all its national, social, and economic problems inspired these authors to present Galicia as a world of cultural backwardness and national awakening, fantastic wonders and strange delights. We will take into account the dynamic character of the myth of Galicia that tended to evolve in time, adapting to the different ideological and emotional needs of the diverse population of this region. The reading material will be either in Hebrew or in English.

Course/Module aims:

The aim of the course is to introduce students to the myth of Galicia as a unique phenomenon in the literary history of Central and Eastern Europe; to furnish students with tools of comparative literary analysis and interpretation; and to familiarize them with historical, social, and cultural contexts of Austrian, Ukrainian, Jewish, and Polish literary texts that relate to the myth of Galicia.

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

- to outline the development of the myth of Galicia in Austrian, Ukrainian, Jewish and Polish literatures;
- to examine similarities and differences in relation to Galicia in a broad historical and cultural context;
- to discuss literary representations of national, social, and gender relations between Austrians, Ukrainians, Jews, and Poles in Galicia;
- to develop the skills of comparative literary analysis, based on the studied intercultural material.

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures, close reading and discussion

Course/Module Content:

Introduction: History and myth of Galicia.
Karl Emil Franzos: Multiculturalism of Galicia.
Ivan Franko: Industrial development of Galicia.
Leopold von Sacher-Masoch: Interaction of gender and cultural geography.
Mykhailo Kotsiubynskyi: The universal and exotic in Galicia.
Joseph Roth: Ambivalent nostalgia for the Austro-Hungarian empire.
Bruno Schulz: Galicia as phantasmagoria.
S.Y. Agnon: Galicia and Land of Israel.
Jozef Wittlin, Stanislaw Lem: Lemberg/Lwów/Lviv/Lvov as site of memory.
Yuri Andrukhovych: Galicia today between Eastern and Central Europe.

Required Reading:

Required reading will be available through the course moodle site.
Karl Emil Franzos. "The Shylock of Barnow."
Ivan Franko. "Boa constrictor."
Leopold von Sacher-Masoch. "Don Juan of Kolomea," "The man who re-enlisted."
Mykhailo Kotsiubynskyi. Shadows of forgotten ancestors.
Joseph Roth. "Strawberries," "The bust of the emperor"; excerpts from The Radetzky march.
Bruno Schulz. Selected stories from Cinnamon Shops and The Sanatorium Under the Hourglass.
S. Y. Agnon. "The Sword of Dobish", "The Lady and the Peddler".
Excerpts from Jozef Wittlin. City of Lions. Stanislaw Lem. Highcastle: A Remembrance.
Excerpts from Yuri Andrukhovych's My Final Territory: Selected Essays.

Additional Reading Material:

Larry Wolf. The Idea of Galicia: History and Fantasy in Habsburg Political Culture. Stanford, 2010.
Norman Davies. "Galicia: Kingdom of the Naked and Starving (1773-1918)."
Norman Davies. Vanished kingdoms: the history of half-forgotten Europe. London: Allen Lane, 2011.
Israel Bartal, Antony Polonsky, eds. Focusing on Galicia: Jews, Poles, and Ukrainians, 1772-1918. Polin 12. Oxford, 1999.
Paul R. Magocsi. Galicia: a historical survey and bibliographic guide. Toronto, 1983.
Hann Christopher, Paul Robert Magocsi, eds., Galicia: A Multicultured Land. Toronto, 2005.

Börries Kuzmany. Brody: A Galician Border City in the Long Nineteenth Century, trans. Nadežda K. Müngersdorff. Leiden - Boston, 2017.
Omer Bartov. Erased: Vanishing Traces of Jewish Galicia in Present-Day Ukraine. Princeton, 2007.
Omer Bartov. Tales from the Borderlands: Making and Unmaking the Galician Past. New Haven, 2022.
Tarik Cyril Amar. The Paradox of Ukrainian Lviv: A Borderland City between Stalinists, Nazis, and Nationalists. Cornell, 2015.

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 70 %
Active Participation / Team Assignment 10 %
Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 20 %

Additional information:

The students should read the assigned materials in advance of classes devoted to specific works. They must write a short assignment (around 300 words) on one of the novels, stories, or essays and submit it before this work is discussed in class.