

## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

### *Great Russian women poets of the 20 century (A.Akhmatova and M. Tsvetaeva) - 26109*

*Last update 01-09-2018*

*HU Credits:* 2

*Degree/Cycle:* 1st degree (Bachelor)

*Responsible Department:* German, Russian & East European Studies

*Academic year:* 0

*Semester:* 2nd Semester

*Teaching Languages:* Hebrew

*Campus:* Mt. Scopus

*Course/Module Coordinator:* Dr. Vladimir Khazan

*Coordinator Email:* [vladimirkhazan6@gmail.com](mailto:vladimirkhazan6@gmail.com)

*Coordinator Office Hours:* Tuesday, 14.00-16.00

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Teaching Staff:

Dr. Vladimir Khazan

Course/Module description:

The course is based on a comparative analysis of the poetic styles of the two largest Russian poetesses of the 20th century—Anna Akhmatova and Marina Tsvetaeva. Students are given the opportunity to trace the formation of these poetesses during the Silver Age of Russian art and the development of their poetic mastery in subsequent years. At same time, special attention is paid to convergence and repulsion, similarity and difference in their literary ideology in general and verse strategy in particular. The study of the artistic worlds of Anna Akhmatova and Marina Tsvetaeva is carried out on a broad background of the history of Russian literature and biographies of the two women.

Course/Module aims:

Purpose of the course:

- to acquaint students with the life and works of the two largest Russian poetesses of the 20th century—Anna Akhmatova and Marina Tsvetaeva;
- to reveal the general and specific peculiarities in the work of each of them;
- to give on the basis of the study of the poetry of A. Akhmatova and M. Tsvetaeva the representation of the most characteristic processes in Russian poetry of the 20th century

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

Students must:

- to recognize all texts submitted within the course,
- to know a certain amount of bibliographic material,
- to do the analysis of texts in the framework of the course,
- to have certain knowledge (notions, names, phenomena) within the teaching material

Attendance requirements(%):

80%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures, exercises

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Course/Module Content:

March 15 — General overview of Russian Poetry of the 20th Century and its “female” part

March 22 — The Silver Age in the history of Russian literature and the “female poetry”

March 29 — A. Akhmatova’s early poetry (Lesson 1)

April 4 — A. Akhmatova’s early poetry (Lesson 2)

April 11 — A. Akhmatova and her place in the circle of Russian male poets

May 2 — M. Tsvetaeva’s early poetry (Lesson 1)

May 9 — M. Tsvetaeva’s early poetry (Lesson 2)

May 16 — A. Akhmatova and M. Tsvetaeva in the 10th: their meeting and non-meeting

May 23 — A. Akhmatova in the 20th

May 30 — M. Tsvetaeva: years abroad

June 6 — A. Akhmatova’s poems of the Soviet period

June 13 — M. Tsvetaeva’s prose (topics and poetics)

June 20 — A. Akhmatova’s and M. Tsvetaeva’s poetic worlds: intimacy and controversy (Lesson 1)

June 27 — A. Akhmatova’s and M. Tsvetaeva’s poetic worlds: intimacy and controversy (Lesson 1)

Required Reading:

Galina Rykova. *The Archeology of Anxiety: the Russian Silver Age and Its Legacy*. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2007.

Alexandra Harrington. *The Poetry of Anna Akhmatova: Living in Different Mirrors*. London: Anthem Press, 2006.

Roberta Reeder. *Anna Akhmatova: Poet and Prophet*. Los Angeles, CA: Figueroa Press, 2006.

Elaine Feinstein. *Anna of All the Russias: The Life of Anna Akhmatova*. London: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 2005.

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*Lidiia Chukovskaia. The Akhmatova Journals / Transl. from the Russian by Milena Michalski and Silva Rubashova. New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1994.*  
*Anna Akhmatova, 1989-1989: Papers from the Akhmatova Centennial Conference / Ed. by Sonia I. Ketchian. Oakland, Calif.: Berkeley Slavic Specialities, 1993.*  
*A Companion to Marina Cvetaeva: Approaches to a Major Russian Poet / Ed. by Sibelan Forrester. Leiden, Netherlands; Boston: Brill, 2017.*  
*Kudrova I. The Death of a PoetL The Last Days of Marina Tsvetaeva. Woodstock, N.Y: Overlook Duckworth, 2004.*  
*Simon Karlinsky. Marina Tsvetaeva: The Woman, Her World and Her Poetry. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1987.*

*Additional Reading Material:*

*Course/Module evaluation:*

*End of year written/oral examination 0 %*  
*Presentation 0 %*  
*Participation in Tutorials 50 %*  
*Project work 30 %*  
*Assignments 20 %*  
*Reports 0 %*  
*Research project 0 %*  
*Quizzes 0 %*  
*Other 0 %*

*Additional information:*

*Shlomo Ben Yosef 207/5*  
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