Syllabus

The Image of Women in Ladino Literature - 27817

Last update 30-04-2015

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Department of Hebrew and Jewish Languages

Academic year: 1

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Katja Smid

Coordinator Email: katja.smid1@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: by appointment

Teaching Staff: Katja Smid
**Course/Module description:**

The course deals with the image of Sephardi women as represented in Ladino literature written between the 16th and 20th centuries and combines biographical and bibliographical details on the most representative Sephardi authors and works referring to women. The course will introduce and interpret illustrative passages from the most remarkable Judeo-Spanish texts regarding, on the one hand, Sephardi women in traditional Ottoman society as depicted in different genres of rabbinic literature (halakhic compendia, prayer books, morality works, etc.), and, on the other hand, the status of women and their role in the social context of a modern society as reflected in secular Judeo-Spanish texts from the 19th and 20th centuries (essays, periodical articles, poetry and others).

**Course/Module aims:**

To familiarize participants with relevant works of Ladino literature dealing with Sephardi woman written between the 16th and 20th centuries.

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

- Read and analyze Judeo-Spanish texts regarding Sephardi woman and situate studied materials and their authors in their cultural and historical contexts.

**Attendance requirements(%):**

90%

**Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:** lecture

**Course/Module Content:**

- **Week 1**
  - Introduction to the course
  - Religious and secular Ladino literature
  - Bibliography and readings

- **Weeks 2-4**
  - Ladino Rabbinic texts and Sephardi woman
  - Ladino halakhic compendia and prayer books for women

- **Week 5-7**
Morality books
Woman as a protagonist of the Ladino rabbinic story
Rabbis and women between tradition and modernity

Weeks 8-10
Modernity and the emergence of secular genres of Ladino literature
Modern times and the emancipation of Sephardi women

Weeks 11-13
Relevant Sephardi women authors and their works

Required Reading:
Please note that the bibliographic list below will be expanded during the course

Bibliography
Alpert, Michael, "La Kortesiya o reglas del buen komportamymento (Constantinopla, 1871) de Rosa de Yejeskel Gabay", in Paloma Dóaz-Mas / Marq Sañchez Prez (eds.), Los sefardíes ante los retos del mundo contempórane: identidad y mentalidades (Madrid: CSIC, 2010), 271-282.
Dóaz Mas, Paloma / Sánchez Prez, Marq (eds.), Los sefardíes ante los retos del mundo contempórane: identidad y mentalidades (Madrid: CSIC, 2010).
Moreno Koch, Yolanda / Izquierdo Benito, Ricardo (coords.), Hijas de Israel, mujeres de Sefarad: De las aljamas de Sefarad al drama del exilio, XVIII Curso de Cultura Hispanojudía y Sefardí de la Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha (Cuenca: Ediciones de la Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, 2010).


Quintana, Aldina, “La mujer sefardà ante su misma y ante ellos: Una lectura por las paginas de La Alborada (Sarajevo, 1900-1901)”, El Prezente 3 (2009), 113-138.

Romero, Elena, La creaciòn literaria en lengua sefards (Madrid: Mapfre, 1992).


Sidur para mujeres en ladino. Salànica, siglo XVI. Ediciòn anotada y traducida (Jerusalem: Ben Zvi Institute, 2012).


Additional Reading Material:
Selected Ladino texts and additional bibliography will be provided during the course

Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 100 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 0 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %
**Additional information:**

1. **Course Requirements**
   Ladino texts dealing with women are an enlightening and rewarding research source for scholars of diverse disciplines, and should be of special interest to students of Jewish languages, Romance studies, Spanish language and literature, linguistics, Hebrew literature, history of Jewish women and folklore. A knowledge of Ladino or Spanish, while not a prerequisite, will facilitate reading and interpreting the Judeo-Spanish texts in Hebrew Script or in Latin transliteration, which will be the focus of the course.

2. **Attendance, reading and discussion**
   Regular attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to read Ladino texts in class and the secondary bibliography at home in order to progress in the preparation of their final written examination as well as to participate in class discussion.

3. **Final examination (100% of overall grade): End of the year written paper**