



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Language Literature and Society in the History of Judeo-Spanish Speakers - 29332

Last update 31-08-2024

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Spanish & Lat. Amer. Studies

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Aldina Quintana Rodriguez

Coordinator Email: Aldina.Quintana@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday, 14:15-15:15 (by appointment via email)

Teaching Staff:

Prof. Aldina Quintana-Rodriguez

Course/Module description:

This course considers the linguistic and literary development of the Judeo-Spanish language. The history of Judeo-Spanish stretches from 1492 and the dispersion of the Sephardic Jews around the Mediterranean to the present-day developments that are taking place among Ladino speakers in Israel and other countries.

Because of the singular history of its speakers and as a consequence of the sociolinguistic context, the Judeo-Spanish language and its literature developed in close interdependence, offering a singular case study, which will be analyzed in this course.

Course/Module aims:

- Be familiar with the history of the Judeo-Spanish language, literature, and culture.*
- Provide students with the necessary tools for the study of Judeo-Spanish through consideration of the social context in which it arose, developed, and began to decline, using the appropriate methodology.*
- The course ensures that students acquire the essential tools for understanding the history of Judeo-Spanish and its literature, providing a solid foundation for further study.*
- Allows the acquisition of hands-on experience in philological methodology through the study of texts.*
- Last but not least, experience the development of a diaspora language and research its contact with languages, literatures, and cultures of different families.*

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

- Relate the historical, social, and cultural factors in developing the Judeo-Spanish language and its literature.*
- Demonstrate proficiency in these topics and explain the interrelationship between language, literature, and culture.*
- Identify linguistic features and patterns associated with the different periods of the history of Judeo-Spanish.*
- Characterize the different literary genres.*
- Show analytical skills in the field using the appropriate methodology in a final paper/seminar paper.*

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures, film and documentary screenings, critical reading of several scientific articles, active participation in the discussion, class presentations, and final paper/seminar paper.

Each student should present the content of one article.

** A meeting with the teacher at least once a year during office hours is mandatory for each participant (5% of the final grade).*

Course/Module Content:

The course will consider the following core topic units:

- Overview of the history of the Sephardic communities from the settlement of the Iberian Jews in the Ottoman Empire until their eradication by the Nazis during World War II. The Sephardim since the Second World War to the present.*
- Description of the formation processes, standardization, and displacement of Judeo-Spanish, as well as the main factors that contributed to them.*
- Judeo-Spanish as the primary identity mark of the Sephardim through texts.*
- Interrelation between language, literature, and culture in the development and decline of Judeo-Spanish.*
- Relationship between language, literature, and religion in the development of Judeo-Spanish.*
- Social changes and attitudes in the Sephardic communities and their expression in lifestyle, literary creation, and language changes.*
- Judeo-Spanish in contact with other languages, literatures and cultures.*
- Current status of Judeo-Spanish in Israel and the rest of the world.*
- Judeo-Spanish as an endangered language: Vitality, language maintenance, language revival.*

Required Reading:

Reading will be given at the beginning of the semester.

Works outside the library may be obtained from the course coordinator.

Additional Reading Material:

In the reading lists distributed through Moodle.

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 40 %

Active Participation / Team Assignment 20 %

Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 5 %

Personal Guide / Tutor / Team Evaluation 5 %

Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture 10 %
Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 20 %

Additional information:

Knowledge of Ladino or Spanish is positive but optional.

**Using ChatGPT or another type of artificial intelligence in this course is strictly forbidden.*