



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Translation of Kafka in Hebrew - 32401

Last update 07-07-2015

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: German, Russian and East European Studies

Academic year: 3

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Dafna Mach

Coordinator Email: dafna.mach@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Thursday, 11-12

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Dafna Mach

Course/Module description:

For the first decades after Kafka's death it was his friend Max Brod who published his writings and fixed his image as a religious writer with a strong inclination towards Judaism; later research polemized against Brod's method and interpretations. In the 90ies the German Judaist K.E. Grözinger published texts from popular Kabbalah which might serve as a background for Kafka's unique literary language.

How did translating Kafka into the Jewish language par excellence, Hebrew, give expression to the author's closeness to or distance from Judaism?

Course/Module aims:

Enhance awareness of the necessary interpretative component of translation; follow Kafka's introduction into Israeli literature.

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

read any translation critically, compare with the original (or at least consult more than one translated version) before drawing any conclusion about the writer and his work

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: We are going to focus on texts which are central for the discussion on Kafka's connection with religion, Judaism and/or Zionism.

Participants are invited to bring in texts which they like or find challenging.

Course/Module Content:

How does each Hebrew version of a Kafka-text confirm or contradict the assumption that Kafka was a religious resp. Jewish writer?

How did his translators into Hebrew bridge the (semantic, syntactic and literary) gaps between the two languages?

Required Reading:

texts for each session (originals and translations) provided vial Moodle

Additional Reading Material:

- a) *Kafka-Handbuch in zwei Bänden / unter Mitarbeit zahlreicher Fachwissenschaftler hrsg. von Hartmut Binder. Stuttgart 1979 PT 2621 A26 Z5272*
- b) *Kafka-Kommentar : zu den Romanen, Rezensionen, Aphorismen und zum Brief den Vater / von Hartmut Binder (1975-76), 2. bibliograph. erg. Aufl. München 1982 PT 2621 A26 Z5273 1982*
- c) *Kafka und die Kabbala : das Jüdische im Werk und Denken von Franz Kafka / Karl Erich Grözinger, (urspr. Ffm 1994) erw. Neuauflage Berlin 2003 - MS PT 2621 A26 Z637 2003*

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 60 %
Project work 40 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information: