

# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *Teleological Modality - 36849*

*Last update 31-08-2017*

*HU Credits: 2*

*Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)*

*Responsible Department: linguistics*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 2nd Semester*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Aynat Rubinstein*

*Coordinator Email: [aynat.rubinstein@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:aynat.rubinstein@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: By appointment*

*Teaching Staff:*

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Dr. Aynat Rubinstein

Course/Module description:

Within the field of modality, a major emphasis has been placed on distinguishing between knowledge-oriented (epistemic) modality and a bag of "other", non-epistemic modalities. Further subdivisions among non-epistemic modals are mainly based on conceptual grounds. This course takes a close look at the subclass of non-epistemic modals that have goal-oriented (teleological) interpretations (like 'have to' in 'I'm late, I have to take a cab'). We will investigate the philosophical foundations of teleological modality and its grammatical properties from a semantic-syntactic point of view.

Course/Module aims:

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

- Identify instances of various modality types in texts
- Access and read relevant scholarly research in semantics
- Describe, compare, and evaluate semantic analyses
- Construct clear linguistic arguments
- Report on the design, findings, and conclusions of their research

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

See course description

Required Reading:

BRENNAN, V. 1993. Root and epistemic modal auxiliary verbs in English. PhD Dissertation, University of Massachusetts Amherst.

VAN DER AUWERA, J. AND V. A. PLUNGIAN. 1998. Modality's semantic map. *Linguistic Typology* 2: 79-124.

PORTNER, P. 2009. *Modality*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

\* A list of papers for in-class presentations will be distributed in the beginning of the

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semester.

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

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

Additional information: