



# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *Al-Andalus and Sepharad: Islamic and Jewish Mysticism in the Iberian Peninsula - 380703*

*Last update 05-10-2025*

*HU Credits: 2*

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

*Responsible Department: Islamic & Middle East Stud.*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 1st Semester*

*Teaching Languages: English*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Michael Ebstein*

*Coordinator Email: [michael.ebstein@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:michael.ebstein@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: Appointment via email.*

---

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Michael Ebstein

Course/Module description:

*In the course we will become acquainted with the rich world of medieval Islamic and Jewish mysticism as it developed in Spain, mainly unearthing the links between the Islamic and Jewish mystical traditions. We will learn about different types of mystical thinking in both religions and will track mutual influences between the two mystical traditions in Spain during medieval times. At the same time, we will ask ourselves what are the different and unique aspects of each religion and mystical tradition.*

Course/Module aims:

*The course has a double aim:*

- 1. To become acquainted with "mysticism" in general and with the medieval mystical traditions in both Judaism and Islam as they developed mainly in the Iberian Peninsula;*
- 2. To learn about the close links between Islam and Judaism especially as they manifested in the mystical traditions of both religions.*

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

*See "course aims".*

Attendance requirements(%):

100

*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The course will entail a close reading of texts culled from medieval Jewish and Islamic mystical literature (Islamic texts will be read in Arabic or in translation). When needed, we will also read and discuss articles / book chapters from secondary (modern academic) literature.*

Course/Module Content:

*To be given in the course itself.*

---

Required Reading:

*To be given in the course itself. The students will be requested to prepare the texts before every lesson and, from time to time, to read a relevant chapter or article from secondary (modern academic) sources, in English or Hebrew.*

Additional Reading Material:

,

Grading Scheme:

Home Exam % 80

Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 20 %

Additional information:

-