Syllabus

ISLAMIZATION AND ARABIZATION: FORMATION OF THE
ISLAMIC MIDDLE EAST - 38432

Last update 30-10-2016

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: islamic & middle east stud.

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Reuven Amitai

Coordinator Email: reuven.amitai@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Tuesday, 15:30-16:30

Teaching Staff: Prof Reuven Amitai
Course/Module description:
The two important trends in the formation of the Islamic Middle East are Arabization and Islamization. In this course, we will survey and analysis both developments, that are connected but not identical, while looking at theoretical literature on religious and linguistic change. Islamization beyond the Middle East will be examined, as well as in modern times (such as in Europe).

Course/Module aims:
To teach about two central matters in the history of the Middle East and Islam, with implications until today. A better understanding of the processes of religious and linguistic change, particularly in the Islamic Middle East.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
The students will learn in depth about two central matters in the region’s history, with relevance to world history. They will gain further skills in critical reading of original sources and modern scholarship, and the historical method as applied in Middle Eastern Studies and the study of religious change.

Attendance requirements(%):
80% (i.e., 11 lessons out of 14)

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The lessons will be a mixture of lectures by the teachers, discussions of studies read by the students, presentations by students and reading of sources (in translation and in original language if possible).

Course/Module Content:
1. Organization; Basic concepts and other general considerations
2. Some theoretical approaches
3. Muhammad and the first conquests
4. Arabization
5. Islamization under the early Muslim state
6. Egypt
7. Central Asia I: The Turks
8. Central Asia II: The Mongols
9. Before the Crusades: the beginning of Islamization in Syria
10. After the Crusades: the further Islamization of Syria and and further matters
11. Anatolia and the Balkans
12. South and Southeast Asia
14. Field trip

Required Reading:
1. Organization; Basic concepts and other general considerations

2. Some theoretical approaches

3. Muhammad and the first conquests
   נחמיה לבציון, “הגירה והתיישבות של נומדים וכובשים מוסלמים כגורם בתהליך התאסלמות”, בתוך אביגדור שנאן (עורך), הגירה והתיישבות בישראל ובעולם (ירושלים, תשמ״ב), עמ׳ 105-95.

4. Arabization

5. Islamization under the early Muslim state

6. Egypt

7. Central Asia I: The Turks


8. Central Asia II: The Mongols

9. Before the Crusades I: The process of Islamization of Syria


10. After the Crusades II: the final Islamization of Syria and further matters

11. Anatolia and the Balkans
Spiro Vryonis, "Religious Change and Continuity in the Balkans and Anatolia from the 14th through the 16th Century," in S. Vryonis (ed.), Islam and Cultural Change in the Middle Ages (Wiesbaden, 1975), 127-140. [DS 38.14 V8 1973]

12. South and Southeast Asia


14. Field trip
Additional Reading Material:


Dennett, Daniel C. Conversion and the Poll-Tax in Early Islam. Cambridge, MA, 1950. [HJ233 D45]


Course/Module evaluation:
- End of year written/oral examination 0 %
- Presentation 0 %
- Participation in Tutorials 10 %
- Project work 40 %
- Assignments 50 %
- Reports 0 %
- Research project 0 %
- Quizzes 0 %
- Other 0 %

Additional information:
The last lesson will be a field trip. More information to be announced during the term.