The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Introduction to the Pre-Islamic Iranian World - 38544

Last update 14-09-2022

<u>HU Credits:</u>   2

<u>Degree/Cycle:</u> 1st degree (Bachelor)

<u>Responsible Department:</u> Islamic & Middle East Stud.

<u>Academic year:</u> 0

<u>Semester:</u> 1st Semester

<u>Teaching Languages:</u> Hebrew

<u>Campus:</u> E. Safra

<u>Course/Module Coordinator:</u> Prof. Michael Shenkar

<u>Coordinator Email:</u> michael.shenkar@mail.huji.ac.il

<u>Coordinator Office Hours:</u>

<u>Teaching Staff:</u>

Prof Shenkar Michael

Course/Module description:
  The course offers an introduction to the civilization of Iran and Central Asia from the emergence of the Iranian tribes until the Muslim conquest. We shall focus on chosen topics in history, religion, and culture of the pre-Islamic Iranian world and discuss its central place as a cross-cultural bridge between cultures and civilizations in Eurasia

Course/Module aims:

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
  Be acquainted with the basic historical narrative and the cultural processes of the pre-Islamic Iranian World.

Attendance requirements(%):
  85

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:
  1. What is the "Iranian World"?

2. The autochthonous civilizations of the Iranian World.

3. The origin and the spread of the speakers of Iranian languages.

4. About what spoke Zarathustra? The Zoroastrian religion.

5. Iran conquers the World: Cyrus the "Great" and the Teispid Dynasty.

6. "Pax Achaemenica": The first world empire.

7. The Nomadic Iranian world: The Scythians and the Saka.

8. Hellenism in Iran: The Macedonian conquest and the kingdoms of the Diadochi.

9. The Parthians: The "Iranian Renaissance" in the West?

10. The Kushans: The "Iranian Renaissance" in the East?

11. The Return of the Persians: the Sasanian Empire.

12. The Rise and Fall of the Sogdian culture.

13. The Pre-Islamic Iranian World in World History.

Required Reading:
 See syllabus on Moodle.

 Additional Reading Material:

 Course/Module evaluation:
 End of year written/oral examination 0 %
 Presentation 0 %
 Participation in Tutorials 10 %
 Project work 80 %
 Assignments 0 %
 Reports 0 %
 Research project 0 %
 Quizzes 10 %
 Other 0 %

Additional information: