



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Introduction to the structure of Coptic A - 41652

Last update 13-10-2020

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Linguistics

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Eitan Grossman

Coordinator Email: eitan.grossman@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Staff:

Prof Ethan Grossman

Course/Module description:

This course introduces students to the grammatical structure and lexicon of Coptic, the latest stage of the Ancient Egyptian language (Afroasiatic), focusing on the Sahidic dialect. The first semester deals with the morphosyntax of phrases and clauses.

Course/Module aims:

This course is intended to introduce students to the descriptive analysis of a language, and to relate the structure of Coptic to issues in general linguistics.

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

- (1) Analyze and understand a simple Coptic text.*
- (2) Use the main grammatical and lexical reference tools (grammars, dictionaries).*
- (3) Have a basic acquaintance with current trends in Coptic linguistics.*

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Frontal lecture + tutorial. Weekly homework.

Course/Module Content:

- 1 18.10.2020 Introduction; noun phrases (1)
Basic nominal categories*
- 2 25.10.2020 Noun phrases (2)
De niteness and inde niteness; coordination; possession*
- 3 1.11.2020 Noun phrases (3)
Attributive constructions; numeral constructions*
- 4 8.11.2020 Clauses with nominal predicates*
- 5 15.11.2020 Prepositional phrases
Bound person markers; prepositions; some adverbs; intensifiers*
- 6 22.11.2020 Review of the noun phrase*
- 7 29.12.2020 Verbal morphosyntax (1): The Bipartite Construction (1)
S/A ('subject') prexes; locative predicates; negation;*

in nitives and statives; P ('direct object') marking
 8 6.12.2020 Verbal morphosyntax (2): The Bipartite Construction (2)
 Continuation of morphosyntax; tense and aspect
 9 13.12.2020 Verbal morphosyntax (3): The Tripartite Construction (1)
 Morphosyntax of main verbal clauses; tense, aspect, and modality; negation
 10 20.12.2020 Verbal morphosyntax (4): P-marking
 Bound verb stems; incorporation; case marking
 11 27.12.2020 Verbal morphosyntax (5): The Tripartite Construction (2)
 Adverbial subordination
 12 3.1.2021 Verbal morphosyntax (6): Causative constructions
 Lexical and morphological causatives; complement clauses
 13 10.1.2021 Review of verbal morphosyntax
 'Have' constructions; 'adjective verbs'
 14 17.1.2021 The converter system

Required Reading:
 See syllabus.

Additional Reading Material:

Cerný, Jaroslav. 1976. *Coptic etymological dictionary*. Cambridge.
 Crum, Walter E. 1939. *Coptic dictionary*. Oxford.
 Grossman, Eitan & Tonio Sebastian Richter. 2014. *The Egyptian-Coptic language: its setting in space, time and culture* 69{102. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton.
 Layton, Bentley. 2004. *A Coptic grammar (Sahidic Dialect): With a chrestomathy and glossary*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
 Layton, Bentley. 2007. *Coptic in 20 lessons: Introduction to Sahidic Coptic with exercises and vocabularies*. Leuven: Peeters.
 Meyer, Ronny & H. Ekkehard Wol. 2019. Afroasiatic linguistic features and typologies. In H. Ekkehard Wol (ed.), *The Cambridge handbook of African linguistics* The Cambridge handbook of African linguistics, 246{325. Cambridge University Press.
 Polotsky, Hans Jakob. 1960. *The Coptic conjugation system*. *Orientalia* 29(4). 392{422.
 Shisha-Halevy, Ariel. 1986. *Coptic grammatical categories: Structural studies in the syntax of Shenoutean Sahidic*. Rome: Pontificum Institutum Biblicum.
 Shisha-Halevy, Ariel. 1988. *Coptic grammatical chrestomathy. a course for academic and private study*. Leuven: Peeters.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 70 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 10 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 20 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information:

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