



# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *Death in the literature of Mesopotamia - 42117*

*Last update 07-10-2021*

*HU Credits:* 2

*Degree/Cycle:* 1st degree (Bachelor)

*Responsible Department:* Archaeology & Ancient near East

*Academic year:* 0

*Semester:* 2nd Semester

*Teaching Languages:* Hebrew

*Campus:* Mt. Scopus

*Course/Module Coordinator:* Prof. Nathan Wasserman

*Coordinator Email:* [wasserman.nathan@gmail.com](mailto:wasserman.nathan@gmail.com)

*Coordinator Office Hours:*

*Teaching Staff:*

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Prof Nathan Wasserman

Course/Module description:

The course aims to present various concepts of death and afterlife in ancient Mesopotamia, based on myths, magical texts, funerary texts, letters and administrative records. Objects and visual representation will also be considered.

Course/Module aims:

Presenting various notions and concepts of death and afterlife in ancient Mesopotamia, describing their complexities and their development.

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

Students will know the following compositions: The Epic of Gilgamesh, Inanna/Ištar's Descent to the Netherworld, Nergal and Ereškigal, Assyrian elegy, and more.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: frontal

Course/Module Content:

The order of topics will be decided when the course begins:

The Epic of Gilgamesh, Inanna/Ištar's Descent

Nergal and Ereškigal

Assyrian elegy

Funerary texts from Kalah

Funerary texts from Susa

Ur cemetery

Burial methods in the ANE

Required Reading:

will be given in the class

Additional Reading Material:

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Grading Scheme:

Additional information:

*The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Inst. of Archaeology, Mt. Scopus*