Syllabus

Herodian Art & Architecture - 43526

Last update 31-12-2014

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Archaeology and the Ancient Near East

Academic year: 3

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Orit Peleg-Barkat

Coordinator Email: zeev.weiss@mscc.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday 12:00-13:00

Teaching Staff:
Dr. Orit Peleg-Barkat
Course/Module description:
The late Second Temple period, from the time of King Herod (37–4 BCE) until the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE, are considered a golden age for art and architecture in ancient Judaea. The numerous and ambitious construction projects of Herod, as well as the private and public buildings erected by the Jews and Gentiles residing in Judaea in the time of Herod or beyond are of the most varied and fascinating to be found in our region. This course will explore the developments that occurred in this period in the fields of architecture (private, public, secular, funerary, urban, rural etc.), architectural decoration, relief and sculpture, wall decorations, mosaic floors, as well as other media that reflect the special local style of Judaea in this period. We will examine the sources of cultural influence, changes over time, and the use of art as a vehicle for expressing ethnic identity.

Course/Module aims:
The course aims at providing the students with a comprehensive knowledge about art and architecture in Judaea during the late Second Temple period. This knowledge will be used in order to analyze and characterize the society and culture of Judaea in this period. Another goal is to give the students an opportunity to practice and sharpen their academic skills of text analysis and academic writing.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
1. To characterize the art and architecture of Judaea during the late Second Temple period, as well as the changes that occur in these fields within this time frame.
2. To evaluate the achievements of Herod in the fields of Art and Architecture and the impact he had on the introduction of Roman culture into Judaea and the East.
3. To explain the background and interests behind the building program of King Herod.
4. To analyze a scientific article and identify the main arguments and the argumentation process.

Attendance requirements(%):
85

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: 1. Class discussions of the selected topic based on reading
2. Individual research topics presented in class
3. Writing assignments
Course/Module Content:
1. Introduction: Herod the Great Builder
2. What can we learn from Flavius Josephus' texts on Herodian art and architecture?
3. The Hasmonaean Palace and the Second Commandant
4. The Hasmonaean Palaces and the Hasmonaean Royal Ideology
5. Herod’s Ideal City
6. Public and Mass Entertainment Buildings in the Herodian Cities
7. Herod’s Palaces in honor of Augustus and Roma
8. The Herodian Temple and Temple Mount - Architectural Perspective
9. A Hellenized or Romanized King? - A Look from Herod’s Palaces
10. Water in Private and Public Use at the Time of Herod
11. Herod as Architect?
12. Phasaelis - Herod’s Last Building Project
13. Urban and Rural Dwellings and the Question of Qumran
14. Funerary Monuments as Power Displays by the Elite
15. Herodium in light of the Renewed Excavations
16. Interior Decorations - Wall Paintings and Mosaic Floors
17. Architectural Decoration and the Sources of Cultural Influence on Herodian Art and Architecture
18. The Village of Ein Gedi in the Late Second Temple Period
19. Synagogues during the Late Second Temple Period - Magdala as a Test Case
20. Art as Propaganda - Coins from King Herod to the Jewish Revolt
21. The Age of Individualism? - Art in the Private Sphere
22. Herod the Tastemaker - The Impact of Herod’s Architectural and Artistic Innovations on Life in Judaea

Required Reading:


Andrew Burnett (2012). The Herodian Coinage Viewed against the Wider...

**Additional Reading Material:**
Will be distributed at the beginning of the semester

**Course/Module evaluation:**
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 30 %
Participation in Tutorials 30 %
Project work 0 %
Assignments 40 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

**Additional information:**
None