

# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *"The Great Wall" - Walls Borders and Frontier Zones in China - 46955*

*Last update 18-09-2024*

*HU Credits: 2*

*Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)*

*Responsible Department: Asian Studies*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 2nd Semester*

*Teaching Languages: English*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Gideon Shelach-Lavi*

*Coordinator Email: [Gideon.Shelach@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:Gideon.Shelach@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: Thursday 11:00-12:00*

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Teaching Staff:

Prof. Gideon Shelach

Course/Module description:

*Borders between societies and states are important political, cultural and social phenomenon. Borders reflect the political reality (separating between two polities) but are also instrumental in the formation of identities and the shaping of the political and cultural reality. The demarcation and fortification of borderlines, in the form of walls and fences, shape the physical geography of the border zones as well as the mental landscape of people and societies. But the division between political and social units is often vague and constantly shifts; and the social, economic and cultural processes that unfold in those frontier zones affect individuals and societies in meaningful ways. In this seminar we will use historical texts and archaeological data to examine case studies that represent different types of borders and border demarcations and examine the processes that occurred in the political frontiers and their social and cultural affects. The seminar will be focused on premodern Asian (Eurasian) history and will emphasize the use of advanced theories and multi-disciplinary research methods.*

Course/Module aims:

*The aim of the course is to encourage the students to think about different issues and research opportunities related to borders and frontiers in the past and present. The students will learn relevant theories and methods and will encounter various case studies.*

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

*At the end of the course the students:*

- 1. Will be familiar with theories relevant to the study of borders and frontiers in the past and present*
- 2. Will be familiar with methods relevant to the study of borders and frontiers in the past and present*
- 3. Will know and understand a variety of case studies, historic and current, of borders and frontiers in the past and present in Asia*
- 4. Will be able to independently analyze a case study of borders and frontiers in the past and present in Asia*

Attendance requirements(%):

100

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*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lectures, discussions in class, students' questions, presentations of case studies by the students*

*Course/Module Content:*

*See the complete course syllabus at the Moodle site.  
<https://moodle.huji.ac.il/2024-25/>*

*Required Reading:*

*See the complete course syllabus at the Moodle site.  
<https://moodle.huji.ac.il/2024-25/>*

*Additional Reading Material:*

*None*

*Grading Scheme:*

*Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 60 %  
Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture/ Seminar / Pro-seminar / Research proposal 20 %  
Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 20 %*

*Additional information:*