Syllabus

SACRED SITES - 53363

Last update 24-07-2014

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Department of Sociology and Anthropology

Academic year: 0

Semester: Yearly

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Nurit Stadler

Coordinator Email: msstad@mscc.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Monday 10:15 - 11:15

Teaching Staff:
Prof Nurit Stadler
Course/Module description:
In most parts of the world, religious activity is linked to specific places which have ritual, mythical, or historical significance. These "sacred spaces" become the focus of ritual activity, pilgrimage, and are usually endowed with reconstruction, symbolism, and iconography that celebrate the sanctity of the place. This course offers an introduction to the writings on these sacred places (Eliade, Turner and others) and their critique, especially through writings on the contested nature of religion (Eade, John, Sallnow, Michael). In the second part of the course we will examine representative sample of significant sacred sites and shrines throughout the world.

Course/Module aims:
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Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
1. Students will learn to define the pilgrimage phenomenon in
2. Students will learn to ask the question of academic research
3. Students will learn to describe research field ceremonies
4. Students will learn to ask questions about fundamental issues of religion and anthropology, classic literature discussing religious experience

Attendance requirements(%):
90% of the lessons

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Lecture

Course/Module Content:
- Introduction to holiness
- Eliade: "The Myth of the Eternal Return" and sacred concepts
- Weber: charisma concepts
- Durkheim: the Holy
Marx: religion as a tool of the elites
Victor Turner: a holy place and Pilgrimages
Marcus: Christian Holy
Eade and Sallnow thesis - Contesting the sacred
Lilienthal and Chidester: Holy places and politics of the countries in conflict
constructing places holy places
Holy Places and Fertility
Holiness and gender
Holy Places and minorities Diaspora
Holy Places and death.
Copy of Holy Places

Required Reading:


Additional Reading Material:
none

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:
none