



# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *The History of Mosaics from the Classical Period to the Early Byzantine Period - 5553*

*Last update 21-08-2018*

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: History of Art

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Prof. Rina Talgam

Coordinator Email: [rina.talgam@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:rina.talgam@mail.huji.ac.il)

Coordinator Office Hours: Thursday, 14.00

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**Teaching Staff:**  
Prof Rina Talgam

**Course/Module description:**

The course examines the mosaic floors of the Greek, Roman and Byzantine cultures, from the Classical period to Late Antiquity. It offers a critical overview of scholarly research, inspects the mosaics diverse architectural contexts and studies processes of continuity and change. The variety of subjects depicted in these works of art is immense, and includes religious and ritualistic scenes, mythological themes, landscapes, still life, scenes of everyday life and biblical scenes. Alongside formalistic analysis of iconography, technique, composition and style we will study the social, religious and cultural context of these works, and thus examine their roles in society, ideals and moral values that they represent and the manner in which they were received by society. The course follows processes of Hellenization and Romanization and sheds light on the encounter between colonized local cultures and their colonizers. We shall examine synagogue mosaics against the background of contemporary Christian art and show that Judaism's dialogue with Christianity was profound and multidimensional.

**Course/Module aims:**

Acquaintance with a selection of works of art and comprehension of various methods for analyzing them.

Using contrasting texts to each subject will provide an opportunity to engage in critical discussion.

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

Write an assignment that reflects the acquirement of research tools.

**Attendance requirements(%):**

90%

***Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: seminar***

**Course/Module Content:**

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*Lesson 1: Pebble Mosaics in Macedonia*  
Recommended Reading:

*Lesson 2: The invention of tessellated mosaics: Hellenistic mosaics in the east*

*Lesson 3: Hellenistic mosaics in Italy; The Alexander Mosaic from the House of the Faun at Pompeii*  
Mandatory reading:

*Lesson 4: Antioch mosaic pavements*

*Lesson 5: Mosaics in Antioch and Zeugma*

*Lesson 6: The House of Dionysos at Sepphoris, Israel*

*Lesson 7: The mosaics of Cyprus*

*Lesson 8: The mosaics of Roman North Africa and the mosaics at Piazza Armerina, Sicily.*

*Lesson 9: A tour in the conservation laboratory of the IAA*

*Lesson 10: Byzantine Mosaics in Israel and Jordan*

*Lesson 11: A tour at the Good Samaritan Museum*

*Lesson 12: Synagogue Mosaics in Israel*

*Lesson 13: Final remarks*

**Required Reading:**

A. Cohen, *Art in the Era of Alexander the Great: Paradigms of Manhood and Their Cultural Traditions*, Cambridge, 2010, 20-63.

A. Cohen, *The Alexander Mosaic; Stories of Victory and Defeat*, Cambridge, 1997, 1-23.

K. M. D. Dunbabin, *Mosaics of the Greek and Roman World*, Cambridge, 1999.

**Additional Reading Material:**

אמנויות היפות

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\*K. M. D. Dunbabin, *Mosaics of the Greek and Roman World*, Cambridge, 1999.  
(מומלץ להיעזר בספר מקיים ועדיין זה על מנת להגיע לביבליוגרפיה נוספת)

C.Balmelle et al. (eds.), *Le decore geometrique de la mosaique romaine*, Paris, 1985.

S. Isager and B. Poulsen (eds.), *Patrons and Pavements in Late Antiquity*, Odense, 1997.

R. Ling, *Ancient Mosaics*, London, 1998.

*Bulletin de l'Association international pour l` Etude de la Mosaique antique (AIEMA)*  
(*Publications of six international colloquiums on ancient mosaics.*) CMGR 1-7.

סכינקה:

M. Farneti, *Technical-Historical Glossary of Mosaic Art*, Ravenna, 1993.

D.S. Neal, "Floor Mosaics", in D. Strong and D. Brown (eds.), *Roman Crafts*, London, 1976,  
pp.241-252.

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B. Andreae, *Antike Bildmosaiken*, Mainz am Rhein, 2003.

Ph. Bruneau, *Exploration archéologique de Délos 29, Les mosaïque*, Paris, 1972.

J.J. Pollitt, *Art in the Hellenistic Age*, Cambridge, 210-229.

C.M. Robertson, "Greek Mosaics", JHS 85 (1965), pp.72-89.

C.M. Robertson, "Greek Mosaics: a Postscript", JHS 87 (1967), pp.133-135.

D. Salzmann, *Untersuchungen zu den Antiken Kieselmosaiken*, Berlin, 1982.

פומפסי המזרח התיכון:

כללו:

J. Balty, "La mosaique antique au Proche-Orient I; de origines a la Tetrarchie", ANRW 2 (1981), pp.347-429.

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אנטiochia:

D. Levi, *Antioch Mosaic Pavements*, Princeton, 1947.

I. Lavin, "The Hunting Mosaics of Antioch and their Sources", *DOP* 17 (1963), pp. 181-286.

S. Campbell, *The Mosaics of Antioch; Corpus of Mosaic Pavements of Turkey*, Toronto, 1988.

C. Kondoleon, *Antioch; The Lost Ancient City*, Princeton, 2000.

זאגמה:

C. Abadie-Reynal et J.-P. Darmon, avec la collaboration d' A.-M. Lévêque, "La maison et la mosaïque des Synaristōsai (Les Femmes au déjeuner de Ménandre)", J. H. Humphrey (ed.), *Zeugma: Interim Reports, Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementary Series Number 51* (2003), 87-99.

M. Önal, *Mosaics of Zeugma, Istanbul*, 2003.

סוריה ولبنון:

J. Balty, *Mosaiques Antiques de Syrie*, Bruxelles, 1977.

M.H. Cheab, "Mosaique du Liban", *BMB* 14 (1958), 15 (1959).

מצרים:

W.A. Daszewski, *Corpus of Mosaics from Egypt I (Hellenistic and Early Roman Period)*, Mainz am Rhein, 1985.

: ירדן

M. Piccirillo, *The Mosaics of Jordan*, Amman, 1993.

H. Joyce, "A Mosaic from Gerasa in Orange, Texas and Berlin", *Romissche Quartalschrift* 87 (1980), pp. 307-325.

קפריסין:

D. Michaelides, *Cypriot Mosaics*, Nicosia, 1987.

C. Kondoleon, *Domestic and Divine; Roman Mosaics in the House of Dionysos*, Ithaca and London, 1995.

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ישראל:

R. Ovadiah and A. Ovadiah, *Hellenistic, Roman and Early Byzantine Mosaic Pavements in Israel* (Rome, 1987).

R. Hachlili, *Ancient Mosaic Pavements: Themes, Issues, and Trends: Selected Studies* (Leiden and Boston, 2009).

R. Talgam and Z. Weiss, *The Mosaics in the House of Dionysos at Sepphoris*, Qedem 44, Jerusalem, 2004.

R. Talgam, *Mosaics of Faith; Floors of Pagans, Jews, Christians, Samaritans and Muslims in the Holy Land*, University Park, 2014.

איטליה:

M.E. Blake, "The Pavements of Roman Buildings of the Republic and Early Empire", MAAR 8 (1930), pp.7-160.

M.E. Blake, "Roman Mosaics of the Second Century in Italy", MAAR 13 (1936), pp.67-214.

M.E. Blake, "Mosaics of the Late Empire in Rome and vicinity", MAAR 17 (1940), pp. 81-130.

J.R. Clarke, *Roman Black-and-White Figural Mosaics*, New York, 1980.

J.R. Clarke, "Mosaic workshops at Pompeii and Ostia Antica", *Fifth International Colloquium on Ancient Mosaics* (eds: P. Johnson, R. Ling and D.J., Smith), Ann Arbor, 1994, pp. 89-102.

A. Carandini, A. Ricci and M.de Vos, *Filosofiana: La Villa di Piazza Armerina*, Palermo, 1982.

A. Cohen, *The Alexander Mosaic. Stories of Victory and Defeat*, Cambridge, 1997.

P.G.P. Meyboom, *The Nile Mosaic of Palestrina; Early Evidence of Egyptian Religion in Italy*, Leiden, 1995.

F.B. Sear, *Roman Wall and Vault Mosaics (Mitteilungen des Deutschen Archäologischen Instituts. Romische Abteilung, Ergänzungsheft 23)*, Heidelberg, 1977.

R.J. A. Wilson, *Piazza Armerina*, London, 1983.

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ცფი/ אפריקებ:

K. Dunbabin, *The Mosaics of Roman North Africa*, Oxford, 1978.

M. Blanchard et al., *Roman Mosaics from North Africa: Floor Mosaics from Tunisia, London and New York*, 1996.

C.Beltz, *Marine Genre Mosaic Pavements of Roman North Africa*, Ann Arbor, 1983.

D. Parrish, *Seasons Mosaics of Roman North Africa*, Rome, 1984.

*Corpus de mosaïques de Tunisie*, Tunis, 1973-1996.

גאליה

C. Balmelle et J.-P. Darmon, *La mosaïque dans les Gaules romaines*, Paris, 2017.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 10 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 90 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: