Syllabus

*The arts of Canaan in the 2nd millennium BCE - 5809*

Last update 09-09-2015

**HU Credits:** 2

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

**Responsible Department:** history of art

**Academic year:** 0

**Semester:** 2nd Semester

**Teaching Languages:** Hebrew

**Campus:** Mt. Scopus

**Course/Module Coordinator:** Prof. Tallay Ornan

**Coordinator Email:** tallay.ornan@mail.huji.ac.il

**Coordinator Office Hours:** Tue 14:00-15:00 by appointment

**Teaching Staff:**
  Prof Tallay Ornan
Course/Module description: In this course we will survey and analyze few artistic genres that were revealed in archaeological excavations in the southern Levant: Canaan and its neighbours. These artistic groups include stone and bronze statues, bone & ivory carvings, terracotta plaques and cylinder seals. We will study the various characteristics of these artefacts aiming to explore their religious meaning and social roles.

Course/Module aims: * Acquaintance of 2nd-millennium BCE pictorial themes depicted on contemporary artifacts of different genres. * Familiarity of stylistic issues of 2nd-millennium BCE artifacts having the same subject matter but made in different materials will be examined. * Comprehension of the basic characteristics of the 2nd-millennium BCE art and culture that flourished in the eastern Mediterranean Basin.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to: Ability to identify & characterize 2nd-millennium BCE artifacts from the eastern Mediterranean & analyze them in relation to their cultural & historical context.

Attendance requirements(%): 100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: lectures transmitted by the teacher with participant of the students in clarifying unsettled issues

Course/Module Content: Subjects to be dealt with:

*Middle Bronze period: geographic, historic & cultural background
*Late Bronze period: geographic, historic & cultural background
*The demise of the Canaanite world in the end of the 2nd-millennium BCE
*Metal statuary from the Middle Bronze period
*Metal statuary from the Late Bronze period
*Stone statuary from the Middle Bronze period
*Stone statuary from the Late Bronze period
* Bone & ivory carvings
*Cylinder seal from the Middle Bronze period
*Cylinder seals from the Late Bronze period
* Terracottas from the Late Bronze period
Wall painting, pottery painting
The continuation of 2nd-millennium art into the 1st millennium

Required Reading:
Selected titles from the list will be compulsory:


Beck P. 1990, A Note on the “Schematic Statues” from the Stelae Temple at Hazor, Tel Aviv 17, 91-95.

Beck P. 2002, The Figure of the Ruler and Related Problems in Middle Bronze Age Art, in P. Beck, Imagery and Representation, Studies in the Art and Iconography of Ancient Palestine: Collected Papers, Tel Aviv, 58-93.

Ben-Tor A. 2009, A Decorated Jewellery Box from Hazor, Tel Aviv 36, 5-67.


Cornelius I. 1994, The iconography of the Canaanite Gods Reshef and Baal, Late Bronze and Iron Age I Periods (c 1500-1000 BCE), (OBO 140), Fribourg and Göttingen.

Cornelius I. 2008, The Many Faces of the Goddess: the Iconography of the Syro-Palestinian Goddesses Anat, Astarte, Qedeshet, and Asherah c. 1500-1000 BCE,
Fribourg (2nd enlarged edition).


Negbi O. 1976, Canaanite Gods in Metal, Tel Aviv.


Parker B. 1949, Cylinder Seals from Palestine, Iraq 11, 1–43.

Pritchard J. B. 1943, Palestinian Figurines in Relation to Certain Goddesses Known Through Literature, New Haven Conn.


Ziffer I. 1990, At That Time the Canaanites were in the Land, Daily Life in Canaan in the Middle Bronze Age 2 (2000-1550 B.C.E), (Eretz Israel Museum), Tel Aviv.


Additional Reading Material:


Course/Module evaluation:
End of year written/oral examination 0 %
Presentation 0 %
Participation in Tutorials 20 %
Project work 80 %
Assignments 0 %
Reports 0 %
Research project 0 %
Quizzes 0 %
Other 0 %

Additional information:
During the course we will visit an exhibition dealing with the relation of ancient
Egypt & Canaan at the Israel Museum.