



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Reading Jerusalem: Visions of Jerusalem in Israeli Literature - 63011

Last update 04-07-2017

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: melton blended masters in jewish education

Academic year: 0

Semester:

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Tamar Hess & Mr. Haim Aronovitz

Coordinator Email: tamar.hess@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Tamar Hess

Course/Module description:

Literature and landscapes form mutual relationships. Through the lens of poetry and fiction Jerusalem is not a "given" or static entity, but is constantly created and recreated in metaphors and stories, which depict it and reveal the hopes, frustrations and world views of the authors. In reading core literary Israeli works as well as popular contemporary fiction, this course offers multiple portraits of a city which is at the heart of Hebrew and Israeli culture.

Course/Module aims:

At the end of this course students will have read key works in contemporary Israeli fiction, both popular and canonical, and will have visited major sites in the city. Students will be able to describe varied and often contradictory ways in which Jerusalem is represented in Israeli literature. Students will be able to discuss the relationship between landscapes and historical events which took place in Jerusalem and their appearance in Israeli literary works.

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

Our learning together will take place in two main locations – an indoor one and outdoor ones. More specifically, our learning together will take place in our seminar room (room 303 in the Hebrew University's Education building) and in a rich array of sites and sights (sometimes as well of sounds, smells and tastes) mainly in Jerusalem, and also in the Dead-Sea region and Tel-Aviv.

The sessions together with Tamar in the seminar room will be devoted to discussion of representations and images of Jerusalem in Israeli literature.

The "walks" with Haim through these selected sites and the "texts and talks" that will be studied and discussed at them will lend physical, historical, geographical embodiment and a direct hands-on personal encounter of the issues the course addresses.

Attendance requirements(%):

90%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Discussion and guided tours. Also see Learning Outcomes above. Students will share an online reading journal where

you can post your responses to stories and tours to a forum on Moodle. These responses will comprise 10% of your final grade. Students are advised to discuss the topic of their final written exam with Tamar before August 1, 2017.

Course/Module Content:

1. July 4: Introduction: Tamar Hess and Haim Aronovitz
Views of Jerusalem in Contemporary Israeli Poetry: Dahlia Ravikovitch, Almog Behar, Yehuda Amichai, Shlomit Naim-Naor, Yoram Varete and others (Tamar)
The Hebrew University on Mount Scopus: Site as Text (Haim)
2. July 11: Tour: Jerusalem, City of Longings with Haim Aronovitz
3. July 13: (Tamar Hess)
David Grossman, *Someone to Run With*, Translated by Vered Almog and Maya Gurantz, London: Bloomsbury, 2003. Chapter 1, pp. 3-32; 71-79; 96-99; 208-217.
4. July 13: (Tamar Hess)
S.Y. Agnon, *Only Yesterday* Translated by Barbara Harshav, Princeton New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2000, Prologue, Pages 3-5; Book 2 (Jerusalem), Chapters 11-15, pages 267-304; Chapter 24, Pages 367-369; Book 4, chapter 19, section 4, pages 641-642.
5. July 18: (Tamar Hess)
Shulamith Hareven, *City of Many Days*, Translated by Hillel Halkin, Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1977. pages 1-14 (chapter 1); 63-122 (chapter 4 & 5)
6. July 18:
Yoram Kaniuk, *Himmo King of Jerusalem*, Translated by Yosef Shachter, New York: Atheneum, 1969, Chapter 1, pages 3-16; chapter 9, pages 118-147; from chapter 11, pages 181-187; chapter 15, pages 231-246
7. July 19: Jerusalem: Within the Walls (tour with Haim Aronovitz)
8. July 25: Day long tour to Dead Sea region with Haim Aronovitz
9. July 26: (Tamar Hess)
Amos Oz, *A Story of Love and Darkness*, Translated by Nicholas de Lange, Orlando: Harcourt 2003, Pages 1-13; 27; 32-34; 39-52. Chapter 40-41, pages 311-339.
10. July 26: (Tamar Hess)
A.B. Yehoshua, *Mr. Mani*, Translated by Hillel Halkin, New York and London: Doubleday, 1992, *First Conversation (Hagar)* pages 5-73.
11. July 31: Day long tour with Haim Aronovitz
Tel-Aviv: Between Jewish and Israeli Identity
12. August 3: (Tamar Hess)
Haim Be'er, *The Pure Element of Time*, Translated by Barbara Harshav, Hanover and London: Brandeis University Press 2003, Pages 3-8; 89-93; 114-134.
13. August 3: (Tamar Hess)
Sayid Kashua, *Second Person Singular*, Translated by Mitch Ginsburg, New York: Grove Press, 2012, pages 3-36 (part 1); 182-216 (part 4)
14. August 7: Mandatory Jerusalem (Haim Aronovitz)
15. August 9: Jerusalem and Jewish Sovereignty (Haim Aronovitz)

Required Reading:

1. David Grossman, *Someone to Run With*, Translated by Vered Almog and Maya Gurantz, London: Bloomsbury, 2003. Chapter 1, pp. 3-32; 71-79; 96-99; 208-217.
2. S.Y. Agnon, *Only Yesterday* Translated by Barbara Harshav, Princeton New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2000, Prologue, Pages 3-5; Book 2 (Jerusalem), Chapters 11-15, pages 267-304; Chapter 24, Pages 367-369; Book 4, chapter 19, section 4, pages 641-642.
3. Shulamith Hareven, *City of Many Days*, Translated by Hillel Halkin, Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1977. pages 1-14 (chapter 1); 63-122 (chapter 4 & 5)
4. Yoram Kaniuk, *Himmo King of Jerusalem*, Translated by Yosef Shachter, New York: Atheneum, 1969, Chapter 1, pages 3-16; chapter 9, pages 118-147; from chapter 11, pages 181-187; chapter 15, pages 231-246
5. Amos Oz, *A Story of Love and Darkness*, Translated by Nicholas de Lange, Orlando: Harcourt 2003, Pages 1-13; 27; 32-34; 39-52. Chapter 40-41, pages 311-339.
6. A.B. Yehoshua, *Mr. Mani*, Translated by Hillel Halkin, New York and London: Doubleday, 1992, *First Conversation (Hagar)* pages 5-73.
7. Haim Be'er, *The Pure Element of Time*, Translated by Barbara Harshav, Hanover and London: Brandeis University Press 2003, Pages 3-8; 89-93; 114-134.
8. Sayed Kashua, *Second Person Singular*, Translated by Mitch Ginsburg, New York: Grove Press, 2012, pages 3-36 (part 1); 182-216 (part 4)

Additional Reading Material:

1. Dror Burstein, *Muck*, Translated by Gabriel Levin (Pre-publication Manuscript in work, to be published in 2018 by Farrar Straus & Giroux(. Chapter 2 (part 1) and chapter 2 (part 3).
2. Sidra Dekoven Ezrahi, "To What Shall I Compare You?": Jerusalem as Ground Zero of the Hebrew Imagination, *PMLA*, Vol. 122, No. 1, Special Topic: Cities (Jan., 2007), pp. 220-234.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 70 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 20 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 10 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: