Syllabus

Problems of Physics in the Middle Ages - 87669

Last update 19-09-2015

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: hist.phil.socio. of sciences

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Reimund Leicht

Coordinator Email: leichtreimund@googlemail.com

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday 15:00-16:00

Teaching Staff: Dr. Reimund Leicht
Course/Module description:
Everything that is moving is moved by something (else) – this is one of the basic principles of Aristotelian physics. Although this principle sounds unproblematic it has caused numerous fierce disputes in the history of medieval sciences, and its refutation paved the way for the development of modern physics. The understanding of this topic helps to clarify the basic concepts of pre-modern natural philosophy and physics.

Course/Module aims:
The aim of the course if the develop the ability to analyse a central issue in the history of pre-modern science and to understand its importance for the development of classical physics and the scientific revolution.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:
The students will acquire knowledge about the important sources for the history of science in different cultures (Hellenism, Islam, Christianity, Judaism), and will know to analyse them systematically in their historical contexts

Attendance requirements (%):
80%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: seminar, reading of sources, presentations

Course/Module Content:
1. 19/10/2015
Introduction

2. 26/10/2015
3. 2/11/2015
4. 9/11/2015
5. 16/11/2015
המקורות האריסטוטליים לاأיקור "כל דבר מתנועע מונע על ידי דבר (آخر)"
The Aristotelian sources for the principle — Everything that is moving is moved by something (else)

6. 22/11/2015
7. 30/11/2015
The principle according to the Aristotelian commentators in Late antiquity

8. 7/12/2015
9. 14/12/2015
Ibn Bajja and Aristotelian Physics in Islam

10. 21/12/2015
High scholasticism: Thomas of Aquinas

11. 28/12/2015
12. 4/1/2016
New Interpretation: the 14th century (Duns Scotus, Ockham)

13. 11/1/2016
14. 18/1/2016
The transition to classical physics up to Newton

Required Reading:
sources and secondary literature up to 30 pages

Additional Reading Material:
no

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

Additional information:
no