

Attention!

This is a representative syllabus. The syllabus for the course you are enrolled in will likely be different.

Please refer to your instructor's syllabus for more information on specific requirements for a given semester.

HEBREW 4601: THE MODERN HEBREW SHORT STORY

Autumn 2016

Meeting Time/Location:

Instructor:

Office hours:

Office:

Phone:

E-mail:

OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to modern Hebrew literary texts, as well as to develop reading skills in modern Hebrew. We will survey some of the major developments in the modern Hebrew short story, from the early twentieth century to the present-day. Addressing questions of aesthetics and literary context, we will highlight such major themes as the rise of Zionism; the pioneer experience; the Arab-Israeli conflict; responses to the Holocaust; the relationship of the individual to the collectivity; optimism and disillusionment. Readings will be drawn from the works of Agnon, Keret, Kishon, Liebrecht, and Megged.

REQUIREMENTS, WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS:

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION (10%):

Classes will be devoted to reading and analysis of the assigned texts. Students are expected to attend all class sessions and to be prepared to discuss the readings assigned for each session. Students are responsible for all of the material in the assigned readings and the class discussions, even if they are absent.

ABSENCES:

Three or more absences for reasons other than medical or family emergencies will result in a reduction of your final grade. Absences for medical or family emergencies require written proof.

QUIZZES (20%):

There will be four 10-15 minute quizzes during the quarter (**9/7, 9/21, 10/19, 11/9**). The quizzes will cover texts already read and discussed in class. Students will be asked to translate these texts without using a dictionary. Quizzes cannot be rescheduled.

TERM PAPER (35%):

There will be a 5-10 page term paper on a topic to be chosen in consultation with the instructor. The term paper is due on **11/21/16**.

HEBREW 4601: THE MODERN HEBREW SHORT STORY

FINAL EXAMINATION (35%):

The final exam will consist of translation questions and analytical text-based essays (in English) that will test the students' mastery of both vocabulary and content.

The final exam is on **12/7/16**. The date of this exam cannot be changed. No make-up exams will be scheduled.

STUDENT CONDUCT:

Students are reminded that they are responsible for obeying the University's rules regarding academic misconduct as set forth in the Code of Student Conduct.

DISABILITY SERVICES

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

GRADING:

The final grade will be calculated on the following basis:

Participation	10%
Quizzes	20%
Term paper	35%
Final Examination:	35%

GRADING SCALE:

A 95-100
A- 90-94
B+ 85-89
B 80-84
B- 75-79
C+ 70-74
C 65-69
C- 60-64
D+ 55-59
D 50-54
D- 45-49
E <45

Please Note: Texting, emailing, or other unapproved online activity during class will result in **an automatic grade reduction**.

HEBREW 4601: THE MODERN HEBREW SHORT STORY

ASSIGNED READINGS:

Students are required to purchase the following book from SBX:

S.Y. Agnon, *A Book That Was Lost and Other Stories*

Hebrew texts and select secondary readings will be posted on Carmen/Canvas.

For background on the individual authors, see:

The Blackwell Companion to Jewish Culture (Oxford, 1989)

The Encyclopaedia Judaica (available online as well through OSU library)

Both reference works are available in the Judaica Reading Room of the Main Library.

All readings are to be done **before** the date indicated. Assigned stories must be **brought to class** for discussion.

Weeks 1 & 2 (8/24, 8/29, 8/31):

Ephraim Kishon, "Heder mispar 157," "Nes ha-pesah," "Ha-telefon"

S. Y. Agnon, "Ma'aseh ha-'ez"

Secondary: S.Y. Agnon, *A Book That Was Lost*, pp. 3-29.

Week 3 (9/5, 9/7):

9/5 No class—Labor Day

Aharon Megged, "Yad va-shem"

Secondary: Naomi Sokoloff, "Reading Megged and Grossman."

9/7 *Quiz #1*

Week 4 (9/12, 9/14):

Aharon Megged, "Yad va-shem"

Week 5 (9/19, 9/21):

Aharon Megged, "Yad va-shem"

Ephraim Kishon, "Lashon neqiyyyah," "Radio," "Eikh ha-'ugah?"

9/21 *Quiz #2*

Week 6 (9/26, 9/28):

Savyon Liebrecht, "Parah 'al shem Virginia"

Secondary: Naomi Sokoloff, "Zionist Dreams and Savyon Liebrecht's 'A Cow Named Virginia.'" (xeroxed)

HEBREW 4601: THE MODERN HEBREW SHORT STORY

Week 7 (10/3, 10/5):

10/3 No class—Rosh Hashanah

Savyon Liebrecht, “Parah ‘al shem Virginia”

Week 8 (10/10, 10/12):

Savyon Liebrecht, “Parah ‘al shem Virginia”

S. Y. Agnon, “Ha’adonit ve-ha-rokhel”

Week 9 (10/17, 10/19):

S. Y. Agnon, “Ha’adonit ve-ha-rokhel”

10/19 *Quiz #3*

Week 10 (10/24, 10/26):

S. Y. Agnon, “Ha’adonit ve-ha-rokhel”

Secondary: S.Y. Agnon, *A Book That Was Lost*, pp. 161-166.

Week 11 (10/31, 11/2):

10/31 No class

Etgar Keret, “Shpritz me-ha-gehinnom”

Week 12 (11/7, 11/9):

Etgar Keret, “Sippur ‘al nehag autobus she-ratzah lihiyot elohim”

11/9 *Quiz #4*

Week 13 (11/14, 11/16):

S. Y. Agnon, “Ha-mitpahat”

Week 14 (11/21, 11/23):

11/21 *Term paper due*

S. Y. Agnon, “Ha-mitpahat”

11/23 No class—Thanksgiving

Week 15 (11/28, 11/30):

S. Y. Agnon, “Ha-mitpahat”

Week 16 (12/5, 12/7):

12/7 Final exam during regular class period