

# 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 4602: MODERN HEBREW POETRY  
Autumn 2015  
Meeting Time/location

Instructor:

Office Hours:

Office:

Phone:

E-mail:

OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of this course is to familiarize students with modern Hebrew poetry and to teach Hebrew language and grammar through text study. Hebrew 422 is designed to accommodate students with varied Hebrew backgrounds. We will read some of the outstanding works of modern Hebrew poetry, and will address questions of esthetics and literary context while highlighting important linguistic and grammatical points. Readings will be drawn from the works of Chaim Nachman Bialik, Yehuda Amichai, Dan Pagis, Natan Zach, Amir Gilboa, Leah Goldberg, Rachel, Zelda, and others.

REQUIREMENTS, WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS AND EXAMINATIONS:

PARTICIPATION:

**Please note:** Each student will be asked to read out and lead the discussion of one of the week's assigned texts. This will involve careful reading of the material to be discussed, as well as any background reading assigned. Guidelines for preparation of these regular presentations will be provided by the instructor. We will try, wherever possible, to conduct our discussions in Hebrew.

QUIZZES:

There will be **four** 10-15 minute quizzes during the semester. 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: There will be a 5-10 page term paper on a topic to be chosen in consultation with the instructor.

The papers will be in English, **but must refer in detail to the original wording of the Hebrew texts.**

FINAL EXAMINATION:

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 date of this exam cannot be changed. No make-up exams will be scheduled.

## HEBREW 422: MODERN HEBREW POETRY

### 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%
4 Quizzes	20%
Term paper	35%
Final Examination	35%

### ASSIGNED READINGS:

Students are required to purchase the following books from SBX:

Amichai, Yehuda. *Poems of Jerusalem and Love Poems*. [=Amichai]  
Carmi, T. *The Penguin Book of Hebrew Verse* [=Carmi]  
Burnshaw, Carmi, et al, *The Modern Hebrew Poem Itself* [=MHPI]

**Readings not in these books are on Carmen.**

### BACKGROUND READING:

For biographical information on the poets, see:

- Carmi's table of poems, pp. 132ff.
- the introductions in MHPI
- *The Encyclopaedia Judaica* (available online through OSU library)

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

## HEBREW 422: MODERN HEBREW POETRY

### **Week 1 (8/26): Parents and Children**

Yehuda Amichai, "Yaldi ha-yashen," (Carmen) (Band, 46)

\_\_\_\_\_, "Mot avi," (Carmen) (Band, 54)

\*Cole: Amichai (Carmen)

### **Week 2 (8/31, 9/2): The Akedah**

Background: Genesis 22:1-19

Amir Gilboa, "Yitzhaq," MHPI, 142-144; Carmi, 560

Hayim Gouri, "Yerushah," Carmi, 565.

**No class 9/7/15** (Labor Day)

### **Weeks 3&4 (9/9, 9/16): Love and Separation**

#### **9/9 Quiz #1**

**No class 9/14/15** (Rosh Hashanah)

Yehuda Amichai, "Haval, hayyinu amtza'ah tovah," Amichai, 168-69; Carmi, 568-69.

Leah Goldberg, "Massa' le-lo shem," (Carmen) (Band, 97-98)

\*Cole: Goldberg (Carmen)

Rachel Bluwstein, "Aqarah," (Carmen) (Band, 106-7)

Rachel, biography, (Carmen) (Band, 102-4)

\*Cole: Rachel (Carmen)

**No class 9/23/15** (Yom Kippur)

**No class 9/28/15** (Sukkot)

**No class 10/5/15** (Shemini Atzeret)

#### **9/21 Quiz #2**

### **Weeks 5, 6, &7 (9/21, 9/30, 10/7): Meditations on Death, War, and Peace**

Yehuda Amichai, "Mi-sheloshah o arba'ah," MHPI, 166-7, Carmi, 569.

\_\_\_\_\_, "Be-merhaq shetei tiqvot," (Carmen) (Band, 127)

\_\_\_\_\_, "Hayeled nafal," (Carmen) (Band, 128)

\_\_\_\_\_, "Geshem bisdeh ha-qerav" (Carmen) (Band, 129)

\_\_\_\_\_, "Avi hayah," MHPI, 172-3, Carmi, 568

Amir Gilboa, "Ve-ahi shoteq," Carmi, 559

Zelda, "Kol shoshanah," MHPI, 238-240

\*Cole: Zelda (Carmen)

### **Weeks 8&9 (10/12, 10/14, 10/19, 10/21): The Sacred and the Profane**

#### **10/12 Quiz #3**

Amichai, "El male rahamim," (Carmen).

Amichai, "Elohim merahem 'al yaldei ha-gan," (Carmen).

Zelda, "Ka-asher berakhti al ha-nerot," MHPI, 241-42

Hannah Senesh, "Halikhah le-kesariah," (Carmen).

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Yehuda Amichai, "Be-yom kippur," Amichai, 44-45; Carmi, 570-71.  
\_\_\_\_\_, "Ya'akov ve-ha-malakh," Amichai, 148-49  
Background: Genesis 32:23-32.

### **Weeks 10, 11&12 (10/26, 10/28, 11/4, 11/9): Philosophical Thoughts**

#### **10/26 Quiz #4**

**No class 11/2/15**

**No class 11/11/15** (Veterans' Day)

Rachel, "Rachel," (Carmen) (Muse, 84)  
H.N. Bialik, "Tzanah lo zalzal," Carmi, 515.  
\*Cole: Bialik (Carmen)  
Natan Zach, "Levado,"  
\_\_\_\_\_, "Ani yoshev al sefat ha-rehov,"  
\_\_\_\_\_, "Metah ishto," (Carmen)es (Band 108-111).  
\*Cole: Zach (Carmen)  
Samuel Hanagid, "Halinoti gedud," Carmi, 285-86.  
Amichai, "Le-yad hafirah," Amichai, 96-97.

#### **Grammatical exercise**

#### **11/4 Term paper due**

### **Week 13 & 14 (11/16, 11/18, 11/23): Allusions to the Holocaust**

Dan Pagis, "Sof ha-she'elon," Carmi, 575  
\_\_\_\_\_, "Katuv be-iparon," MHPI, 221-4, Carmi, 575.  
\_\_\_\_\_, "Mahavo'im," (Carmen) (Band 114-15).  
\*Cole: Pagis (Carmen)

**No class 11/25/13** (Thanksgiving break)

### **Weeks 15&16 (11/30, 12/2, 12/7): Israel: Dreams and Realities**

Avraham Shlonsky, "Amal," Carmi, 534.  
Lea Goldberg, "Tel Aviv 1935," Carmi, 553-4.  
Rachel, "El artzi," (Carmen) (Muse, 84)  
\_\_\_\_\_, "Ve-ulay" (Carmen) (shiron)  
\_\_\_\_\_, "Ganeneu," (Carmen) (Muse, 86)  
Ronny Someck, "Aziqqim: Shir rehov," MHPI, 290-92.  
Pagis, "Targilim be'ivrit shimushit" ((Carmen))

**12/9/15 Final Exam during regular class period.**