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| Course title | <i>Jewish diaspora: history and culture</i> |
| Course code | Filo1032 |
| Credit points | 2 |
| ECTS creditpoints | 3 |
| Total Contact Hours | 32 |
| Number of hours for lectures | 16 |
| Number of hours for seminars and practical assignments | 16 |

Course developers

Elīna Vasiļjeva

Course abstract

The course is planned as free choice course for 2nd year students of programmes in Philology and History. The aim of the course - to introduce with notion of diaspora on the example of Jewish culture and with most characteristic features of Jewish culture. In the course notion of diaspora is viewed basing on study of history of one of the oldest diasporas (Jewish diaspora). The course involves overview of Judaism, Jewish social life, as well as analysis of creative activity of excellent world artists - Jews

Learning outcomes

Students, having acquired the study course

- demonstrate understanding of notion of diaspora and singularity of Jewish diaspora;
- study national peculiarities of Jewish religion and culture;
- are competent in main notions of Judaism and Jewish culture;
- are able to express one's own opinion on percept of Jewish culture in the world.

Course plan

Theme 1. Notion of diaspora, peculiarities of Jewish diaspora.

Lectures – 2 hours, seminars - 4 hours

Lecture 1. Development of culture in Diaspora. History of Jewish Diaspora.

Seminar 1. Notion of anti-Semitism, its history. Peculiarities of contemporary anti-Semitism.

Seminar 2. Holocaust. Independent work: Collection of materials on theme "Blood Ritual", study of historical literature about Holocaust.

Theme 2. Fundamentals of Judaism religion.

Lectures - 8 hours.

Lecture 1. Judaism as monotheistic religion.

Lecture 3. Ethics, commandments, morality of Judaism.

Lecture 4. Jewish calendar, holidays.

Lecture 5. Jewish mode of life. Independent work: acquaintance with internet portals of Jewish culture.

Theme 3. Jewish tradition in art

Seminars - 8 hours.

Seminar 3. Jewish painting. Personality and creative works of M.Chagall.

Seminar 4. Jewish theatre.

Seminar 5. Jewish theme in cinema art.

Seminar 6. Tradition of Jewish folklore.

Independent work: Documentary films about M.Chagall, S.Michoels; films "Jewish Luck" (A.Granovsky), "Schindler's List" (S.Spielberg), "Father" (V.Mashlov)

Theme 4. Jewish literature.

Lectures – 4 hours, seminars - 2 hours

Lecture 6. Literature in Yiddish.

Lecture 7. Literature in Hebrew.

Seminar 7. Phenomenon of Russian - Jewish literature. Jewish literature in Russian language.

Independent work: reading of creative works.

Theme 5. Hebrew in Latvia

Lectures – 2 hours, seminars - 2 hours

Lecture 8. Arrival of Jews to Latvia. Latvian Jewish cultural life. Holocaust in Latvia. Contemporary Latvian Jewish associations, synagogues, Judaism research centres.

Seminar 8. History of Daugavpils Jews.

Independent work: Summary of materials about Jews in Daugavpils.

Requirements for awarding credit points

Attendance of lectures and seminars.

Passed final examination of the course (differentiated test).

Compulsory reading

1. Patai R. On Jewish Folklore, - Wayne State University Press, 1983.
2. М. Черненко. Красная звезда, желтая звезда. Кинематографическая история еврейства в России. – Москва, 2006..
4. Šteimanis J. Latgales ebreju vēstures historiogrāfija. – Rēzekne, 2000.
5. М. Зильберт. Феномен ашкеназских евреев. – Санкт - Петербург, 2000.
6. Евреи в Даугавпилсе. Исторические очерки. Книга 2. – Даугавпилс, 1999.
7. Stranga A. Ebreji un diktatūras Baltijā.. – Rīga,2002.

Further reading

1. Patai R. On Jewish Folklore, - Wayne State University Press, 1983.
2. М. Черненко. Красная звезда, желтая звезда. Кинематографическая история еврейства в России. – Москва, 2006.
3. Kalniņš G. Žīdu loma cilvēces vēsturē. – Rīga, 1933.
4. Šteimanis J. Latgales ebreju vēstures historiogrāfija. – Rēzekne, 2000.
5. М. Зильберт. Феномен ашкеназских евреев. – Санкт – Петербург, 2000.
6. Евреи в Даугавпилсе. Исторические очерки. Книга 2. – Даугавпилс, 1999.
7. Stranga A. Ebreji un diktatūras Baltijā.. – Rīga, 2002.

Periodicals and other sources

- E. Vasiljeva. Ebreju teksts J. Poruka prozā. – Kultūras forums, Nr. 22 (211), 2006. g. 9.16. jūnijs.
А. Милитарев. Идентичность и судьбы еврейской диаспоры в России// Диаспоры/ Diasporas. 2002. Nr. 4
www.dvinsker.lv
www.hasidus.ru
www.shamir.lv
www.judaism.com

Notes

Part C.

Course content

1. Notion of diaspora, peculiarities of Jewish diaspora. L2 S4
2. Fundamentals of Judaism religion. L8
3. Jewish tradition in art S8
4. Jewish literature L4, S2
5. . Jews in Latvia L2, S2