Ancient Near Eastern Society and Religion (A005364)

Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Course Specifications

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021
De Graef, Katrien LW21 lecturer-in-charge

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021
Deze cursus is 2-jaarlijks en wordt niet aangeboden

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021 crdts offering
Deze cursus is 2-jaarlijks en wordt niet aangeboden

Teaching languages
English

Keywords
society, economy, religion, mythology, Ancient Near East

Initial competences
To have successfully completed the course History of the Ancient Near East or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.
To have knowledge of English
To have passive knowledge of German and French.

Final competences
1. To be able to show an overall insight in the structures of Mesopotamian society on a social, institutional and economical, as well as in the nature and evolution of the Mesopotamian religion and its expression in the mythological texts.
2. To have insight in various aspects of the Mesopotamian social and religious structures discussed in the thematic classes and case-studies.
3. To be able to interpret the archaeological and epigraphic sources discussed in class and to be able to evaluate their significance for Mesopotamian society and religion.
4. To be able to consult and critically process primary and secondary sources.
5. To be able to write a paper and give a presentation on a subject chosen within the

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)

Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h Contact hrs 40.0 h

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framework of the topic of the project.
6 To be able to give feedback by means of peer review.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into
consideration the conditions mentioned in ‘Starting Competences’

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Guided self-study, microteaching, online discussion group, seminar, self-reliant study activities,
lecture: response lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

- Lecture (“response college”) 20h: theoretical underpinning and elaboration of case
  studies in thematic classes
- Guided self-study 5h: preparation of the lectures through set scientific literature
- Seminar 5h: supervising the writing and presenting of a paper, supervising the peer
  reviewing of the presentations.
- Online discussion group 1h: supervising the writing and presenting of a paper,
  supervising the peer reviewing of the presentations.
- Self-reliant study activities 4h: the student writes a paper and prepares a presentation,
  the student peer reviews the presentations of his/her peers.
- Microteaching 5h: the students present their paper by means of a powerpoint
  presentation in class, after which their paper is open for discussion in the group; the
  students peer review the presentations of their peer students.

Learning materials and price

Syllabus, scientific literature and powerpoint presentations offered via Minerva

References

Yale University Press.
Winkler Verlag.
York: Routledge.
Manning, J.G. & I. Morris (Eds.), 2005: The Ancient Economy: Evidence and Models,
Stanford University Press.
Polanyi, K. 1944: The Great Transformation: The Political and Economic Origins of Our
Time, New York.
Radner, K. & E. Robson (Eds.), 2011: The Oxford Handbook of Cuneiform Culture,
Oxford University Press.
Van De Mieroop, M. 2016: Philosophy before the Greeks. The Pursuit of Truth in
Ancient Babylonia, Princeton University Press.
Markets and the Rate of Interest, Neuchâtel.

Course content-related study coaching

The lectures (“response colleges”) are interactive: the students prepare the thematic
classes through set scientific literature. The content of the thematic classes and case-
studies are discussed in an interactive and demand-driven way during the lectures.
Within the framework of the seminars, the students are taught to consult and critically
process primary and secondary sources in order to write a paper and give a
presentation on a subject chosen within the framework of the theme of the project.
These seminars are highly interactive by using the flipped classroom method, peer
review and an online discussion group.
After the examinations there is feedback regarding the written examination and the
paper.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination with open questions

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

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Written examination with open questions
Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
- Participation, assignment, peer assessment
Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
- Examination during the second examination period is possible
Extra information on the examination methods
- Periodic evaluation: written examination with open questions
- Permanent evaluation: paper, presentation paper, peer review presentations; participation during thematic classes
Calculation of the examination mark
- Written examination with open questions: 60%
- Paper, presentation paper, peer review presentations; participation during thematic classes: 40%
In order to pass this course, the student has to pass both the written examination and the paper.
Students who do not take part in the assessment of one or more parts of the course evaluation or obtain a mark of less than 10/20 for one of its parts cannot pass the course evaluation. Should the average mark nevertheless be higher than 10/20, the final mark will be reduced to the highest non-pass mark (= 9).
Facilities for Working Students
- Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance in lectures.
- Possible rescheduling of the written examination to a different time in the same academic year.
- Participation in microteaching is compulsory.
- Feedback can be given by email or during an appointment.
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy

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