

## Course description

| General information               |   |       |
|-----------------------------------|---|-------|
| Instructor                        | Eva Katarina Glazer, Assistant professor                  |       |
| Course title                      | Myths and Religious Customs of the Ancient Nations        |       |
| Study Programme                   | University Undergraduate Programme in Protestant theology |       |
| Type of course                    | Elective  |       |
| Year of study                     | First, second and third                                   |       |
| Number of credits and class hours | ECTS credits  | 2     |
|                                   | Class hours (L+E+S)                                       | 1+0+0 |

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| <b>1. COURSE DESCRIPTION</b>  |
| <p>1.1. <i>Course Objectives</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The objectives of this course are to introduce students to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the chronological sequence of written material in ancient history (with a short introduction to Semitic languages and philological methods), with special attention paid to mythological texts;</li> <li>2. particular Sumerian, Akkadian, Hittite, Egyptian, and Canaanite myths.</li> </ol>   |
| <p>1.2. <i>Prerequisite</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">There are no prerequisites for this course.</p>  |
| <p>1.3. <i>Learning outcomes for the Programme the course belongs to</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Independently describe and explain the basic content of philosophical-theological and historical-theological texts.</li> <li>2. Identify the interconnectedness and interaction of classical antiquity and the cultures of the ancient Near East on one side, and the biblical-Christian fate on the other.</li> <li>3. Critically assess individual segments in the relationship between the Church and the contemporary individual and society.</li> <li>4. Assess, based on the acquired knowledge, the significance and relevance of Christianity in the interreligious context, as well as in its relationship to the society, culture, and science.</li> <li>5. Present the results of one's research in biblical, philosophical-theological, and practical-theological fields.</li> </ol> |
| <p>1.4. <i>Learning Outcomes</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. describe the major themes of mythological texts of the ancient Near East;</li> <li>2. interpret mythological texts;</li> <li>3. discuss the context in which mythological texts were created;</li> <li>4. list the major sources that describe the development of religions in the ancient Near East;</li> </ol>  |

5. identify the events that resulted in the creation of particular mythological texts and legends.

*1.5. Course Content:*

1. Introduction to the content, objectives, and requirements of the course; short introduction to Semitic languages and the chronological sequence of written history
2. Sumerian and Akkadian texts, myths and gods
3. Myths about the origin of the world
4. Canaanite and Hittite texts, myths and gods
5. The new year and the recreation of cosmogony in myths; the motif of the global flood
6. Egyptian texts, myths and gods
7. Afterlife myths, the question of the resurrection, and eschatology in texts of the ancient nations
8. Final discussion

*1.6. Modes of Teaching*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> lectures       | x homework assignments                   |
| x seminars and workshops                | x multimedia and internet                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> exercises      | <input type="checkbox"/> laboratory work |
| x remote learning                       | <input type="checkbox"/> mentored work   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> field teaching | <input type="checkbox"/> other           |
|   | _____                                    |
|   | __                                       |

*1.7. Comments*

*1.8. Course Requirements*

Active participation in class, regular reading assignments. The students are required to write an essay. The subject of the essay needs to be approved by the instructor.

*1.9. Course Assessment<sup>1</sup>*

| Class attendance | Active participation in class |   | Term paper     |   | Experimental work |  |
|------------------|-------------------------------|---|----------------|---|-------------------|--|
| Written exam     | Oral exam                     | 1 | Essay          | 1 | Research          |  |
| Project          | Quizzes                       |   | Written report |   | Practical work    |  |
| Portfolio        |                               |   |                |   |                   |  |

*1.10. Grading structure during lectures and on the final exam*

Attendance is mandatory. The final exam is in oral form. In order to take the final exam, the students are required to hand in their essay.

<sup>1</sup> **IMPORTANT:** Along with every mode of Course Assessment an adequate number of ECTS credits needs to be given, so that the total number of ECTS credits matches the number for the course. Empty fields can be used for additional activities.

### 1.11. Mandatory Resources

- 1) M. ELIADE, *Od kamenoga doba do eleuzinskih misterija* (Povijest vjerovanja i religijskih ideja), Dio 1, Zagreb, Fabula nova, 2006. (select chapters).
- 2) E.K. GLAZER, *Božanstva staroga istoka* (select entries from the mythological lexicon: Rečnik božanstava i mitskih ličnosti sveta, Beograd 2015).

### 1.12. Additional Resources

- 1) K. ARMSTRONG, *Kratka povijest mita*, Vuković & Runjić, Zagreb, 2005.
- 2) M. BARNETT, *Bogovi i mitovi staroga svijeta: arheologija i mitologija Egipta, Grčke i Rima*, Dušević & Kršovnik, Rijeka, 2000.
- 3) J. CAMPBELL, *Moć mita: (razgovor s Bill Moyersom)*, Misli, Zagreb, 2001.
- 4) M. ELIADE, *Aspekti mita*, Zagreb, Demetra, 2004.
- 5) J. GRAY, *Mitologija Bliskog istoka*, "Otokar Keršovani", Opatija, 1987.
- 6) N. HATHAWAY, *Vodič kroz mitologiju: priručnik za bolje upoznavanje čudesnog svijeta bogova, božica, čudovišta i heroja*, Mozaik knjiga, Zagreb, 2006.
- 7) G. LEICK, *A Dictionary of Ancient Near Eastern Mythology*, London, Routledge, 1991.
- 8) G. MASSEY, *Egipatska knjiga mrtvih: misterij Amente*, CID-Nova, Zagreb, 2008.
- 9) R. MATASOVIĆ, *Kultura i književnost Hetita*, Matica hrvatska, Zagreb, 2000.
- 10) R. STORM, *Enciklopedija mitologija istoka*, Leo-commerce, Rijeka, 2002.
- 11) I. URANIĆ, *Ozirisova zemlja: egipatska mitologija i njezini odjeci na zapadu*, Školska knjiga, Zagreb, 2005.

### 1.13. Number of copies of mandatory resources relative to the number of students currently enrolled

| Title   | Number of copies | Number of students |
|---|------------------|--------------------|
| Resources are available to students in electronic form. |                  |                    |

### 1.14. Modes of quality control that ensure acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences

Discussions with students during class, class assignments, and final exam.