

AG „Jüdisch-muslimische Beziehungen im Mittelalter“ (1 SWS) LV-Nr. 839.057
1 ECTS
Module 8, 9, 10

Unterrichtssprache: Englisch

Ziel: Aufgrund literarischer, politischer und architektonischer Quellen sollen Einblicke in die jüdisch-muslimischen Beziehungen im Mittelalter im nahöstlichen Raum gewonnen werden.

Vom 12.-27.6.2019 wird Dr. Amir Mazor (Haifa University, Department of Israel Studies) über Erasmus + am Zentrum für Jüdische Kulturgeschichte zu Gast sein. Die AG bietet die Möglichkeit, die von ihm angebotenen Veranstaltungen zu jüdisch-muslimischen Beziehungen im Mittelalter als Lehrveranstaltung zu besuchen. Es handelt sich um folgende Termine:

Workshop: The Image of Moses Maimonides in Muslim and Jewish Sources

(Do 13.6.2019, 9-13 Uhr, sowie Fr 14.6.2019, 9-15 Uhr, ZJK)

In the workshop we will examine the different Muslim accounts regarding Maimonides' conversion to Islam and his apostasy, indicating the similarities between the Muslim accounts and Jewish folktales about Maimonides. The discussion, thus, will be based, on the one hand, on analysis of Arabic reports mentioned by medieval Muslim historians, and on the other hand, on medieval and early modern Jewish folktales in praise of Maimonides, prevalent among Jews in the Near East and North Africa.

The same motifs regarding Maimonides that appear in both Muslim and Jewish accounts are interpreted differently by Muslims and Jews. While in the Muslim accounts Maimonides, as a Jew, is depicted as ungrateful, malicious and treacherous, in the Jewish legends Maimonides is presented as a wily, clever and superior Jew, who mocks the Muslims. We will discuss the reasons for the different representation of Maimonides between Muslim and Jewish sources.

Vortrag: The Position of the Jews in Medieval Egypt and Syria (10th-16th centuries)

(Di 18.6.2019, 18 Uhr, Gipsabgussammlung)

The lecture examines several aspects of Jewish life in Egypt and Syria between 10th-16th centuries, i.e. during the reigns of the Fatimids (969-1171 CE), Ayyubids (1171-1250 CE) and Mamluks (1250-1517 CE). Among the aspects to be discussed are: state policy towards the Jews and their legal status; the integration of Jews into the general society; economic and demographic trends; self-government. In general, one can describe the situation of the Jews as a general decline since the end of the 12th century, almost in every aspect of Jewish life: legal, economical, demographic, intellectual and security. The deterioration in some of these aspects started in the Ayyubid period, continued during the first century of Mamluk rule, escalated even more from the mid-14th century and only in the second half of the 15th century started to recover. The worsening condition of Egyptian and Syrian Jewry derived—to a significant extent—from the strengthening of anti-*dhimmī* (Jews and Christians) Islamic zeal among the populace, as well as among the military, political and religious elite. However, this deterioration was also in large extent a result of a long period of duress, from which the populace at large suffered.

Vortrag: Medieval Jerusalem (7th – 16th centuries)

(Mi 26.6.2019, 18 Uhr, Gipsabgussammlung)

The lecture describes the history of medieval Muslim Jerusalem on a chronological axis – beginning with the time of Muhammad and the first Arab conquests in the 7th century, ending with the Ottomans' conquest of the city in the 16th century. The survey focuses on the religious, political and security position of the city. The discussed issues are as follows: the rise of the religious status of the city in end of the 7th century, with the erection of the religious monuments on the Temple Mount (the "Dome of the Rock" and al-Aqsa mosque); the decline in the status of Jerusalem from the mid 8th century, due to the move of the Islamic Caliphate from Syria to Baghdad, Iraq; the renewed rise of the position of the city in the 12th century, following the Crusaders' conquest of the Holy Land and the "Jihad" (Holy War) conducted by Saladin; the destruction of the city's fortifications by Saladin's successors; and the making of Jerusalem an important religious center by the Mamluks, during the 14th and 15th centuries.

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Prüfungsleistung: Verfassen eines Essays (ca. 3 Seiten), der die Veranstaltung zusammenfasst.