UCLouvain

Iglor1641

Aramaic Languages (Ancient Aramaic, Syriac) A

In view of the health context linked to the spread of the coronavirus, the methods of organisation and evaluation of the learning units could be adapted in different situations; these possible new methods have been - or will be - communicated by the teachers to the students.

5 credits	30.0 h	Q1 and Q2

(!)

This biannual learning unit is not being organized in 2019-2020!

Teacher(s)	Schmidt Andrea Barbara ;				
Language :	French				
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve				
Main themes	An initiation into Aramaic Languages (Ancient Aramaic, Syriac). Alternately with LGLOR1642, this course gives an overview about the main historical and geographical features of the development of Aramaic languages and writing systems in the Middle East from the 1st millennium B.C. until pre-modern times. It focus in the first semester on Syriac-Aramaic language. The course deals with the different writings. The linguistic and syntax system will be refreshed by reading various texts (biblical, historical apocryphal, poesy). The use of basic lexical tools will be explained. In the 2nd semester, the course explains the alphabet, the morphology and syntactical system of ancient Aramaic. Simple vocalised texts will be read (parts from Daniel, Esdras et Targums) by use of the basic tools. Students have to do exercises for each course in Ancient and Syriac Aramaic in preparing the reading of texts.				
Aims	At the end of the course, the student will have acquired a better knowledge of ancient Aramaic and Syriac languages and literatures. He will be able to read, translate and analyze texts of simple and average difficulty.				
	The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s) can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".				
Content	Aramaic languages belong to the Western group of Semitic languages. They cover a varied literary field in the Middle East extending from the 2nd millennium BC. up to modern times. During that longue period Aramaic evolved into different dialects: Ancient Aramaic known by inscriptions, Aramaic of the Empire (Biblical texts and Elephantine papyrus) and Jewish-Aramaic, Mandaean, Nabataean, and other dialects of Aramaic people. From the 2nd century, during the Christian era, Syriac emerged as the main Aramaic language. It developped a very rich literature and was used ibeyond Mesopotamia and Persia as far as Central Asia and India. Syriac language plays a pivotal role for Coptic and Arabic literatures (Arab-Christian and Islamic texts) on the one hand, and the Greek and Christian Caucasian literature on the other.				
	The course deals with palaeographic, morphological and grammatical structures of Ancient Aramaic (1st part of the course) and Syriac (2nd part of the course). Simple texts (biblical texts in ancient Aramaic; apocryphal amd historical texts in Syriac) will be read.				
Inline resources					
Bibliography	 cf. la documentation sur Moodle (inscription obligatoire) S. Brock et al. (ed.), The Hidden Pearl. The Syrian Orthodox Church and its Ancient Aramaic Heritage, vol. I et II, Roma 2001 J.F. Healey, Leshono Suryoyo. First Studies in Syriac, Piscataway 2005; L. Costaz, Grammaire Syriaque, Beyrouth 1952 (réimpr. 1964); J. Payne Smith, A Compendious Syriac Dictionary, Oxford 1903 (plusieurs editions online) 				
Faculty or entity in charge	GLOR				

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims		
Bachelor in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies	HORI1BA	5		•		
Minor in Oriental Studies	LORI100I	5		Q		