COURSE DETAIL

ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN RELIGIONS
Country Denmark
Host Institution University of Copenhagen
Program(s) University of Copenhagen
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Religious Studies Near East Studies
UCEAP Course Number 158
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN RELIGIONS
UCEAP Transcript Title ANCNT NEAR EAST REL
UCEAP Quarter Units 12.00
UCEAP Semester Units 8.00

Course Description

This course offers a unique opportunity to study some of the world's oldest religions in a comparative perspective. It is an interdisciplinary initiative between the disciplines of the Study of Religions, Egyptology, and Assyriology. The course is theme-oriented and each unit has both a more theoretical part along with an empirical component that focuses on texts and objects from Egypt and Mesopotamia. Themes studied include deities and concepts of the divine, mythologies, temples and sacred space, ritual leaders and other religious agents, rituals and festivals, hymns and prayers, magic, healing rituals and divination, conceptions of death and afterlife. The course also introduces the main textual sources (such as the Gilgamesh Epic, the Babylonian Epic of Creation, the Myth of Isis and Osiris, and the Book of the Dead), excerpts of which are read in English translation. The course provides a general overview of the basic theoretical debates in the history of religions, as well as a basic overview of religious beliefs and practices in ancient Egypt and ancient Mesopotamia (c. 3300 BCE – 300 CE). The empirical material in class come from the religions of the ancient Near East, but the analytical tools used are applicable on historical religions at large.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
HRVB0115EU

Host Institution Course Title
ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN RELIGIONS

Host Institution Course Details
https://kurser.ku.dk/course/hrvb0115eu/2024-2025

Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty
Humanities

Host Institution Degree
Bachelor

Host Institution Department
Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies

Course Last Reviewed
2024-2025

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