

# Between Galicia and Eretz Israel: the World of Shmuel Yosef Agnon

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## Course description:

The course aims to introduce students to the artistic world of the Nobel Prize literature Israeli writer S.Y. Agnon. The course will survey the writer's biography and the word of Jewish tradition in Galicia as reflected in Agnon's writings. Particular attention will be paid to the analysis of Agnon's literary techniques through the prism of his selected texts.

## Main topics:

1. Agnon's childhood and the notion of the ancestral home in his writings.
- 2 "Fable of the Goat" and "Separated" (*Agunot*). The main contradistinction of Agnon's works: Galicia vs. the Land of Israel.
3. Jewish tradition versus Zionism: "From Apartment to Apartment" (*Mi-dira le-dira*).
4. Agnon's biography as reflected in his Nobel speech.
5. Between European and Jewish textual culture: "A different look" (*Panim aherot*).
6. Jerusalem in the British Mandate era: "*Tehila*."
7. Between Galicia and the Land of Israel, the stories "The Light of the Torah" (*Or HaTorah*) and "Ashes of the Land of Israel" (*Afar Eretz Israel*).
8. Nostalgia for the time and place: "The Kerchief" (*Hamitpahat*)
9. Agnon's significance for the Israeli literature

**Bibliography for the course in Russian:**

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З. Копельман. **Загадка четырех вопросов: стиль Агнона и муки переводчика**.  
Лехаим, № 2 (февраль) 2011.

Е. Римон. **Мир Агнона: поэтика парадоксальных соответствий**. В кн.: Ш.Й.  
Агнон. Новеллы. М.-Иерусалим, 2006. С. 373-419.

Гершом Шолем. **Размышления о Ш.Й. Агноне**. Там же, с. 427-444.

Зоя Копельман. **Обида и замешательство верующего еврея** (Размышления о  
странных рассказах Агнона) // Иерусалимский журнал, № 10, 2002, или:  
<http://rjews.net/zoya-kopelman/articles/obida.html>

**Ш.Й. Агнон о Мартине Бубере**. Пер. и комм. Зои Копельман. В кн.: М. Бубер.  
Хасидские истории, т.2. М.-Иерусалим, 2009. С. 299-321, или:  
<http://profilib.com/chtenie/137065/shmuel-yosef-agnon-o-martine-bubere.php>

