

Woodcraft in the Ancient Near East ERP-HT 0065					
Woodcraft in the Ancient Near East					
Responsible unit (institute/department): Old Testament Department	Number of lessons per week/semester: Full-time: 2 Part-time:	Credit value: 6	Type of contact hours: seminar	Prerequisites:	Prerequisite for exam:
Lecturer in charge of the subject: Prof. Dr. Egeresy László Sándor	Type of course: elective	Recommended semester: 2026/2027. Fall term	Semester in which the course is offered: autumn	Language of instruction: English	Type of evaluation: participation: 80% + papers 20 %
Lecturer(s): Prof. Dr. Egeresy László Sándor					Method of evaluation: oral and written
Description of professional content and purpose of the course:					
The purpose of the course is to give a survey on woodcraft in the Ancient Near East, including Egypt, Ugarit, Phoenicia and ancient Israel. Special emphasis given on the Hebrew Bible, since the issue is not researched at all. .					
Short outline, description of acquired knowledge, skills and competences:					
1) intro Since the lecturer is a professional woodcarver and trained joiner we offer basics of woodcraft both in theory and practice. Basic fields of woodcraft, types of trees in the Levant, basic types of tools, recognizing and working with wood (including first steps of woodcarving!). 2) sources of scholarly research in the Levant: archaeology, texts, graves, technology and methodology in dendroarchaeology, Egyptian reliefs, texts from Ugarit, scientific terms, research fields, scholarly periodicals also examined! 3) The Hebrew Bible: - trees, - tools, - products (furniture, coach and shipmaking, musical instruments, other wooden objects) - verbs connected with woodcraft 4) what we have and what we don't in the vocabulary 5) conclusions					
Requirements during the semester and teaching methods:					
Regular visiting the course is a must, 3 short paper (max. 2 pages/Times New Roman/12) will be required.					
Compulsory sources/reading, bibliography, available sources for the acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences:					
Borowski, Oded: <i>Daily Life in Biblical Times</i>. Atlanta, GA., (SBL Press, 2003) Fráter Erzsébet: <i>A Biblia növényei</i> (Budapest: Scolar Kiadó, 2020). Fischer, Erika: Holz, Möbel, Schnitzen szócikkek a WiBiLex –ből www.wibilex.de					
Recommended additional sources/reading:					
Adrianou, D. (Ed.): <i>A Cultural History of Furniture</i> (London: Bloomsberg Academic, 2022) Liphshitz, N. és Biger, G.: Cedar of Lebanon ("Cedrus libani") in Israel during Antiquity, in: <i>IEJ</i> 41, No. 1/3 (1991), 167-175.o. Liphshitz, N. – Biger, G.: Building in Israel throught the Ages – one Cause for the Destruction of the Cedar Forests of the Near East, in: <i>GeoJournal</i> 27.4 (1992), 345-352. Mikesell, Martin W.: The Deforestation of Mount Lebanon, in: <i>The Geographical Review</i> 59 (1969), 1-28.o. Peachey, C.: Model Building in Nautical Archaeology: The Kinneret Boat, in: <i>BA</i> 53/1 (1990), 46-53.o. Yon, Marguerite: Le Mobilier d'Ougarit, in: Herrmann, Georgina (Ed.): <i>The Furniture of Western Asia Ancient and Traditional. Papers of the Conference held at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London June 28 to 30, 1993</i> (Mainz: Philipp von Zabern, 1996), 61-72. Wachsmann, S.: <i>The Sea of Galilee Boat</i>. (New York: Springer, 1995).					

Wachsmann, S.: *Understanding the Boat from the Time of Jesus*. (Tyndale House, 2015).
Zohary, M.: *Plants of the Bible: A Complete Handbook to all the Plants with 200 Full-color Plates Taken in the Natural Habitat*. (Cambridge: CUP, 1982).
Metzger, M.: *Königsthron und Gottesthron: Thronformen und Throndarstellungen in Ägypten und im Vorderen Orient im dritten und zweiten Jahrtausend vor Christus und deren Bedeutung für das Verständnis von Aussagen über den Thron im Alten Testament* (AOAT 15/1, Neukirchen-Vluyn: Neukirchener Verlag, 1985)

Max. 10 person (including students visiting from other faculties of the KRE) + Erasmus students