

WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY
Department of History, Fall 2009

JEWS IN MODERN EUROPE, 1750-1938
History 363

Prof. Erich Haberer
Lectures: M/W 10:30-11:20 am
Office: Woods 4-154
Office hrs: TBA
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Course Description: This course examines Jewish-Gentile relations in Europe from the mid-eighteenth century to 1938. Topics will include Jewish emancipation and acculturation, anti-Jewish sentiment and violence, modern racial and national ideologies, Fascist and National Socialist antisemitism, and the disemancipation of Jews in Nazi Germany that foreshadows the Holocaust. Concentrating on France, Poland, Russia, and especially Germany, particular attention will be paid to state policies and popular attitudes towards Jews, as well as Jewish responses to cultural, social and political modernization. The purpose of the course is to acquaint students with the history of Jews in Europe in order to gain a deeper understanding of the profoundly complex relationship between Jews and Gentiles that ultimately and tragically ended with the destruction of European Jewry.

Course Requirements:

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| (1) Book report of <i>The Butcher's Tale</i> by H. Walser (~ 1000 words), due Oct. 21 | = 10% |
| (2) Interpretative essay of primary sources (~2500 words), due Nov. 30 | = 30% |
| (3) Mid-Term (1 hour), October 14 | = 15% |
| (4) Participation in Class Discussion | = 15% |
| (5) Final Examination (2 hours), date TBA | = 30% |

Required Texts

Helmut W. Smith, *The Butcher's Tale. Murder and Anti-Semitism in A German Town* (2002)
Erich Haberer, ed., *History Course Reader: Jews in Modern Europe* (2009)

Other Recommended Texts

D. Vital, *A People Apart. The Jews in Europe, 1789-1939*
H. Hauman, *A History of East European Jews* (2002)
J. Efron, S. Weitzman, M. Lehmann, J. Holo, *The Jews. A History* (2009)
E. Bristow, *Prostitution and Prejudice. The Jewish Fight against White Slavery, 1870-1939* (1983)

Students with disabilities or special needs are advised to contact Laurier's Accessible Learning Office for information regarding its services and resources. Students are encouraged to review the Calendar for information regarding all services available on campus.

Wilfrid Laurier University uses software that can check for plagiarism. Students may be required to submit their written work in electronic form and have it checked for plagiarism.

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS

1 Sept. 14 **INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE**

 Sept. 16 **BEGINNINGS: the Arrival of Jews in Europe**

2. Sept. 21/23 **JEWISH-GENTILE RELATIONS IN PRE-MODERN CHRISTIAN EUROPE**

Walser Smith, *The Butcher's Tale*, 17-23, 91-133 (read entire book ASAP)

1. Discussion: What is antisemitism? How useful is the concept for understanding Gentile hostility toward Jews? (See required readings below).

Reader: Salo Baron, "Ghetto and Emancipation," pp. 515-526 (2-13); Rosemary Ruether, "Anti-Semitism and Christian Theology," pp. 79-92 and Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi, "Response to Rosemary Ruether," pp. 97-107(14-29); Richard Levy, "Jews and Non-Jews: A Sketch," pp. 11-24 (30-43); Gavin Langmuir, "Toward a Definition of Antisemitism," pp. 326-342(44-53).

3. Sept. 28/30 **THE ENLIGHTENMENT AND THE JEWS**
 - France and Germany
 - The Jewish Enlightenment (Haskalah)

Reader: Jacob Katz, *Out of the Ghetto*: "The Image of the Future," pp. 57-79 (57-72); Robert Seltzer, *Jewish People, Jewish Thought*, pp. 557-566, 580-598(73-93).

Documents: Harbingers of Political and Economic Change, 8-9 (96-97); Dohm and his Critics, 28-49(98-114); Abbé Grégoire, 49-53 (114-18); Harbingers of Cultural and Ideological Change, 54-56 (119-21); Moses Mendelssohn, 87-90 (122-25); David Friedländer, 90-91(125-26).

Supplementary

Arthur Hertzberg, *The French Enlightenment and the Jews*

Jacob Katz, *Exclusiveness and Tolerance*

Gotthold Lessing, *Nathan the Wise*

Solomon Maimon, *An Autobiography*

David Rudavsky, *Modern Jewish Religious Movements*

Alexander Altmann, *Moses Mendelssohn*

Joseph Blau, *Modern Varieties of Judaism*

Michael Meyer, *Response to Modernity. A History of the Reform Movement*

Michael Meyer, *The Origins of the Modern Jew: Jewish Identity and European Culture in Germany, 1749-1824*

Shmuel, Feiner, *The Jewish Enlightenment* (2003)

4. Oct 5/7

JEWISH EMANCIPATION IN FRANCE AND GERMANY

Reader: Simon Schwarzfuchs, "The Revolution and the Jews of France," pp. 1-21 (128-41); Werner Mosse, "From 'Schutzjuden' to 'Deutsche Staatsbürger Jüdischen Glaubens': The Long and Bumpy Road of Jewish Emancipation in Germany," pp. 59-93 (142-59).

Documents: The Process of Political Emancipation in Western Europe, 112-13 (161-62); The Emancipation of the Jews in France (1791), 118 (163); Berr Isaac Berr, "Letter of a Citizen to His Fellow Jews (1791), 118-121 (163-66); The "Infamous Decree" (1808), 139-41 (167-69); Emancipation in Prussia (March 1812), 141-43 (169-71); The Congress of Vienna: Article 16 (1815), 143 (171); North German Confederation and Jewish Emancipation (1869) and Emancipation in Bavaria (1871), 153-54 (172-73).

2. Discussion: Was Jewish emancipation in France and Germany unavoidable and, if so, why? What accounts for the different pattern of emancipation in France and Germany?

Supplementary

Pierre Birnbaum and Ira Katznelson, eds. *Paths of Emancipation*
Simon Schwarzfuchs, *Napoleon, the Jews, and the Sanhedrin*
Ernst Hamburger, "One Hundred Years of Emancipation," *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book*, XX (1975)

Reinhard Rürup, "Jewish Emancipation and Bourgeois Society," *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book*, XIV (1969): 67-91

Reinhard Rürup, "The Tortuous and Thorny Path to legal Equality: 'Jew Laws' and Emancipatory Legislation in Germany from the Late Eighteenth Century," *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book*, XXXI (1988): 3-33

Robert Liberles, "Dohm's Treaties on the Jews: A Defence of the Enlightenment," *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book*, XXXIII (1988):29-42

5. Oct. 12 THANKSGIVING

Oct. 14 MID-TERM EXAMINATION (in-class)

6. Oct. 19/21 JEWISH ACCULTURATION AND ASSIMILATION

Reader: Michael Marrus, "European Jewry and the Politics of Assimilation," pp. 5-23 (175-84); Phyllis Cohen Albert, "Ethnicity and Jewish Solidarity in 19th-Century France," pp. 249-74 (184-98); David Sorkin, "The Impact of Emancipation on German Jewry," pp. 177-98 (199-210).

Documents: Jewish Identity Challenged and Redefined, 249 (212); Heinrich Heine, 258-59 (213-14); Ludwig Boerne, 259-60 (214-15); Rahel Levin Varnhagen, 260-61(215-16);

Rosa Luxemburg, 261-62 (216-17); Eduard Bernstein, 262-65 (217-20); Walter Rathenau, 267-68 (221-22); Theodor Lessing, "Jewish Self-Hatred," 272-74 (223-25).
Memoirs: Hirsch Oppenheimer, 77-80 (227-29); Clara Geissmar, 155-62 (230-34).

Supplementary

Jonathan Frankel and Steven Zipperstein, eds., *Assimilation and Community*
Marjorie Lamberti, *Jewish Activism in Imperial Germany*
George Mosse, *German Jews beyond Judaism*
Jehuda Reinharz, *Fatherland or Promised Land*
David Sorkin, *The Transformation of German Jewry, 1980-1840*
Michael Marrus, *Politics of Assimilation*
Michael Meyer, *The Origin of the Modern Jew*
Bela Vago, ed., *Jewish Assimilation in Modern Times*
Robert Wistrich, *Socialism and the Jews. The Dilemmas of Assimilation*
William O. McCagg, *History of Habsburg Jews, 1670-1918*

7. Oct. 26/28 **JEWISH LIFE AND ANTISEMITISM**

Walser Smith, *The Butcher's Tale*, pp. 25-89, 135-84

Reader: Reinhard Rürup, "Emancipation and Crisis," pp. 13-25 (236-42); Gordon Mork, "German Nationalism and Jewish Assimilation," pp. 81-90 (244-49); Stephen Wilson, "Antisemitism and Jewish Response in France during the Dreyfus Affair," pp. 225-47 (250-61).

Documents: Political and Racial Antisemitism, 302-303 (264-65); Wilhelm Marr, "The Victory of Judaism over Germandom (1879)," 331-33 (266-68); Karl Eugen Duehring, "The Question of the Jew is a Question of Race (1881)," 333-34 (268-69); Edouard-Adolphe Drumont, "Jewish France (1886)," 339-40 (270-71); Adolf Stoecker, "What We Demand of Modern Jewry (1879)," 340-42 (271-73); Von Treitschke, "A Word About Our Jewry (1880)," 343-46 (274-77); Theodor Mommsen, "Another Word About Our Jewry (1880)," 347-50 (278-81); Theodor Fritsch, "The Racists' Decalogue (1883)," 350-51 (281-82); Emile Zola, "J'accuse (1898)," 351-56 (282-87); Houston Stewart Chamberlain, "The Foundations of the Nineteenth Century (1899)," 356-59 (287-90); "Protocols of the Elders of Zion (c. 1902)," 363-67 (291-95).

Memoirs: Conrad Rosenstein, 165-73 (297-301); Kurt Katsch, 188-97 (302-6); Johanna Harris, 211-20 (307-12); Max Daniel, 220-24 (312-14); Philipp Löwenfeld, 234-46 (315-21); Charlotte Popper, 266-70 (322-24); Arnold Tänzer, 270-79 (324-28).

3. Discussion: What explains the rise of "modern antisemitism" in the wake of Jewish emancipation and the relatively high degree of assimilation?

Supplementary

Monika Richarz, ed., *Jewish Life in Germany. Memoirs from Three Centuries*
-----, "Emancipation and Continuity: German Jews in the Rural Economy," in *Revolution and Evolution*, eds., Werner Mosse, et al, pp. 95-122

- Werner Mosse, "Jewish Entrepreneurship in Germany, 1820-1935," in *Jüdische Unternehmer in Deutschland im 19 und 20 Jahrhundert*, eds., Werner Mosse and Hans Pohl, pp. 54-66
- Avraham Barkai, "The German Jews at the Start of Industrialization: Structural Change and Mobility 1835-1860," in *Revolution and Evolution*, eds., Werner Mosse, *et al*, pp. 123-56
- Ismar Schorsch, *Jewish Reactions to German Antisemitism*
- Robert Byrnes, *Antisemitism in Modern France*
- Peter Pulzer, *The Rise of Political Anti-Semitism in Germany and Austria*
- Jacob Katz, *From Prejudice to Destruction*
- Stephen Wilson, *Ideology and Experience*
- Donald Niewyk, "Solving the 'Jewish Problem': Continuity and Change in German Antisemitism," *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book*, XXXV (1990): 335-70
- Hans Liebeschütz, "Treitschke and Mommsen on Jewry and Judaism," *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book*, VII (1962): 153-82
- Michael Meyer, "Heinrich Graetz and Heinrich von Treitschke: A Comparison of their Historical Images of the Modern Jew," *Modern Judaism*, Vol. 6, no. 1 (Feb. 1986)
- Gershom Scholem, "Jews and Germans," *Commentary*, vol. 42, no. 5 (Nov. 1966): 31-38
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Oct. 26

Book Report Due

8. Nov. 2/4 **JEWIS IN IMPERIAL RUSSIA: TSARIST JEWISH POLICY AND HASKALAH**

Reader: Michael Stanislawski, "Russian Jewry, the Russian State, and the Dynamics of Jewish Emancipation," pp. 262-83 (385-95); Hans Rogger, "The Question of Jewish Emancipation: Russia," pp. 1-24 (397-414); Erich Haberer, "*Haskalah* and the Roots of Jewish Radicalism," pp. 123-47 (415-27).

Documents: East European Jewry, 372-74 (446-48); Delineation of the Pale of Settlement, 379-80 (449-50); Judah Leib Gordon, "Awake My People (1866)," 384-85 (451-52); A Jewish Program for Russification (1841), 385 (452); Osip Rabinowich, "Russian Must be Our Mother Tongue (1861), 400 (453); Society for the Promotion of Culture among Jews: Program (1864), 401-02 (454-55); Isaac Levinsohn, "Yiddish is a Corrupt Jargon (1828)," 402-03 (455-56); Perez Smolenskin, "Hebrew - Our National Fortress (1868)," 403 (456).

Supplementary

Salo Baron, *The Russian Jews under Tsars and Soviets*
 John Klier, *Imperial Russia's Jewish Question 1855-1881*
 Michael Stanislawski, *Tsar Nicholas the First and the Jews*
 Benjamin Nathans, *Beyond the Pale*.

Heinz-Dietrich Löwe, *The Tsars and the Jews*
Hans Rogger, *Jewish Policies and Right-Wing Politics in Imperial Russia*
Erich Haberer, *Jews and Revolution in Nineteenth-Century Russia*

9. Nov. 9/11 **THE LEIDENSGESCHICHTE OF RUSSIAN JEWRY**

Reader: Erich Haberer, *Jews and Revolution*: “The Pogroms of 1881-1882,” pp. 206-29 (429-44).

Documents: Awaiting a Pogrom (1882), 408 (457); N. Tchaykovsky, “The Massacre of Jews at Kishinev (1 June 1903),” 409 (458); Haim Nahman Bialik, “The City of Slaughter (1903),” 410-114 (59-60); The Beilis Trial (1913), 412-13 (461-62).

4. Discussion: Why was emancipation not forthcoming for Russian Jews and what motivated anti-Jewish violence (Pogroms) in Imperial Russia?

Supplementary

Jonathan Frankel, *Prophecy and Politics*

Eli Lederhandler, *The Road to Modern Jewish Politics*

Ezra Mendelsohn, *Class Struggle in the Pale*

Henry Tobias, *The Jewish Bund in Russia*

Ezra Mendelsohn, ed., *Essential Papers on Jews and the Left*

John Klier and Shlomo Lambroza, eds., *Pogroms. Anti-Jewish Violence in Modern Russian History*

Michael Aronson, *Troubled Waters. The Origins of the 1881 Anti-Jewish Pogroms in Russia*

Henry Abramson, *A Prayer for the Government. Ukrainians and Jews in Revolutionary Times, 1917-1920*

10. Nov. 16/18 **JEWS IN INTERWAR POLAND**

Reader: Ezra Mendelsohn, *Zionism in Poland*: “Polish Jewry and its Political Heritage,” pp.1-17 (464-74); Ezra Mendelsohn: “A Note on Jewish Assimilation in the Polish Lands,” pp. 141-49 (474-78); “The Dilemma of Jewish Politics in Poland,” pp. 203-19 (480-88); “Interwar Poland: good for the Jews or bad for the Jews?,” pp. 130-39 (490-96).

5. Discussion: Does it make sense to explain Jewish life in interwar Poland in terms of “good or bad for Jews? What significance does Polish antisemitism assume in addressing this question?”

Supplementary

Heiko Haumann, *A History of East European Jews*

Chimen Abramsky, et. al., eds., *The Jews in Poland*

Ezra Mendelsohn, *Zionism in Poland. The Formative Years, 1915-1926*

Ezra Mendelsohn, *The Jew of East Central Europe between the World Wars*

Bela Vago and George Mosse, eds., *Jews and Non-Jews in Eastern Europe*

Joseph Rothschild, *East Central Europe between the Two World Wars*

Yisrael Gutman, et. al., eds. *The Jews of Poland Between the Two World*

Wars

Jacob Lestchinsky, "Aspects of the Sociology of Polish Jewry," *Jewish Social Studies*, 28 (Oct. 1966): 195-211

Zvi Gitelman, ed. *The Emergence of Modern Jewish Politics. Bundism and Zionism in Eastern Europe*

11. Nov. 23/25 **JEWS IN WEIMAR GERMANY: "THE OUTSIDER AS INSIDER"**

Reader: Shulamit Volkov, "The Written Matter and the Spoken Word," 33-53 (498-511)

Supplementary

Peter Gay, *Weimar Culture. The Outsider as Insider*

Donald Niewyk, *The Jews in Weimar Germany*

George Mosse, *Germans and Jews*

Peter Pulzer, *Jews and the German State. The Political History of a Minority*

12. Nov.30/Dec.2 **EMANCIPATION REVOKED: NAZI ANTI-JEWISH POLICIES TO 1938**

Walser Smith, *The Butcher's Tale*, pp. 209-16

Reader: Marjorie Lamberti, "The Jewish Defence in Germany after the National-Socialist Seizure of Power," 135-147 (512-18).

Documents: Adolf Hitler, "A Letter on the Jewish Question (1919)," "*Mein Kampf* (1923)," 636-39 (520-23); Robert Weltsch, "Wear the Yellow Badge with Pride (1933)," 640-41 (524-25); First Racial Definition (1933), 642 (526); Proclamation of the Reichsvertretung of German Jews (1933), 643-45 (527-29); Adolf Hitler, "Why the Nuremberg Laws (1935)," 645-46 (529-30)); The Nuremberg Laws (15 Sept.1935), 646-47 (530-31); A Public Opinion Survey of the Response of the Christian Population in Germany to the Nuremberg Laws, 648 (532); Public Response to the *Kristallnacht* (Dec. 1938), 654 (533); Decree for the Elimination of the Jews from German Economic Life and *Numerus Nullus* in Schools (Nov. 1938), 655 (534).

Memoirs: Edwin Landau, 306-15 (536-40); Ottilie Schönewald, 338-42 (541-43); Hans Berger, 386-97 (544-49). Suggested supplementary reading: Peter Gay, *My German Question. Growing up in Nazi Berlin* (1998).

6. Discussion: How did emancipation, acculturation, and antisemitism affect the lives of Jewish women in Germany and Eastern Europe? (See required reading below).

Reader: Marion Kaplan, "Gender and Jewish history in Imperial Germany," pp. 199-224 (330-43); Marion Kaplan, "German-Jewish Feminism in the Twentieth Century," pp. 39-53 (344-58); Edward Bristow, "Jewish Prostitution in Eastern Europe," pp. 48-84 (361-79).

Documents: Rahel Levin Varnhagen, 260-61 (215-16); Rosa Luxemburg, 261-62 216-17); Bertha Pappenheim, "The Jewish Woman (c. 1930)", 287-89 (381-83).

Memoirs: Clara Geissmar, 155-62 (230-34); Ottilie Schönwald, 338-42 (541-43).

Supplementary

Michael Meyer, *The Origins of the Modern Jew. Jewish Identity and European Culture in Germany*, pp. 85-144 ("Rationalism and Romanticism: Two Roads to Conversion")

Nov. 30

ESSAY DUE

13.

Dec. 7

REVIEW LECTURE AND EXAMINATION PREVIEW
