

Professor Lupovitch
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4429 Social Science
Office hours: M 1-2, W 10:30-11:30,
& by appointment

History 2809: Jewish History and Culture to 1492

This course will survey the history of the Jews from biblical antiquity until the Expulsion from Spain. The course will explore a wide variety of topics, but will focus around three themes: the emergence of rabbinic Judaism and the Jewish life in the diaspora out of the religious and social matrix of ancient Israelite religion and society; the challenges to the primacy of Torah Judaism by Hellenistic culture; and the disparities between Jewish life under Christianity and Islam. Although primarily a lecture course, students are strongly encouraged to participate by asking and answering questions in class. Please note: the two-hour class meeting on Monday will be divided into two sessions separated by a break.

Required Reading (available at the campus book store and are on reserve in the library):

Eli Barnavi, *A Historical Atlas of the Jewish People*
Judith Baskin, *Jewish Women in Historical Perspective*
Robert Chazan, *The Jews of Medieval Western Christendom*
William Hallo, et al, *Heritage, Civilization, and the Jews: A Source Reader* (HCJ)
Hans Lewy, Isaak Heinemann, and Alexander Altmann, *Three Jewish Philosophers: Philo, Sa'adia Gaon, and Yehuda Helevi*
Lawrence Shiffman, *From Text to Tradition*
Norman Stillman, *The Jews of Arab Lands*
Tanakh: The Holy Scriptures (JPS Edition)

Grading

You will be evaluated each semester essentially based on midterm and semester exams and a term paper. Although class participation is not required, it will be rewarded. There will be no formal class discussions, but consistent contribution in class – meaning asking and answering questions – can count as much as 20% of your final grade. Depending on your level of participation, your grade will be calculated in one of the following two ways (Yes, I will give you the benefit of the doubt):

Midterm Examination	30%
Final Examination	40%
Term-Paper (5 pages)	30%

or

Midterm Examination	25%
Final Examination	35%
Term-Paper (5 pages)	20%
Class Participation	20%

During the fall semester, the midterm examination will take place in class on October 28 and the term-paper will be due in class on November 30. During the Spring semester, the midterm examination will take place in class on February 10 and the term-paper will be due March 29. The two semester examinations will be distributed at the last scheduled class meeting each semester, and will be due one week later. **Late papers and exams will not be accepted.**

Fall Term: Ancient Israel and the Beginnings of the Diaspora

Lecture topics and reading assignments:

Sep 14 **Introduction: the Dimensions of Jewish History**

The World of the Hebrew Bible

Reading: HCJ, 1-1 – 1-12

Schiffman, 17-32

Barnavi 1-9

Baskin, ch 1

Tanakh: Genesis 12, 22; Exodus 19-24; Leviticus 19, Numbers 16,
Deuteronomy 6:1-9, 26

16 **The Tribal Confederation**

Reading: HCJ, 1-15

Barnavi, 10-13

Tanakh: Judges 18-21, I Samuel 1, 4-6, 8, 9, 12, 15

21 **The Kingdom of David and Solomon**

Reading: HCJ, 1-16, 1-17, 1-18

Barnavi, 14-19

Tanakh: II Samuel 5-7, 11-12, I Kings 3-6, 8, 10-11, Proverbs 5-6

The Divided Monarchy

Reading: HCJ, 1-19, 1-20, 1-22

Barnavi, 20-23

Tanakh: I Kings 12

23 **The Age of Prophecy**

Reading: HCJ, 1-21

Barnavi, 26-27

Tanakh: I Kings 17-19; Isaiah 6, 36-39; Hosea 1-3,; Amos 1-2

28 **Yom Kippur – no class**

30 **The Siege of Jerusalem**

Reading: HCJ, 1-23

Tanakh: I Kings 17-19; Isaiah 6, 36-39

Oct 5 **The Reforms of Josiah**

Reading: HCJ 1-24

Tanakh: II Kings 22-25, Jeremiah 1, 7, 26, Deuteronomy 22,

Exile and the Birth of Judaism

Reading: HCJ, 1-25, 2-1, 2-2, 2-3

Barnavi, 24-25

Tanakh: II Kings 21-25; Job 1-3, 38-42. Ecclesiastes 1,3; Psalm 130
Lamentations 1

7 **Ezekiel's *Merkavah* and the Beginnings of Jewish Mysticism**

Reading: Tanakh: Ezekiel 1, Genesis 5:18-23, 28:12-19, Exodus 24:9-18

I Enoch 14

12 Thanksgiving Holiday – no class

14 The Persian Diaspora (and the Story of Purim)

Reading: HCJ, 2-4, 2-5
Barnavi, 30-31
Schiffman, 33-59

19 The Return to Zion

Reading: HCJ, 2-6, 2-7
Barnavi, 28-29

The Reforms of Ezra

Reading: HCJ, 2-10, 2-11
Barnavi, 32-22

21 The Challenge of Hellenism

Reading: Schiffman, 60-71
HCJ, 52-54 2-12, 2-13
Barnavi, 34-35
I Maccabees 1-2(online)

26 The Hellenistic Diaspora

Reading: Barnavi, 36-39

The Maccabean Revolt (and the *real* Story of Hanukkah)

Reading: HCJ 2-14, 2-15
Schiffman, 72-79
Barnavi, 40--45
I Maccabees(online)
Tanakh: Daniel 7, 12

28 Mid-semester Examination

Nov

2 The Hasmonean Dynasty

Reading: Barnavi, 46-47
Schiffman, 98-103

The Reign of Herod

Reading: Barnavi, 48-51
Schiffman, 139-149

4 Jewish Sects: Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes

Reading: HCJ, 2-17

9 The Zealots

Reading:

The Great Revolt

Reading: HCJ, 2-16
Barnavi, 56-57
Schiffman, 157-171

11 Masada

Reading: H CJ, 3-1
Schiffman, 171-176

16 The Jews of Rome

Reading: H CJ, 2-19

The Bar Kochba Revolt and the End of the Zealot Tradition

Reading: Barnavi, 60-61

18 Philo and the Jews of Alexandria

Reading: H CJ, 3-3

Baskin, ch 2

Schiffman, 94-96

Three Jewish Philosophers, Part I

23 The Life of Jesus

Reading: H CJ, 2-18, 3-5

Barnavi, 54-55

Schiffman, 149-156

Paul and the Great Schism

Reading: Galatians, 1-3

25 The Rise of Rabbinic Judaism

Reading: H CJ, 3-4

Barnavi, 58-59, 62-63

Schiffman, 177-200

30 Religio Licita

Reading: H CJ, 3-8, 3-9

Schiffman, 201-213

The Limits of Christian Toleration

Reading: H CJ, 3-6, 3-7

Barnavi, 68-69

Term Paper Due

Dec

2 The Jews of Babylonia

Reading: Barnavi, 64-67

7 The Mind of the Rabbis

Reading: Baskin, ch 3

Barnavi, 72-73

Schiffman, 200-264

9 On the Eve of the Muslim Conquest

Reading: Barnavi, 70-71

Winter Term: Under Cross and Crescent

Lecture Topics and Reading Assignments:

- Jan **4 Muhammed and the Jews**
 Reading: HCJ, 3-10
 Barnavi, 74-75
 Stillman, 3-22, 113-151
- The Dhimmi**
 Reading: HCJ, 3-11
 Barnavi, 76-77, 80-85
 Stillman, 22-39, 152-170
- 6 Exilarch and Gaon**
 Reading: HCJ, 3-12, 3-13
 Barnavi, 86-87, 90-93
 Stillman, 171-182
- 11 Saadia Gaon**
 Reading: HCJ 3-14
 Three Jewish Philosophers, Part II
- The Karaite Schism**
 Reading: HCJ, 3-15
 Barnavi, 88-89
- 13 Convivencia: The Jews of Muslim Spain**
 Reading: Barnavi, 94-95
 Stillman, 40-61, 183-209
 Abraham Ibn Daud, "The Legend of the Four Captives" (on reserve)
- 18 Hasdai Ibn Shaprut**
 Reading: HCJ, 4-1, 4-2
 Samuel Ibn Nagrela: "I am David in my Generation"
 Reading: HCJ, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5
 Stillman, 211-225
- 20 The Ibn Ezra Family**
 Reading: HCJ, 4-6
 Barnavi, 100-101
- 25 Maimonides I: Talmudic Scholar and Philosopher**
 Reading: HCJ, 4-8
 Barnavi, 102-103
 Maimonides: Communal Leader and Apologist
 Reading: HCJ, 4-9
 Stillman, 233-248
- 27 Yehuda Halevi**
 Reading: HCJ, 4-7
 Stillman, 249-254

Three Jewish Philosophers, Part III

Feb **1 Ashekenazic Jews from Charlemagne to the First Crusade**

Reading: HCJ, 3-16, 4-10

Baskin, ch 4

Barnavi, 78-79

Chazan, ch 1

Rashi and His School

Reading: Chazan ch 3-4

3 The Crusades

Reading: HCJ, 4-11, 4-12

Barnavi, 108-109

8 The Pietists of Ashekanaz

Reading: Barnavi, 98-99

Chazan, ch 5

The Tosafists

Reading: HCJ, 4-17

10 Midterm Examination

15-19 Reading Week – no class

22 *Servi Camarae Nostrum* (“Servants of the Chamber”)

Reading: Barnavi, 104-105

The Medieval Jewish Community

Reading: Chazan, ch 6

24 Maimonidean Controversy

Reading: HCJ, 4-18

Mar **1 The Fourth Lateran Council**

Reading:

The Mendicant Friars and the Attack on the Talmud

Reading: Barnavi, 106-107

Chazan, ch 2

3 The Jew in the Christian Popular Imagination

Reading: HCJ, 4-14

8 The Age of Expulsions

Reading: Chazan ch 7

The Black Plague

Reading: HCJ, 4-16

Barnavi, 110-111

10 Emerging Centers: Poland and the Ottoman Empire

Reading: Barnavi, 116-119

15 Reconquista: the Jews of Christian Spain

Reading:

The Aljama

Reading:

17 Nachmanides and the Kabbalists

Reading:

22 The Disputation of Barcelona

Reading: HCJ, 4-15

Las Siete Partidas

Reading: *Las Siete Partidas*(online)

24 1391

Reading: HCJ, 4-19

Barnavi, 114-115

29 The Converso Problem

Reading: HCJ, 4-20

Limpieza de Sangre

Term-Paper Due

31 Passover – no class

Apr

5 The Inquisition

Reading: TBA

Don Isaac Abravabel: the Last Courtier

Reading: TBA

7 1492

Reading: HCJ, 4-21

Barnavi, 120-121

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN ONTARIO
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
PLAGIARISM

In writing scholarly papers, you must keep firmly in mind the need to avoid plagiarism. Plagiarism is the unacknowledged borrowing of another writer's words or ideas. Different forms of writing require different types of acknowledgement. The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number.

Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

Adopted by the Council of the Faculty of Social Science, October, 1970.
Revised after consultation with Department of History, August 13, 1991

General Information

If, on medical or compassionate grounds, you are unable to meet your academic responsibilities, i.e., unable to write term tests or final examinations or complete course work by the due date, you should follow the instructions listed below. You should understand that academic accommodation will not be granted automatically on request. You must demonstrate that there are compelling medical or compassionate grounds that can be documented before academic accommodation will be considered. Read the instructions carefully. In all cases, action must be taken at the earliest possible opportunity, preferably prior to the scheduled examination, test or assignment.

1. Check the course outline to see if the instructor has a policy for missed tests, examinations, late assignments or attendance. The course outline should include the preferred method of contact (e-mail, phone, etc.).
1. Inform the instructor prior to the date of the scheduled time of the test or examination or due date of the assignment. If you are unable to contact the instructor, leave a message for him/her at the department office.
2. Bring your request for accommodation to the Academic Counselling Office, Room 2105, Social Science Centre, telephone 519 661-2011 or fax 519 661-3384. Be prepared to submit documentation of your difficulties.
3. If you decide to write a test or an examination you should be prepared to accept the mark you earn. Rewriting tests or examinations or having the value of the test or examination reweighted on a retroactive basis is not permitted.

TERM TESTS and MID-TERM EXAMS

1. If you are unable to write a term test, inform your instructor (preferably prior to the scheduled date of the test). If the instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office.
2. Be prepared, if requested by the instructor, to provide supporting documentation (see below for information on acceptable forms or documentation). Submit your documentation to the Academic Counselling Office.
3. Make arrangements with your professor to reschedule the test.
4. The Academic Counselling Office will contact your instructor to confirm your documentation.

FINAL EXAMINATIONS

1. You require the permission of the Dean, the instructor, and the Chair of the department in question to write a special final examination.

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2. If you are unable to write a final examination, contact the Academic Counselling Office in the first instance to request permission to write a special final examination and to obtain the necessary form. You must also contact your instructor at this time. If your instructor is not available, leave a message for him/her at the department office.