

Jews in the Modern World
Stanford University
Spring 2006
TuTh 11
Office hours: Tuesdays 9-10:30
History Corner, rm. 11
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An examination of Jews over the course of 300 years, beginning in the 18th century and covering the full expanse of Jewish life, mores, ideologies, and experiences to the present. How Jews saw, and redefined their identities, how they confronted modernity, the impact of gender, how they integrated modernity's challenges in Europe, America, Palestine, eventually in Israel, and elsewhere, the impact of powerlessness and eventual state power.

For general background reading: See the articles on "Judaism" in Macmillan's Encyclopedia of Religion.

A course reader will be made available at the first meeting of class; otherwise all books can be purchased at the Stanford Bookstore. Requirements: In-class midterm exam; a final take-home exam; 8-10-page book review of a book on some aspect of modern Jewish history and not on the course syllabus. Book review titles must be approved by Professor Zipperstein, and appointments will be set to discuss them.

Required books:

Lloyd Gartner, *History of the Jews in Modern Times*
Paul Mendes Flohr and Jehuda Reinharz, *The Jews in the Modern World*
Judith R. Baskin, *Jewish Women in Historical Perspective*
Steven Zipperstein, *The Jews of Odessa*
Art Spiegelman, *Maus*
Amos Oz, *A Tale of Love and Darkness*

1. First class session – discussion of syllabus, requirements, etc. (4/4)
2. "Traditional Judaism, Orthodox Judaism" (4/6)
Gartner, pp. 2-60; Chava Weissler, "Prayers in Yiddish and the Religious World of Ashkenazic Women," in Baskin, pp. 159-81; Gershom Scholem, "The Star of David: History of a Symbol," Course Reader.
3. Absolutism, Mercantilism, Messianism, and Enlightenment (4/11)
Gartner, pp. 61-127; Mendes Flohr, pp. 10-53.
- no class – Passover (4/13)
4. Moses Mendelssohn (4/18)
Gartner, pp. 128-61; Deborah Hertz, "Emancipation through intermarriage in Old Berlin," Baskin, pp. 182-201; Mendes-Flohr, pp. 57-111; Michael Meyer, "The Origins of the Modern Jew," Course Reader.
4. Hasidism and its Enemies: The Culture of East European Jewry (4/20)
Arthur Green, pp. 23-62, Course Reader
5. The Russian Government and the Jews (4/25)
Gartner, pp. 162-212; Michael Stanislawski, *Tsar Nicholas I and the Jews*, pp. 3-48, Course Reader
6. Jewish Life in the Russian Pale of Settlement (4/27)

Zipperstein, *The Jews of Odessa*, 1-40, 96-150.

7. Jewish Life in Western and Central Europe – France, England, and Germany (5/2)

Michael Burns, "Majority Faith: Dreyfus Before the Affair," Malino and Sorkin, eds., *From East to West*, pp. 57-82, Course Reader.

8. Reform and Orthodox Judaism (5/4)

Marion Kaplan, "Tradition and Transition: Jewish Women in Imperial Germany," in Baskin, pp. 202-21; Mendes-Flohr, pp. 161-206; Isaac Deutscher, "The Non-Jewish Jew," in *The Non-Jewish Jew and Other Essays*, pp. 25-41, Course Reader.

9. Midterm (5/9)

10. Palestine, and the Ottoman Empire (5/11)

Anita Shapira, *Land and Power*, pp. 83-126, Course Reader; Mendes-Flohr, pp. 532-85.

11. Jews in America, 1880-1920s (5/16)

Hyman, "Gender and the Immigrant Experience in the United States," Baskin, pp. 222-43; Hutchins Hapgood, "The Spirit of the Ghetto," pp. 1-70, Course Reader.

12. Antisemitism (5/18)

Mendes Flohr, pp. 268-99; Franz Kafka, "The Metamorphosis," Course Reader

13. Post-Liberal Ideologies in Russian Jewry (5/23)

Gartner, pp. 213-66; Hans Rogger, *Jewish Policies and Right-Wing Politics in Imperial Russia*, pp. 25-39 Course Reader; Lucy Dawidowicz, *The Golden Tradition*, pp. 405-48, Course Reader; Lloyd Gartner, "Jewish Migrants en Route From Europe to North America," Moses Rischin, ed., *The Jews of North America*, pp. 25-43, Course Reader

14. Jews in Poland and the Soviet Union in the 1920s and '30s (5/25)

Gartner, pp. 267-318; Lucy Dawidowicz, *From That Time and Place*, pp. 51-119, Course Reader.

Film: "Image Before My Eyes," time and place to be announced.

15. The Holocaust (5/30)

Gartner, pp. 319-95; Spiegelman, *Maus*

16. In-class discussion of *Oz, A Tale of Love and Darkness* (6/6)

Date to be announced: Review for final examination over dinner at Professor Zipperstein's home, 1078 Pine St., Menlo Park.