A History of Antisemitism  
Fall 2018

Dr. Katherine Aron-Beller  
School for Overseas Students, Tel Aviv University  
Kathybeller8@gmail.com

An analysis of articulated hatred toward Jews as a historical force. After treating precursors in the pagan world of antiquity and in classical Christian doctrine, the course will focus on the modern phenomenon crystallizing in 19th-century Europe and reaching its lethal extreme in Nazi ideology, propaganda, and policy. Expressions in the U.S. and in the Arab world, as well as Jewish reactions to antisemitism, will also be studied.

Course Outline

1. **Monday October 15th**: Antisemitism – the oldest hatred


2. **Wednesday October 17th**: Jews as Christ Killers – the deepest accusation


   John Chrysostom, *Discourses Against Judaizing Christians*, Homily 1 at:  
   www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/chrysostom-jews6.html


3. **Monday October 22nd**: The Crusades: The First Massacre of the Jews

   Soloman bar Samson: The Crusaders in Mainz, May 27, 1096 at:  
   www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1096jews-mainz.html


4. Wednesday October 24th: **Jews and the Devil: the beginnings of Ritual Murder**


5. Monday October 29th:Simon of Trent and Martin Luther

Martin Luther, selections from "On the Jews and Their Lies," at:

http://www.humanitas-international.org/showcase/chronography/documents/luther-jews.htm

Simon of Trent texts


7. Monday November 5th: **Shylock: Hath not a Jew eyes? Antisemitism on Stage**

William Shakespeare’s *The Merchant of Venice*.


8. Wednesday November 7th: **The Change from Anti-Judaism to Antisemitism : Our Modern World**
The Jew in the Modern World, Dohm 28-36, Michaelis 42-44, French National Assembly, 114-8; Berr 118-21, Napolean, 123-26, Jewish Notables, 128-33,


9. Wednesday November 14th: Nationalism and its Resulting Xenophobia


Dohm, Michaelis, Abbe Gregoire, Bauer, Marx from The Jew in the Modern World, pp. 27-34, 36-38, 262-68.


10. Monday November 19th: The Eastern Flavor: Russian Antisemitism


Antisemitism in the Modern World 113-44.

11. Wednesday November 21st: REVISION FOR MIDTERM

12. Monday 26th November: MIDTERM (this exam will consist of short primary sources that you will be expected to analyze).

13. Wednesday November 28th: The French Version: Antisemitism in France

Levy, Antisemitism in the Modern World: An Anthology of Texts pp. 104-12, 224-34

Jacob Katz, From Prejudice to Destruction. pp107-118, 292-300


14. **Monday December 3rd**: **Hitler and Nazism**


Levy, *Antisemitism in the Modern World: An Anthology of Texts*, pp. 97-103,

Mein Kampf. The whole work is available to read on the internet

[http://www.hitler.org/writings/Mein_Kampf/](http://www.hitler.org/writings/Mein_Kampf/)


Jacob Katz, “Was the Holocaust Predictable?” *Commentary* 59 (May 1975), 41- 48

15. **Wednesday December 5th**: **Anti-semitism in Poland: A comparison with Germany.**


17. **Monday December 10th**: **The Pamphlet Version: The Protocols and World Conspiracy**


18. Wednesday December 12th: **Antisemitism in America**


http://www.memri.org/antisemitism.html

(Read through at least two of the documents)


20. Wednesday December 19th: Conclusions: **Antisemitism, the Modern Papacy and the Internet**

1965 Nostra Aetate from Vatican II to be read on the internet at

1998 document “We Remember: A Reflection on the Holocaust.”

a) www.Jewwatch.com
b) Institute for Historical Review: Holocaust Denial
   http://www.ihr.org/index.html
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR MY COURSES

1. I expect you to attend all lectures. I do not always take a class register but I have a good visual memory and know if you come/don’t come to class.

2. Make every effort to come on time. In fact, come early and then you’ll be sure you’re on time. It’s very distracting to have students wandering into class late.

3. I like to meet everyone in my courses. If I haven’t already met you, please introduce yourself.

Requirements for the Course:

1. Regular Attendance and Participation in lectures (10% of final grade)
2. MIDTERM (40% of final grade).
3. final paper, which must be completed by all students (50% of final grade).

This final paper (10–12 pages) will analyze a primary text or an issue of dispute among historians, the topic to be chosen by the student from a list to be distributed or in consultation with the instructor.