A History of Antisemitism  
Spring 2019

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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 February 25th: Antisemitism – the oldest hatred


2. Wednesday February 27th: Jews as Christ Killers – the deepest accusation


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


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


4. Wednesday March 6th: Jews and the Devil: the beginnings of Ritual Murder


5. **Monday March 11th**: Simon of Trent and Martin Luther


Simon of Trent texts


7. **Monday March 18th**: Shylock: Hath not a Jew eyes? Antisemitism on Stage

William Shakespeare’s *The Merchant of Venice*.


8. **Wednesday 20th March**: 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 March 25th: Nationalism and its Resulting Xenophobia


10. Wednesday March 27th: The Eastern Flavor: Russian Antisemitism


*Antisemitism in the Modern World* 113-44.

11. Monday April 1st: REVISION FOR MIDTERM

12. Wednesday April 3rd: MIDTERM (this exam will consist of short primary sources that you will be expected to analyze).


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. Wednesday April 10th: Hitler and Nazism

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

http://www.hitler.org/writings/Mein_Kampf/


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

15. **Monday April 29th**: Screening of film Terra Filmkunst’s “*Jud Suss*” or Fritz Hippler *The Eternal Jew* (1940) followed by discussion.

To read about this films go to:

http://www.holocaustresearchproject.org/holoprelude/judsuss.html

Fritz Hippler, *The Eternal Jew* (1940):

Discussion to follow

16. **Wednesday May 1st**: Anti-semitism in Poland: A comparison with Germany.


17. **Monday May 6th**: The Pamphlet Version: The Protocols and World Conspiracy


18. Monday May 13th: Antisemitism in America


Discussion of contemporary issues, based on internet sites:

Jewwatch.com

Institute for Historical Review: Holocaust Denial [http://www.ihr.org/index.html](http://www.ihr.org/index.html)

http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

Anti Defamation League fighting antisemitism [www.adl.org](http://www.adl.org)


[http://www.memri.org/antisemitism.html](http://www.memri.org/antisemitism.html)

(Read through at least two of the documents)


David Matas *Aftershock: Anti-zionism and Anti-semitism* (Dundurn, 2005) 30-87.


20. Monday 20th May: Papal anti-Judaism and anti-Semitism: Recent Progress and the Self Hating Jew


22. Wednesday May 22nd: Conclusions: Antisemitism and the Internet

a) www.Jewwatch.com
b) Institute for Historical Review: Holocaust Denial http://www.ihr.org/index.html
c) http://en.metapedia.org/wiki/Main_Page
d) www.stormfront.org
e) Anti Defamation League fighting anti-semitism at www.adl.org

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR MY COURSES

1. I expect you to attend all lectures. I do not take 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.