

HEBR1003  
Survey of Jewish history and culture, 1000 to 1800  
January-March 2010  
Kim Wünschmann  
Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies, UCL

\*\*\*\*dates of assignments may be subject to change\*\*\*\*

Wednesdays, 1100-1300

Fridays, 0900-1100

tentative schedule:

Wednesday 13 January 2010: introductions; the Jewish minority in Central Europe; Ashkenaz; Rashi; Sepharad; economic life

Friday 15 January 2010: Crusades; martyrdom; the Western Church and the Jews; the Inquisition; disputations

Wednesday 20 January 2010: changes and patterns in antisemitism; heresy-hunting; the Dominicans and Franciscans; the "Blood Libel"; charges in England

Friday 22 January 2010: the Black Death; expulsions; Jews and Islam; consequences of the Muslim conquest; the Cairo Genizah; Jewry under Islam; Maimonides

Wednesday 27 January 2010: Jewish decline and renewal in Muslim lands; 1492 and afterwards; Conversos and Spain; Jews and the New World; Jewry in eastward movement; Jewry in Britain

First paper due (given to the departmental office) before the beginning of class (27 January 2009): From the perspective of both Jewish and Christian participants, discuss what each side sought to achieve with the public disputations. Your essay must include two references each to at least three different sources in the bibliography.

Friday 29 January 2010: Conversos and the seeds of doubt; Uriel da Costa; Spinoza and Biblical criticism; the Jews come to Poland; political, economic and religious tension

Wednesday 3 February 2010: inner life and "Golden Age" of Polish Jewry: self-government and education; women and Jewish prayer; rabbinics; Jewish mysticism; mystical messianism

Friday 5 February 2010: the Reformation and the Jews; Martin Luther; realities and myths of Yiddish; Jewish bandits

Wednesday 10 February 2010: Shabbati Zvi; Frankism and Donmeh; BESHT and Hasidism; the Vilna Gaon; Tsadikism

Second paper due (given to the departmental office) before the beginning of class (10 February 2010): Before the modern period, Jewry is said to have experienced a "Golden Age" in both Spain and Poland. Analyse critically the prominent features of either of these respective epochs. Your essay must include two references each to at least three different sources in the bibliography.

Friday 12 February 2010: the Enlightenment and its underside; Gotthold Ephraim Lessing and the Aufklärung; Moses Mendelssohn; Dohm's plan; Joseph II's Edict of Toleration; the price and promise of emancipation

Final paper due 24 February 2010: Select either A or B or C:

- A. Discuss the Jewish responses to Sabbatai Sevi's Messianic claim
- B. Discuss the ways that the Hasidic movement developed, historically, and spread its concept of Judaism.
- C. Discuss the ways in which Moses Mendelssohn sought to bring Enlightenment to Jewry.

Your essay must include at least two references each to at least three different sources in the bibliography.

Please use the books and articles listed in the bibliography. Should you find other sources you believe may be helpful please check with the instructor.

Bibliography:

Outdated but helpful "classics" which should be used with more recent scholarship:

Israel Abrahams, *Jewish Life in the Middle Ages*

Yitzhak Baer, *A History of the Jews in Christian Spain*

Yitzhak Baer, *Galut*

S. Dubnov, *History of the Jews in Russia and Poland*

Louis Finkelstein, *Jewish Self-Government in the Middle Ages*

H. Graetz, *Popular History of the Jews*

Cecil Roth, *History of the Jews in England*

General:

Amos Funkenstein, *Perceptions of Jewish History* (especially pages 169-219)

Jonathan Israel, *European Jewry in the Age of Merchantilism*

Robert Seltzer, *Jewish People, Jewish Thought*

Haim H. Ben-Sassoon, ed., *A History of the Jewish People*

\*\*\*\*\*Jacob R. Marcus, ed., *The Jew in the Medieval World: A Source Book: 315-1791* (specific assignments will be made from the most recent edition of this book edited by Marc Sapperstein).

Jacob Katz, *Exclusiveness and Tolerance: Studies in Jewish-Gentile Relations in Medieval and Modern Times*

Mark R. Cohen, *Under Crescent and Cross: The Jews in the Middle Ages*

Michael Graetz and Mordechai Breuer, *German Jewish History in Modern Times*  
(volume 1): *Tradition and Enlightenment 1600-1780* (ed. Michael Meyer)

Hyam Maccoby, *Judaism on Trial: A Pariah People*

David Nirenberg, *Communities of Violence: Persecution of Minorities in the Middle Ages*

Moses Shulvass, *The History of the Jewish People: Early Middle Ages*

Moses Shulvass, *The History of the Jewish People: Late Middle Ages*

Kenneth Stow, *Alienated Minority: The Jews of Medieval Latin Europe*

Spain and Western Europe

Jane Gerber, *The Jews of Spain*

Robert Chazan, ed., *Church, State and Jew in the Middle Ages*

Robert Chazan, *Daggers of Faith: Thirteenth Century Christian Missionizing and Jewish Response*

Robert Chazan, *Barcelona and Beyond: The Disputation of 1263 and Its Aftermath*

Jeremy Cohen, *The Friars and the Jews*

William Jordan, *Ideology and Royal Power in Medieval France: Kingship, Crusades and the Jews*

Britain

Bernard Glassman, *Antisemitic Stereotypes without Jews: Images of the Jews in England, 1290-1700*

David Katz, *The Jews in the History of England*

James Shapiro, *Shakespeare and the Jews*

Poland

Edward Fram, *Ideals Face Reality: Jewish Law and Life in Poland, 1550-1655*

Iwo Pogonowski, Richard Pipes, eds., *Jews in Poland: A Documentary History*

Salo Baron, *Social and Religious History of the Jews*, vol. 16: Late Middle

Ages and Era of European Expansion (1200-1650)

M.J. Rosman, *The Lord's Jews*

Antony Polonsky, Jakub Basista, Andrzej Link-Lenczowski,  
eds., *The Jews in Old Poland, 1000-1795*

Hillel Levine, *Economic Origins of Antisemitism: Poland and  
Its Jews in the Early Modern Period*

Moses Shulvass, *From East to West*

*Polin* (journal)

Mysticism and Messianism

Gershom Scholem, *Major Trends in Jewish Mysticism*

Gershom Scholem, *Sabbatai Sevi: The Mystical Messiah*

Moshe Idel, *Kabbalah: New Perspectives*

Moshe Idel, *Messianic Mystics*

Joseph Dan, *Jewish Mysticism in the High Middle Ages*

Hasidism and its Opponents

Moshe Rosman, *Founder of Hasidism: A Quest for the  
Historical Ba'Al Shem Tov*

Ada Rapoport-Albert, ed., *Hasidism Reappraised*

Elijah Judah Schocket and George Kranzler, *The Hasidic  
Movement and the Gaon of Vilna*

Allan Nadler, *Faith of the Mithnagdim: The Rabbinic  
Responses to Rapture*

Toward Modernity in Central Europe

Jacob Katz, *Out of the Ghetto*

Michael Meyer, *The Origins of the Modern Jew*

Alexander Altmann, *Moses Mendelssohn*

David Sorkin, *Moses Mendelssohn and the Religious Enlightenment*

Jehudah Reinharz and Paul Mendes-Flohr, eds., *The Jew in the Modern World*

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GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR ESSAYS

No handwritten work is acceptable. Essays must be typed or word-processed, double-spaced and proof-read, with approximately 250 words per page. Essays should be approximately 2000 words; the absolute maximum is 2500 words. ALL ESSAYS SHOULD FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES OF THE DEPARTMENTAL STYLE SHEET FOR ESSAY WRITING: THE HOW TO... GUIDE, WITH ONE IMPORTANT ADDITION: PLEASE INDICATE THE PUBLISHER, AS WELL AS THE PLACE OF PUBLICATION, IN YOUR CITATION.

Be particularly careful if you cite sources from the internet. You must print out--and keep in hard copy--all material you use from the internet.

Evaluation of your essays will focus first on the breadth and depth of the historical analysis and the cogency of the interpretation. Your essay must demonstrate a careful reading of the relevant portions of books. In addition, the quality of the English prose is an important factor in the determination of the mark. Papers should be written in formal, grammatical English. Sentence fragments, spelling mistakes, typographical errors, misplaced modifiers, faulty punctuation, contractions, and colloquialisms (among other errors) all distract and confuse the reader. Consequently, papers containing an excessive number of these mistakes--more than two per page--will be graded down. All quotations and paraphrases from the works of others must be cited appropriately, using formal footnotes or endnotes. You must be consistent with whatever form you use. It is strongly encouraged to concentrate on the texts listed above rather than consulting outside books. Failure to cite sources constitutes plagiarism, a serious infraction of university rules.

You are strongly encouraged to read your paper, either to yourself or a companion, out loud. It is imperative that your paper be carefully proof-read before turning it in. Please make sure that your printer prints dark enough.

ALWAYS "SAVE" FREQUENTLY AND KEEP A HARD COPY OF THE PAPER FOR YOURSELF. You also are required to keep copies of all notes related to your work.