



HISTORY 334C
(JNE 334C / Rel St 334C)

HISTORY OF THE JEWS IN CHRISTIAN EUROPE TO 1789

Fall 2006
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Office Hours: Thurs, 2-3:45 pm

Course Description

This course will investigate some of the major themes in the history of the Jews in Europe, from the high middle ages to the eve of the French Revolution. Jews constituted a classic, nearly continuous minority in the premodern Christian world, and one of the purposes of the course is to examine the ways in which the Jewish community interacted with and experienced European societies, cultures, and politics. We will look at the dynamics of boundary formation and cultural distinctiveness; the limits of religious and social tolerance; the nature and contexts of persecution; and the prospects for Jewish

integration to post-Enlightenment Europe. The course will also highlight the particular historical experiences, cultural and religious developments, and communal patterns of the Jews during this time.

Course Requirements

Week to week: My expectation is that you will complete all reading assignments, attend class meetings, and participate as much as possible in discussion. (20 percent)

Exams: A mid-term exam, to be given on Thursday, **October 19**. (25 percent)
and

A final exam, which will be given on Tuesday, **December 19**, from 1 to 3 pm. (30 percent)

Papers: An eight-to-ten page, interpretive essay on a topic of your choosing. Not a full-fludged research paper, but an essay that poses and seeks to answer an historical question or problem. You will need to do some outside reading for this assignment, but I do not expect a research bibliography. What you will need to include in your paper is a careful analysis of at least one *primary source*, which should help elucidate the “problem” that you are investigating, or around which you are constructing an argument. I encourage all students to talk with me about their ideas for the paper. Due date: Thursday, **November 16**. (25 percent)

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Please Note: If you are taking this course "Pass/Fail," the minimum grade required for a Pass is C.

Office Hours, Telesis, and ERes

I will be holding regular office hours on Thursdays from 2 to about 3:45. Please feel free to come by and talk. If these times are not workable, you can always make an appointment to see me (hkieval@wustl.edu). I hope to speak with everyone in the class at least once before you choose a paper topic.

You will be able to access the course through Telesis, where I will post the syllabus, various handouts, visual supplements, and links to websites of interest. I will also post emails to the class from time to time.

All required reading that is not available for purchase has been deposited with Olin Library Reserve and can be viewed and downloaded from their ERes service. The password for this course is “Rashi.”

Finally, books that have been ordered at the Campus Book Store can also be found at various websites, such as amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com.

Course Evaluations

All enrolled students are requested to fill out online course evaluations before the end of the semester. To do this, please go to the following website: <http://evals.wustl.edu>.

Calendar and Reading Assignments

1. Introduction: Christian Europe in the High Middle Ages (Aug 31)
2. Jewish Society in Christian Europe: The Ideology, Structures, and Limits of Toleration. (Sept 5, 7)

Readings: Leonard Glick, Abraham's Heirs, 1-90.
Documents: *HarperCollins Study Bible*, Romans 2.17-4.19, 9.1-11.36. (Eres)
Augustine, *City of God*, Bk. XVIII, ch. 46; Bk. XX, ch. 29. (Eres)
“Pope Gregory I on the Jews,” in: *Heritage: Source Reader*, 80-82.
(Eres)
Chazan, ed., *Church, State, and Jew in the Middle Ages*, 57-66. (Eres)
3. Ruptures of the Status Quo: Crusade, Martyrdom, and Collective Memory (Sept 12, 14)

Readings: Glick, Abraham's Heirs, 91-129.
Jeremy Cohen, Sanctifying the Name of God, 1-69.
Documents: Cohen, Sanctifying the Name of God, 73-129 (130-158, recommended).
4. Coexistence, Cultural Exchange, and Debate: France and Germany in the 12th and 13th Centuries. (Sept 19, 21)

Readings: Glick, Abraham's Heirs, 130-177.
Jan Ziolkowski, “Put in a No-Man’s Land,” in: Jews and Christians in Twelfth-Century Europe, 110-122. (Eres)
Michael Signer, “God’s Love for Israel,” in: Jews and Christians in Twelfth-Century Europe, 123-149. (Eres)
Documents: B. Smalley, *The Study of the Bible in the Middle Ages*, 156-165.
(Eres)
Rabbi Samuel ben Meir’s Commentary on Genesis, 28-33, 359-363. (Eres)
5. Women, Children, and Jewish Family Life in Medieval Europe. (Sept 26, 28)

- Readings: Elisheva Baumgarten, Mothers and Children, 21-91, 154-189. (Eres)
6. Rupture and Conflict, II: Accusations of Host Desecration and Jewish “Ritual Murder”; Forced Disputations; and Mass Conversions (1144-1416). (Oct 3, 5, and 10)

Readings: Glick, Abraham's Heirs, 178-274.

Miri Rubin, Gentile Tales, 7-131.

Documents: Rubin, Gentile Tales, *inter alia*, and 132-189, 196-198.

7. Spanish Expulsion. (Oct 12, 17)

Readings: Norman Roth, Conversos, Inquisition, and the Expulsion of the Jews from Spain, 48-116, 203-316.

Documents: Edict of Expulsion (<http://sephardicstudies.org/decree.html>).

Mid-Term Exam. (Thurs, Oct 19)

8. Renaissance, Humanism, and Reformation. (Oct 24, 26)

Readings: Euan Cameron, “The Power of the Word,” in Early Modern Europe: An Oxford History, 63-101. (Eres)

Heiko Oberman, “Three Sixteenth-Century Attitudes Toward Judaism” and “Reuchlin and the Jews,” in: The Impact of the Reformation, 81-121, 141-170. (Eres)

Documents: Johann Pfefferkorn, “The Confession of the Jews” and Johan Reuchlin, “Report about the Books of the Jews,” in: Erika Rummel, The Case against Johann Reuchlin, 69-97. (Eres)

Martin Luther, “On the Jews and their Lies” [excerpts or full version]

(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/luther-jews.html>;

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/1543-Luther-JewsandLies-full.html>)

9. Messianic Upheaval in the Jewish World. (Oct. 31, Nov 2)

Readings: Matt Goldish, The Sabbatean Prophets, 41-170.

10. Emergence and Growth of the East European Jewish Center: Early Modern Poland-Lithuania. (Nov 7, 9)

Readings: Gershon Hundert, Jews in Poland-Lithuania, 1-118.

11. East-European Hasidism. (Nov 14, 16)

Readings: Hundert, Jews in Poland-Lithuania, 119-210.

- Documents: Solomon Maimon: An Autobiography, pp. 132-137; 151-186.
(Eres)
12. Implications of Enlightenment: A New Dawn? (Nov 21)
- Reading: Norman Hampson, "The Enlightenment," in Early Modern Europe, 265-297. (Eres)
Documents: Solomon Maimon: An Autobiography, pp. 187-289 [??]
13. To the French Revolution? Jews and the State in the Eighteenth Century (Nov 28, 30, Dec 5)
- Readings: Jacob Katz, Out of the Ghetto: The Social Background of Jewish Emancipation, pp. 42-103. (Eres)
Paula Hyman, The Jews of Modern France, 1-35. (Eres)
Documents: Christian Wilhelm von Dohm, On the Civic Improvement of the Jews. (Eres)
14. Course Review, or make-up date (Dec. 7)
- Final Exam.** (Tues, Dec 19, 1-3 pm)