

History of European Antisemitism

——**From its origins to now**

Spring 2017

College of History in Zhengzhou University

Course Information

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Course Level: Sophomore

Department: History of the World

Category: Compulsory; Credits: 2

Office Hours: 32

Course Description

Antisemitism plagued the world for more than 2,000 years, and all of these centuries of hatred were exploited by the Nazis and their allies during World War II, culminating in the Holocaust. In recent years, there has been an increase in antisemitism in the form of hate speech, violence, and denial and distortion of the Holocaust. Violence targeting Jews and Jewish institutions continues around the world. The course introduces the history of antisemitism from its origins in the days of the early Christian church until the era of the Holocaust in the mid-20th century. Besides, it prepares college students for a discussion of why Jews have been targeted throughout history and how antisemitism offered fertile ground to the Nazis. It also introduces the phenomenon of rising antisemitism in Europe in latest years.

It gives undergraduates a basic understanding of the antisemitism history in European countries, and broad interdisciplinary knowledge of contemporary antisemitism. By the course, students learn about the history and the continuing problem of antisemitism, and reflect over what they could do to eliminate antisemitism and all forms of hatred.

Course Objectives

1. Improve students more knowledge and deeper understanding about the antisemitism history in European. By the course, they can know the origin, the definition and the history of antisemitism, can tell different manifestations, can master the causes of antisemitism and the stages of antisemitism. They can also know the current situation of antisemitism in different regions.

2. Training students the reading skills and expression ability by generalizing reading materials, discussing topics and presenting opinions or conclusion .

Weekly Topics/Themes

Week 1 Concept of antisemitism

Wistrich, Robert S. *Antisemitism: The Longest Hatred*. London: Thames Methuen, 1991.

Johnson, Paul. *A History of the Jews*, Harper Perennial 1988.

Lewis, Bernard. "The New Anti-Semitism", *The American Scholar*, Volume 75 No. 1, Winter 2006, pp. 25-36.

Week 2 Racism: An Overview

Back, Les, and John Solomos, editors. *Theories of Race and Racism: A Reader*. London: Routledge, 2000.

Burleigh, Michael, and Wolfgang Wippermann. *The Racial State: Germany 1933–1945*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1991.

Week 3 Antisemitism in History: From the Early Church to 1400

http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/anti-semitism/Early_Church.html?

Bernard Lazare, *Antisemitism: Its History and Causes*, U of Nebraska Press, 1995.

Gavin I. Langmuir, *History, Religion, and Antisemitism*, University of California Press, 1990.

Albert S. Lindemann; Richard S. Levy; *Antisemitism: A History*.

Week 4 Antisemitism in History: The Early Modern Ear, 1300-1800

(Discussion: why the holocaust happened in Germany in World War II)

Ron Rosenbaum, *Those Who Forget the Past: The Question of Anti-Semitism*, New York: Random House, 2004.

Week 5 Antisemitism in History: The Era of Nationalism, 1800-1918

Robert Wistrich, *A Lethal Obsession: Antisemitism – From Antiquity to the Global Jihad*, New York: Random House, 2010.

David Nirenberg, *Anti-Judaism: The History of a Way of Thinking*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2013.

Theodore Adorno, *The Authoritarian Personality*, New York, Harper, 1950

Week 6 Antisemitism in History: Racial Antisemitism, 1875-1945

Allen, Michael Thad. *The Business of Genocide: The SS, Slave Labor, and the Concentration Camps*. London and Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2002.

Bauer, Yehuda. *A History of the Holocaust*. New York: Franklin Watts. 1982.

Marc Knobel, *Antisemitism: Made in France*, ISGAP Flashpoint 3, November 25, 2015.

Shmuel Trigano, *French Jewry: The End of a Model of Jewish Identity*, Covenant Magazine Volume 1, Issue 2 (April 2007).

Timothy Snyder, *Black Earth. The Holocaust as History and Warning*, London: The Bloodley Head, 2015.

Week 7 Holocaust and its Continuing Impact

<https://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10007172>

Hutton, Christopher M. *Race and the Third Reich: Linguistics, Racial Anthropology, and Genetics in the Dialectic of Volk*. Cambridge: Polity, 2005.

Mosse, George L. *Toward the Final Solution: A History of European Racism*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1985.

New Haven. *Rethinking the Holocaust*. CT: Yale University Press. 2002.

Bennett, Gaymon; Peters, Ted; Hewlett, Martinez J.; Russell, Robert John, eds. *The Evolution of Evil*. Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht. 2008.

Berenbaum, Michael. *The World Must Know: The History of the Holocaust as Told in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum*. Johns Hopkins

University Press. 2005.

Kaplan and Small, Anti-Israel Predicts Antisemitism in Europe, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, Vol. 50 No. 4, August 2006, pp. 548-561.

Ron Rosenbaum, *Those Who Forget the Past: The Question of Anti-Semitism*, New York: Random House, 2004.

Charles Taylor, *Multiculturalism and the Politics of Recognition* Amy Gutman, Ed., Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1992.

Week 8 Comporation the Holocaust and the Nanking Atrocities

(Discussion: Why the genocide happens and what could we do)

Bob Tadashi Wakabayashi, ed. *The Nanking Atrocity, 1937–38: Complicating the*

Picture. Berghahn Books. 2008.

Levene, Mark and Roberts, Penny. *The Massacre in History*. 1999.

Valentine Mitchell, *Cartoons and extremism: Israel and the Jews in Contemporary Arab and Western Cartoons*, London, 2008.

《南京大屠杀》，徐志耕著，解放军文艺出版社，1997年5月出版。

《日伪时期市民呈文-南京大屠杀史料集-66》，郭必强、夏蓓等编，江苏人民出版社，2010年12月。

《南京大屠杀研究与日方档案资料》，载《军事历史研究》2011年第2期。

《德国档案中的南京大屠杀》，载《抗日战争研究》2005年第4期。

Teaching Forms

Lectures: introduction of relevant topics; give them basic and important knowledge; and recommend reading materials.

Discussions: encourage students generalize relevant materials and express their opinions clearly, make them be adept in active and logical thinking.

multimedia teaching: Show them short videos or films such as *24 Days*.

Presentation: to set students thinking and expressing. Students will be divided into some groups according to different topics, each group made up of 4-5persons, who are supposed to work in collaboration on their topics. Each group will choose one person as to present the result of discussion.

Assessment/Evaluation:

Class Participation (10%); Presentation (10%); Paper (20%); Final exam (60%)