

Antisemitism in Education Seminar

Michaelmas 2018

University of Oxford

Name of Instructor: Heather Mann

Course Level: Graduate

Type of Course: Seminar

Department: History/Interdisciplinary

Course Description

Students are expected to learn and discuss how antisemitism has been taught, preached and disseminated in sermons, pseudo-educational literature, within universities and in the classroom, using a continuation of myths and prejudices supported by contemporary theological, racial, and sociological theorists.

Course Objectives

Students to make links and track evolutions between reinventions of anti-Semitism since the Middle Ages.

Students to study counter- anti-Semitism movements

Students to analyse when and how the spread of anti-Semitism has been accepted and opposed

1. Early Christianity education

- a. Deicide & conversion
- b. Theological antisemitism
 - i. St Augustine's *Contra Judaeos*
- c. Sermons
 - i. Chrysostom tells his flock in fourth century Antioch that wherever Christ-killers gather, 'the cross is ridiculed, God blasphemed, the father unacknowledged, the son insulted, the grace of Spirit rejected... If Jewish rites are holy and venerable, our way of life must be false. But if our way is true, as indeed it is, theirs is fraudulent. I am not speaking of the Scriptures. Far from it! For they lead one to Christ. I am speaking of their present impiety and madness.
- d. Bible passages
 - i. The Gospels: The Governor of Palestine, Pilate offers to release Jesus in whom he can find no guilt, in exchange for a common criminal, Barabbas, but is unable to do so because of the large, mocking crowds of Jews who are baying for Jesus's blood

- ii. New Testament: Paul in Thessalonians: ‘...the Jews, who killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets and drive us out, the Jews who are heedless of God’s will and enemies of their fellow- men, [are] hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles to lead them to salvation. All this time they have been making up for the full massacre of their guilt, and now retribution has overtaken them for good and all.’ Gospel of John: the Jews wilfully seek to kill Christ as they themselves are not of God but of the devil.
- e. Mythology and folklore – Little St Hugh, Simon (Italy): Blood Libel; Well poisoning
- f. Passion plays & ballads
- g. Martin Luther
 - i. February 1546: if the Jews are willing to convert and abandon their blasphemy and crime, ‘then we will be glad to forgive them: if not, then we should not suffer and tolerate them.’
 - ii. 1543, Concerning the Jews and their Lies

Gager, John C. *The Origins of Anti-Semitism: Attitudes Toward Judaism in Pagan and Christian Antiquity*. Oxford Univ. Press, 1983

Nicholls, William, *Christian Antisemitism: A History of Hate*. Jason Aronson Inc., 1993

Joshua Trachtenberg, *The Devil and the Jews: The Medieval Conception of the Jew and its Relation to Modern Antisemitism*, (New Haven, 1943)

Utz, Richard, ‘Remembering Ritual Murder: The Anti-Semitic Blood Accusation Narrative in Medieval and Contemporary Cultural Memory’, Pp. 145–62 in *Genre and Ritual: The Cultural Heritage of Medieval Rituals*, ed. Eyolf Østrem (Copenhagen: Museum Tusulanum Press/University of Copenhagen, 2005)

2. School Education – the Enlightenment

- a. Anticlerical
- b. Liberalism
- c. Notable anti-Semites
 - i. Voltaire
 - ii. Bruno Bauer
 - iii. Richard Wagner
 - iv. Eugen Dühring

3. Eugenics

- a. Eugenics in education

Chitty, Clyde. (2007). *Eugenics, race, and intelligence in education*. London: Continuum International Publishing Group.

Kohlman, Michael J. (2013). Evangelizing eugenics: a brief historiography of popular and formal American eugenics education (1908-1948)." *Alberta Journal of Educational Research*, 59(4), 657-690.

Selden, S. (1991), Selective traditions and the science curriculum: Eugenics and the biology textbook, 1914–1949. *Sci. Ed.*, 75: 493–512

- b. Racial antisemitism
- c. Darwinism

4. Nazi Germany Education

- a. School Education
- b. Nazi Youth
- c. Exclusion of Jews from Education
- d. Reaction, Responses and Legacy
- e. The limits of de-nazification: West Germany, East Germany & Austria

Pine, L. (2010). *Education in Nazi Germany* (English ed.). Oxford ; New York: Berg.

Sünker, H., & Otto, H. (1997). *Education and fascism : Political identity and social education in Nazi Germany* (Knowledge, identity, and school life series). London: Falmer.

Schmidt, U. (2002). *Medical films, ethics, and euthanasia in Nazi Germany : The history of medical research and teaching films of the Reich Office for Educational Films-- Reich Institute for Films in Science and Education, 1933-1945*(Abhandlungen zur Geschichte der Medizin und der Naturwissenschaften, Heft 92). Husum: Matthiesen.

Dwork, D. (1991). *Children with a star : Jewish youth in Nazi Europe*. New Haven ; London: Yale University Press.

Göllner, R. (2009). *Schule und Verbrechen : Die Vertreibung jüdischer Schülerinnen und Schüler von Wiens Mittelschulen*. Frankfurt am Main ; New York: Peter Lang.

Ortmeyer, B., & Rhein, K. (2013). *Indoktrination : Rassismus und Antisemitismus in der Nazi-Schülerzeitschrift "Hilf mit!" (1933-1944) : Analyse und Dokumente*. Weinheim.

Tent, J. (1982). *Mission on the Rhine : Reeducation and denazification in American-occupied Germany*. Chicago ; London: University of Chicago Press

Blessing, B. (2006). *The antifascist classroom : Denazification in Soviet-occupied Germany, 1945-1949*. New York ; Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Utgaard, P. (2003). *Remembering and forgetting Nazism : Education, national identity, and the victim myth in postwar Austria*. New York ; Oxford: Berghahn Books.

5. 1960s Higher Education: professors and Students

- a. Antisemitism in 1967/8 Student and University movements
 - i. France
 - ii. Poland
 - iii. USA

Various from Wiesenthal, S., Fineberg, M., Samuels, S., & Weitzman, M. (2007). *Antisemitism : The generic hatred : Essays in memory of Simon Wiesenthal*. London ; Portland, OR : [Paris] : [Los Angeles] : Centre Simon Wiesenthal ; [Paris:

Vallentine Mitchell ; United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization ; Verbe et Lumière-Vigilance.

Kunicki, M. (2005). The Red and the Brown: Boleslaw Piasecki, the Polish Communists, and the Anti-Zionist Campaign in Poland, 1967-68. *East European Politics and Societies*, 19(2), 185-225.

Fine, R., & Spencer, P. (2017). *Antisemitism and the left : On the return of the Jewish question*. Manchester.

6. Anti-Semitic university movements since the 1980s

Cesarani, D. (1989). Anti-Zionist Politics and Political Antisemitism in Britain. *Patterns of Prejudice*, 23(1), 16-25.

Various from Wiesenthal, S., Fineberg, M., Samuels, S., & Weitzman, M. (2007). *Antisemitism : The generic hatred : Essays in memory of Simon Wiesenthal*. London ; Portland, OR : [Paris] : [Los Angeles] : Centre Simon Wiesenthal ; [Paris: Vallentine Mitchell ; United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization ; Verbe et Lumière-Vigilance.

Pollack, E. (2011). *Antisemitism on the campus [electronic resource] : Past & present (Antisemitism in America)*. Brighton, Mass.: Academic Studies Press.

Chapter 8 in Norwood, S. (2013). *Antisemitism and the American far left*. New York.

7. Contemporary anti-Semitic education

- a. Examples from the Middle East
- b. Contemporary antisemitism in the Arab World
- c. Anti-Semitism in schools in 'the West'

http://www.pmw.org.il/BookReport_Eng.pdf

<http://jcpa.org/article/anti-semitism-and-anti-israelism-in-western-schools/>

Romeyn, Esther. Liberal tolerance and its hauntings: Moral compasses, anti-Semitism and Islamophobia. *European Journal of Cultural Studies*. Vol. 20 Issue 2, Apr2017,p215-232. 18p.

Brackman, Harold, "Hitler Put Them in Their Place': Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood's Jihad Against Jews, Judaism, and Israel," Simon Wiesenthal Center, 2011

Herf, Jeffrey, "Nazi Germany and the Arab and Muslim World: Old and New Scholarship," July 2008

Küntzel, Matthias, "National Socialism and Anti-Semitism in the Arab World"

http://www.annefrank.org/ImageVaultFiles/id_15837/cf_21/Summary_research_on_anti-Semitism.PDF

Ben-Moshe, Danny, & Halafoff, Anna (2014). Antisemitism and Jewish Children and Youth in Australia's Capital Territory Schools. *Social Inclusion*, 2(2), 47-56

8. Combatting antisemitism through education – historic

- a. Speeches, readings, pamphlets,
- b. Combatting antisemitism through Holocaust education
 - i. 1990s – School curricula, USHMM, Yad Vashem School of International Holocaust Studies, HET, etc.
 - ii. 2000s – Stockholm Declaration, International Holocaust Memorial Day, IHRA,
- c. Challenges to Holocaust education

Russell, L. (2006). *Teaching the Holocaust in school history: Teachers or preachers?* (Continuum studies in education). London: Continuum.

Pető, A., & Thorson, H. (2015). *The future of Holocaust memorialization : Confronting racism, antisemitism, and homophobia through memory work*. Budapest.

Rubin, Dan Ian. Still Wandering: The Exclusion of Jews From Issues of Social Justice and Multicultural Thought. *Multicultural Perspectives*. Vol. 15 Issue 4, (Oct 2013), p213-219.