

Courses 2013-2014

Dr. Scott Ury

Antisemitism, Racism and the Jews

This seminar will address the different connections between antisemitism, racism and various conceptualizations of “the Jews”. In addition to close readings of historical texts, the seminar will also address methodological questions regarding the connection between antisemitism, racism and various conceptualizations (Jewish and non-Jewish) of the nature, fate and place of “the Jews.” Is antisemitism, indeed, different from other forms of racism? How are we to define, understand and respond to antisemitism and racism? And, how have various understandings of antisemitism influenced and shaped Jewish society and thought over the ages? Emphasis will be placed on close readings of historical texts, practicing critical thinking and academic writing.

Dr. Esther Webman

Jewish Communities in Middle East Between Arab Nationalism & Zionism

The course will focus on in the Jewish communities in the Middle East since the last quarter of the 19th century to the present, the changes in their status and in their relations with their Arab neighbors. Reform policies and colonial intervention in the region improved their conditions, on the one hand, but on the other hand, the emergence of Arab nationalism and Zionism, and the conflict which erupted in Palestine undermined their status, and eventually led to their disintegration.

Dr. Esther Webman

Issues in the Study of Arab Antisemitism

Dr. Havi Dreifuss

The Holocaust

During the course we will review and examine the major events that occurred during the Holocaust. Among the issues which we will deal with: anti-Semitism and Nazi

ideology; Jews in Germany in the thirties; Anti-Jewish policies in different occupation zones; The Eastern European Jewish society and its isolation in ghettos; The fate of the Jews in Western Europe, the Balkans and North Africa; the Jewish community in Israel (The Yishuv) and the Jews of the United States in light of the Holocaust.

Dr. Havi Dreifuss

East European Ghettos

During this course we will detect the reality which existed in East European Ghettos, follow the circumstances that caused the great variation among the Ghettos, and will trace their development during the Holocaust. Based on variety of sources we will test questions regarding the Jewish life within the ghettos, among them: leadership and its different meanings, confrontation with material distress and Jewish patterns of internalization information regarding the destruction of European Jewry.

Dr. Yael A. Sternhell

The Civil War: History, Myth and Memory

This course will explore the contested and convoluted legacy of the American Civil War, from the end of the conflict in 1865 to the Civil Rights Movement a hundred years later. By examining a wide range of political, historical, literary and visual texts, we will analyze the reasons, dynamics and consequences of the war's unmatched presence in American public life, as well as some larger questions about the intersection between history and memory in the modern world.

Dr. Boaz Neumann

Current Research of Nazism

Prof. Shalom Ratzabi

Issues in the Research of Antisemitism, Nationalism and Racism

The aim of the seminar is to examine some attempts of historian and thinkers after the holocaust to understand these three issues. The focus in the study will be on historians such as Ettinger Shmual and Katz Jacob on one hand and thinkers such as Hannah Arendt, Albert Memmi and Jean-Paul Sartre on the other. In this frame of study we will try to find out if and how the historical events that had taken place

after the Second World War had influence on the attempts to describe and understand these issues. Besides we will try also to find out the relation between the general thought of these thinkers and historians and their understanding of Antisemitism, Nationalism and Racism.