

Antisemitism Through the Ages: The Longest Hatred

Mr. Yisrael Ne'eman
July 15 – August 1, 2024

Course Number: 702.2119

Class Time: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9-12

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Course Description:

Beginning as a cultural phenomenon in the ancient world of the Eastern Mediterranean over 2000 years ago, anti-Jewish sentiment was embedded in early Christian theology, became institutionalized by the Byzantines, was adopted by Islam, and saw popular outbreaks of violence against Jewish communities throughout the Middle Ages in Europe and the Middle East.

Hopes for redress and understanding with the dawn of the Enlightenment proved disappointing as Jews received more rights and eventually “equality,” but were now accused of controlling the economies of new nation states. Nazi theorists used “scientific evidence” that demanded the world be saved from negative Jewish influence. Post World War II, a new antisemitism arose in the form of anti-Zionism. Today the national conflict over land between Jews and Palestinian Arabs has widened to include Jews world-wide. But is every Jew a Zionist? And how does one critique the State of Israel without being antisemitic? Is it possible we are facing a resurgence of the great conspiracy theory of Jewish world domination? Today’s widespread antisemitism not only negates the rights of a Jewish State to exist, but in fact may be said to question Jewish existence itself.

Course Requirements (Overview):

7-8 page Final Paper with at least 3 Academic sources/ Bibliography and Footnotes/Endnotes
Papers are to be handed in by Sunday August 18

Final Grade Calculation:

80% of Grade is based on the Final Paper

20% Active Participation in Classroom/Field Study discussion

Course Requirements Detailed:

Class/Field Study Day Attendance and Final Paper

***Attendance** is mandatory. The University policy allows for a 20% absentee rate. This breaks down to 2 classes this summer semester. Any absence over this number will result in a lower final grade and/or a student may be prohibited from handing in the final paper which most likely will result in a failing grade.

***Lateness** is not acceptable and will be noted. Excessive lateness will have a negative effect on the final grade.

*Students are expected to come to class **prepared**. This means they must read the material, as indicated on the accompanying syllabus and participate in class discussions.

*Students are strongly encouraged to do their research before leaving the country when the library resources are fully available to you

Please send me the final paper as a WORD file attachment to my email. The file name should be your name.

Cell phones and electronic devices: Please make sure your cell phone is turned off, or silenced – no buzz -- during class and put away in your bag -- out of sight (not upside down on your desk or lap). You may use a laptop to take class notes, but please do not surf the internet. If the temptation is too great, then be honest with yourself, and turn off the internet option on your computer. Or bring a paper notebook to class. Take notes the old-fashioned way.

Academic Honesty: All work submitted for this course must be your own and must be written exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly documented. The library homepage has a link "Citation Rules" to remind and guide you how to cite according to the MLA guidelines: <http://lib.haifa.ac.il/reference/citations/index.php/mla-heb>

In cases where academic dishonesty has been clearly established, a student will receive a zero for the paper AND fail the course.

Course Schedule:

Class 1 Monday, July 15

Part I: Cultural/Antiquity: Pharaoh and the Israelites/Greco-Roman Relations and clash with the Jews/Judeans. Stereotypes from the Ancient World.

Edward Flannery, *The Anguish of the Jews*, Chapter 1, “The Ancient World” pp. 3-24

Part II: Theological: The Gospels/Rise of Christianity/Church literature and the clash with Rabbinic Judaism. Charges of Deicide and obstruction of Messianic End Time. Jews as the anti-Savior (anti-Christ)

New Testament: Gospel of Matthew, Chapters 26 and 27.

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/matthew/26.html>

<https://www.biblestudytools.com/matthew/27.html>

Flannery, “Conflict of Church and Synagogue” pp. 25-43.

Class 2 Wednesday July 17 - Byzantine Empire: Christianity as State Religion. Church institutionalization and Imperial legislation solidifies anti-Jewish legal codes gathered as “Regulated Religion.” Baseline for discrimination against Jews in the Christian World established. Jewish-Byzantine clashes

Phyllis Goldstein, *A Convenient Hatred: The History of Antisemitism*, “Separation: Synagogue and Church, Jew and Christian” pp. 23-38.

Class 3 Thursday July 18 – Islam: The rise of the Prophet/Messenger Mohammed and the clash with Arabian Jews. First Jihad against Jews/ Expulsions from Arabia and the ensuing Dhimmi law codes (subservient community) borrowed from the Byzantines. The workings of the Dhimmi status and discrimination throughout the ages. Outbreaks of violence against the Jews

Yisrael Ne’eman, *Hamas Jihad*, “Negative Image of the Jew in the Muslim/Arab World” Part I, pp. 23-41.

Class 4 Monday July 22 - Popular Judeophobia: Blood libels, accusations of well poisoning and ultimately demonization lead to massacres, expulsions, Crusader attacks and massive



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Jewish suffering during the Middle Ages. Hatred of Jews becomes deeply embedded in European Christian society

Goldstein, Chapter 5, “The Power of a Lie” pp. 75-94.

Class 5 Wednesday July 24 – The Churches: Czar/Russian Orthodox, Catholic and the Rise of Protestantism: Catholic Church anti-Jewish attitudes/ *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* Foundations of Lutheran Protestantism include vicious hatred of the Jews

Protocols of the Elders of Zion (Wikipedia article/explanations)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Protocols_of_the_Elders_of_Zion

Class 6 Thursday July 25 - Economic Antisemitism: The Jewish Role in the economy when in general banned from owning land, professional life and the artisan guilds. Money lending and tax collecting are often the Jewish fate. Mercantilism/capitalism enhance/publicize Jewish financial involvement in the new European nation states. Too much Jewish capitalism controls the economy. Jewish economic plots for world control?

Karl Marx, *Early Writings*, “On the Jewish Question” pp. 32-40.

Class 7 Monday July 29 - Jewish Revolutionaries: Jews accused of overthrowing the World Order thru socialism/communism, demands for equality of all. Marx/Lenin/ The Bolshevik Revolution/ Trotsky as “Opposition” stereotype. Communist/anarchist anti-Semitism and Stalin’s purges/ plans for Jewish destruction by mid-20th century

Robert Wistrich, *A Lethal Obsession*, “Between Marx and Stalin,” pp. 107-128

Class 8 Wednesday July 31 - Racial Theory, Nazi Intellectuals/ Holocaust: From Father Jahn thru social Darwinism to the Holocaust. Pseudo-Intellectual racial theories/ Accepted as a “given” but never proven. German racial purity and the demand for Jewish elimination

Nazism, Hitler’s *Mein Kampf* and the International Jewish conspiracy

Goldstein, Chapter 13, “In the Face of Genocide (1918-1945)” pp. 259-288.

Class 9 Thursday Aug 1 - Anti-Zionism and the post-WWII Antisemitism:

Left/Liberationalist denial of Jewish nationhood/ only a religion but forced return to Jewish “rootlessness” and “wandering” Exile punishment. Only the Jews “Not a People.”

Jews are imperialist-colonialist/ The PLO and the Soviet Doctrine

Yasir Arafat, the PLO Charter, Haj Amin el-Husseini as hero

“Moderate” Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas: Jews as economic oppressor/
Holocaust denial (Doctoral Thesis)

Palestinian re-write of Christian Scriptures (Jesus was a “Palestinian”)

Cary Nelson, “Conspiracy Pedagogy on Campus,” in *Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism*, Alvin H. Rosenfeld ed., Chapter 9, pp. 221-251.