

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
Department of History  
Semester I, 1993-94

History 202, Lecture 3  
Fall, 1993  
T&R, 2:30-3:45  
B239 Van Vleck

David Sorkin  
4117 Humanities  
263-1861  
Office Hours: T&R 4-4:45  
& by appt.

INTRODUCTION TO MODERN JEWISH HISTORY

This course will trace the history of the Jews since the 17th century. Particular attention will be paid to the fact that this is the history of a minority group whose life (political, social, religious) unfolds in relationship to a majority society. The course will account for the geographical sweep of Jewish history by being divided into four units: Europe (two units); Middle East, North Africa (one unit); America (one unit).

The course will meet twice weekly, with an optional discussion section providing a third meeting. Tuesdays and Thursdays will be lectures, although the last portion of the session will often be used to discuss readings and documents and students are always encouraged to ask questions. The optional discussion section will be devoted to readings and documents. It is essential that students bring the appropriate readings to discussions, especially the document collection Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, The Jew in the Modern World.

This course intends to teach writing skills as well as knowledge of modern Jewish history. There will be three 5 page papers (one for each of the first three units of the course) and a final 8 page paper. There will also be a number of short writing exercises which will help students prepare to write the papers for each unit. Students are encouraged to re-write papers. Rewrites will be due one week after the paper has been returned. The rewrite must be accompanied by the original paper and the instructor's comments.

Required Reading:

- S. Ettinger, "The Modern Period," in H.H. Ben-Sasson ed., A History of the Jewish People (Harvard) 727-1096
- Paul Mendes-Flohr & Jehuda Reinharz, The Jew in the Modern World: A Documentary History (Oxford)
- Frances Malino & David Sorkin, From East and West: Jews in a Changing Europe, 1750-1870 (Blackwell)
- Michael Marrus, The Holocaust in History (New England)
- Nathan Glazer, American Judaism (Chicago)
- Amos Elon, The Israelis (Penguin)
- Theodore Herzl, The Jewish State (Dover)
- Albert Memmi, Pillar of Salt (Beacon)

Sept. 2 Introduction

Unit I European Jewry, 1648-1870: The First Stage of Transformation

- 7 European Jewry, 1648: Multiple Points of Departure  
Ettinger, 727-740; 777-787  
Menkis, "Patriarchs & Patricians" in From East & West, 11-45  
Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 16 (Holland), 17 (Wertheimer)
- 9 The Autonomous Community  
Ettinger, 750-759

Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 20-24

First writing exercise: one-page definition/description of the  
"autonomous community"; due Friday, September 10th 4pm

- 14      Emancipation in Western & Central Europe  
          Ettinger, 741-749, 59-63  
          Malino, "The Right to be Equal" in From East & West, 85-106  
          Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 27-36, 103-107
- 16      No Class
- 21      Emancipation Continued  
          Ettinger, 800-813  
          Sorkin, "Preacher, Teacher, Publicist," in From East & West, 107-125  
          Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 112-124, 127-139
- 23      Cultural & Religious Change  
          Meyer, Origins of the Modern Jew, 11-56  
          Black, "Anglicization of Orthodoxy," in From East & West, 295-313  
          Ettinger, 834-40

Second writing exercise: one-page on an individual explaining what the biography  
teaches about history; due Friday Sept. 24 4pm

- 28      State, Society and the Jews in Eastern Europe  
          Ettinger, 764-776, 813-824
- 30      Jewish Culture in Eastern Europe  
          Ettinger, 840-846  
          Bartal, "Mordechai Aaron Gunzburg" in From East & West, 126-147  
          Katz, "Towards a Biography of the Hatam Sofer" in From East & West, 223-266
- Oct. 5      Society and Politics  
          Ettinger, 825-833, 847-52  
          Endelman, "The Chequered Career of Jew King," 151-181  
          Loewenstein, "Jewish Upper Crust," 182-201  
          Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 38-43 (Mendelssohn), 130-31 (Paulus-Riesser)
- 7      First Essay Due

Unit II European Jewry, 1870-1945; The Second Stage of Transformation

- 7      Jews in Mass Society: Mass Migration, Urbanization & Social Structure  
          Ettinger, 853-69  
          Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 333-337; 529 (table), 532 (table)  
          Burns, "Majority Faith," in From East & West, 57-82
- 12      Mass Politics and the Rise of Antisemitism  
          Ettinger, 870-890  
          Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 271-299, 328-333
- 14      The Revolution in Politics  
          Ettinger, 891-914  
          Herzl, The Jewish State

Third writing exercise: one-page definition of mass society for European Jewry;

due Friday, October 15th 4pm

- 19 World War I and Interbellum Europe: The Costs of War and Peace  
Ettinger, 939-988  
Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 349, 458
- 21 Weimar & Hitler's Rise to Power  
Ettinger, 1017-1039
- 26 The Final Solution  
Michael Marrus, The Holocaust in History, 8-54  
Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 484-503
- 28 The Final Solution  
Michael Marrus, The Holocaust in History, 55-202  
Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 503-520
- Nov. 2 Second Essay Due

#### Unit III North Africa, the Middle East and the State of Israel

- 2 The Jews of Islam
- 4 The Encounter with Europe  
Rodrigue, "Abraham de Camondo of Istanbul," in From East and West, 46-56
- 9 The Maghreb  
Begin reading Memmi
- 11 The Middle East  
Continue reading Memmi
- 16 No lecture Continue reading Memmi
- 18 No lecture Finish Memmi

Fourth writing exercise: two-pages on what Pillar of Salt teaches us about life of Jews in Tunisia/Maghreb; due on Friday, November 19th 4 pm.

- 23 The Old Yishuv & the New  
Ettinger, 915-926  
Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 421 (Bilu), 445 (Hapoel Hazair), 453 (Hashomer Hazair)  
Elon, Founders and Sons, 1-186
- 25 The British Mandate  
Ettinger, 989-1016  
Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 458-461
- 30 The State of Israel  
Ettinger, 1040-1062  
Elon, 189-335  
Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 466-481

Dec. 2 Israel, the Middle East and World Jewry  
Ettinger, 1075-1096  
Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 466-481

7 Third Essay Due

#### Unit IV The Jews of America

7 Foundations  
Glazer, 1-59  
Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 357-373

9 The Great Migration  
Glazer, 60-78  
Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 374-392

14 From War I to the Present  
Glazer, 79-186  
Mendes-Flohr/Reinharz, 396-417  
Ettinger, 1063-1074

Final Essay due December 21st 10:00am