

Dr. Mayhill Fowler
др Мейгіл Фаулер
Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Toronto
Assistant Professor, History of Russia and Eastern Europe, Stetson University (from
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mfowler1974@gmail.com

**Modernism and Pogroms:
Arts and Culture in East Central Europe, 19th-21st centuries**

In our mini-course we will explore cultural interaction between Jews and non-Jews (Ukrainians, Poles, Russians) in the borderlands of the Habsburg and Romanov empires. This is interaction that may have been conscious or unconscious, and may have involved encounter, appropriation, negotiation, exchange and destruction.

This course has three goals. **First**, you will understand the complexity of writing about cultural production and reception to look at the political, social, and economic structures surrounding the arts. **Second**, you will gain a body of knowledge about the cultural production of the Jewish and Ukrainian (and Polish and Russian) communities in the multi-ethnic region of East Central Europe. You will both gain familiarity with the major scholars working on these questions, as well as a basic level of knowledge of the arts in this region. **Third**, from this you will understand how national categories do not work for cultural analysis. Great art came from this region, such as art that is mentioned in books on "Ukrainian" art or "Jewish" art or "Russian art." This was a region that was also home to the modern understanding of the pogrom, and to mass and local violence against Jews (and Poles, Ukrainians, and Russians). We will try to look at the modernism and pogroms together and try to articulate how the multiplicity of ethnicity shapes cultural production in this region.

I will give short lectures to start each meeting. These will include music, videos, and visual material. These lectures will cover the topics listed under "Lecture" in the syllabus, which will give you the background to discuss the analysis presented in the readings. We will then move on to discussing the texts. You **MUST** complete the reading for each class or we will have nothing to talk about and it will be difficult for all of us. Talking about texts is one of the great pleasures of pursuing the humanities, so please come prepared.

Nine, 90-minute classes

CLASS 1. 22 July 2-3.30: Tools for Studying and Discussing Culture:

Reading:

*Philipp Ther, "The Transnational Paradigm of Historiography and its Potential for Ukrainian History," in Grigory Kasianov and Philip Ther, *Ukraine: A Landscape of Transnational History* (2009), 81-114.

*Robert Darnton, "Do Books Cause Revolutions?," *The Forbidden Best-sellers of Pre-Revolutionary France* (1996), 169-197.

*Антон Чехов, *Скупка Ротшильда*

Lecture: The Cultural World of the Imperial Shtetl

Alexander Granach, *There Goes a Man* (film clips)

Hassidism and Ukrainian Culture

Шолом-Алейхем, "On Account of a Hat": "high" and "low" goyish

For more: (Я маю ці статті, якщо Ви хочете, то спитайте будь ласка і перешлю!)

*William H. Sewell, Jr., "The Concept(s) of Culture," in Victoria Bonnell and Lynn Hunt, eds., *Beyond the Cultural Turn* (1999), 35-61.

CLASS 2. 23 July 2-3.30: Professionalization and Nationalization in Empires

Reading:

* John D. Klier, "Exit, Pursued by a Bear: Russian Administrators and the Ban on Yiddish Theater in Imperial Russia," in Joel Berkowitz, ed., *Yiddish Theater: New Approaches* (Oxford: Oxford U Press, 2003), 159-174.

* Seth L. Wolitz, "Forging a Hero for the Jewish Stage: Goldfadn's *Bar Kokhba*," *Shofar* 20/3 (Spring 2002), 53-65.

Lecture: The Cultural World of the Late Imperial City: Lemberg and Kyiv

Шолом-Алейхем, Касриловке, Ехупец

Чириков, *Евреї* и погромы 1905 года

Театр коруфеїв: Садовський, Заньковецька, Кропивницький, Саксаганський

The Gimpel Theater in Lemberg

Руська Бесіда

Esther Rokhl Kaminska and the Yiddish Art Theater

Klezmer and Klezmerim

For more:

*Ostap Sereda, "Nationalizing or Entertaining? Public Discourses on Musical Theater in Russian-ruled Kyiv in the 1870s and 1880s," in S. O. Mueller, P. Ther, J. Toelle, G. z. Nieden, *Oper im Wandel der Gesellschaft . Kulturtransfers und Netzwerke des Musiktheaters im modernen Europa* (Wien 2010), 33-58.

Ezra Mendelssohn, *Painting a People: Maurycy Gottlieb and Jewish Art* (Hanover, 2002).

Amelia Glaser, *From the Shtetl Fair to the Petersburg Bookshop* (Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 2012)

Jeffrey Veidlinger, *Jewish Public Culture in the Late Russian Empire* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2009)

Natan Meir, "Jews, Ukrainians and Russians in Kiev: Intergroup Relations in Late Imperial Associational Life," *Slavic Review* 65, no. 3 (2006), 475-501.
Hugo Lane, "The Ukrainian Theater and the Polish Opera: Cultural Hegemony and National Culture," in *Harvard Ukrainian Studies* 24 (Lviv: A City in the Crosscurrents of Culture, 2000), 149-170.

CLASS 3. 24 July 2-3.30: War and Modernism

Reading:

Ken Moss, *Jewish Renaissance in the Russian Revolution* (Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 2009), 1-22.

Ганна Веселовська, *Український театральний авангард* (Київ: Фенікс, 2010), 17-40.

Lecture: 19 Prorizna and Multiple Modernisms

Kultur-Lige and the Jewish Culturalists

Леся Курбас і Молодий театр

Juliusz Osterwa and Stanisława Wysocka

Chagall and the Yiddish Theater

For more:

Олег Ільницький, *Український футуризм (1914 - 1930)* (Львів: Літопис, 2003).

Myroslava Mudrak, *The New Generation and Modernism in Ukraine* (Ann Arbor: UMI Research Press, 1986).

Maxim Tarnawsky, *Modernists, Marxists and the Nation: The Ukrainian Literary Discussion of the 1920s* (Edmonton: Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, 1992).

Irena Makaryk and Virlana Tkacz, eds., *Jubliant Experimentation: Modernism in Kyiv* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009).

Harsha Ram, "Modernism on the periphery: Literary life in post-revolutionary Tbilisi," *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 5/2 (Spring 2004), 367-382.

CLASS 4. 25 July 2-3.30: New Nations.

*Michael Steinlauf, "Mark Arnshteyn and the Polish-Jewish Theater," in Yisrael Gutman, Ezra Mendelsohn, Jehuda Reinharz, and Chone Shmeruk, eds. *The Jews of Poland between Two World Wars* (Hanover: University Press of New England, 1989), 399-411.

*Chone Shmeruk, "Hebrew-Yiddish-Polish: A Trilingual Jewish Culture," *The Jews of Poland between Two World Wars*, 285-311.

For more:

- *Олена Боньковська, *Львівський театр товариство "Українська Бесіда"* (Львів Літопис).
- *Timothy Snyder, *Sketches from a Secret War: An Artist's Mission to Liberate Soviet Ukraine* (New Haven: Yale University Press)
- *Natan Gross, "Mordechai Gebirtig: The Folk Song and the Cabaret Song," *Polin* 16 107-118.

Lecture: Minority Culture in Interwar Poland

An-Sky, *The Dybbuk* (film clips)
 Artur Gold, Jerzy Peterburski, Henryk Wars, Marian Hemar
 "Ostatnia niedziela" and "Утомлённое солнцем"

CLASS 5. 26 July 2-3.30. New Empire: Soviet Nationality Policy and Cultural Exchange

Reading:

- *Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern, *The Anti-Imperial Choice: The Making of the Ukrainian Jew* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009), 1-23.
- *Anna Shternshis, *Soviet and Kosher: Jewish Popular Culture in the Soviet Union* (Bloomington, IN, 2006), 106-142.

Lecture:

For more:

- *Mayhill Fowler, "Yiddish Theater in Soviet Ukraine: Re-Thinking Ukrainian-Jewish Relations in the Arts," *Ab Imperio* 2011/3 (Winter 2011).
- *David Shneer, *Yiddish and the Creation of Soviet Jewish Culture* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004).
- *Jeffrey Veidlinger, *The Moscow State Yiddish Theater: Jewish Culture on the Soviet Stage* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006).
- *Ber Boris Kotlerman, *In Search of Milk and Honey: The Theater of Soviet Jewish Statehood, 1934-1949* (Bloomington: Slavica, 2009).
- *Ірена Ріма Макарук, *Перетворення Шекспіра: Лесь Курбас, український модернізм та радянська культурна політика* (Київ: Ніке Центр), 2010.

CLASS 6. 3.45-5.15. Urban Culture in the Interwar Period: Tango in Yiddish?

No reading. Lecture and Discussion.

Movies: Yiddish Film in the Soviet Union and Interwar Poland

Tango in Yiddish and Ukrainian

Bohdan Weselovsky

Renata Bogdanska, Iryna Jarosiewicz, Irena Anders

Only in Lviv, Tylko we Lwowie, Ждём Вас во Львові, Тільки у Львові

Moshe Beregovski and Klezmer

Films: *Еврейское счастье, Бенья Крик, Yidl mit a Fidl*

CLASS 7. 29 July 2-3.30. War and Cold War

Reading:

*Irena Makaryk, "Wartime Hamlet," *Shakespeare in Socialism and Communism* (University of Toronto Press), 2009, 119-135.

Lecture: Art in the Theater of War

Frontline Culture

DP Camps

Theater in the Ghetto

Tashkent

<http://www.blavatnikarchive.org/archives/1873> (songs)

For more:

Turkov, Y. "Teatr un kontsertn in di getos un kontentratsye-lagern." In I. Manger, Y. Turkov, M. Perenson eds., *Yidisher teater in eyrope tvishn beyde velt-milkhomes*. New York: Altveltlekhn yidishn kultur-kongres.

<http://holocaustmusic.ort.org/music/>

*Естер Маркиш, *Столь долгое возвращение* (Тель-Авив, 1989).

CLASS 8. 30 July 3.45-5.15. Big Historiographies / Narratives

To Read:

*Seth L. Wolitz, "Vitebsk versus Bezalel: A Jewish Kulturkampf in the Plastic Arts," in Zvi Gitelman, ed., *The Emergence of Modern Jewish Politics: Bundism and Zionism* (2003), 151-177.

*Yuri Slezkine, *The Jewish Century* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004), 4-40.

No lecture today, only discussion of these key works

For more:

*Myroslav Shkandrij, *Jews in Ukrainian Literature: Representation and Identity* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009), 1-9, 213-237.

CLASS 9. 1 August 11.20-12.50. Encounter, Exchange, Appropriation after Communism

Reading:

*Anna Shternshis, "White Piano in a Shtetl: Material Culture and Ethnic Identity in the Post-Soviet Jewish Urban Community," *Jewish Social Studies*, 16/2 (Winter 2010), 111-126

*Serhy Yekelchuk, "What is Ukrainian about Ukraine's Pop Culture?: The Strange Case of Verka Serduchka," *Canadian-American Slavic Studies* 2010 44/1-2, 2-17.

For More:

- *Caroline Humphrey, ed., *Post-Cosmopolitan Cities: Explorations of Urban Coexistence* (2012), 1-16.
- *Adriana Helbig, "On Stage Everyone Loves a Black: Afro-Ukrainian Folk Fusion, Migration, and Racial Identity in Ukraine" *Current Musicology* 91/1 (Spring 2011), 7-24.
- *Laura Adams, "Invention, Institutionalization, and Renewal in Uzbekistan's National Culture," *European Journal of Cultural Studies*, 2/3 (1999), 355-373.

Lecture: New Possibilities

Lisova pisnia at Les Kurbas Theater in Lviv

Tevye-Molochnyk in Kyiv, Warsaw, and the World

Tadeusz Slobodzianek, *Nasza Klasa*

Natalia Vorozhbit, *The Grain Store*

Mariana Sadovska, Odessa Underground songs

<http://www.jewishmuseum.org.pl/pl/cms/-uwaga-dzialania-w-pamieci/>