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Syllabus

Jews in East Europe, 1772-1991 (with a Focus on Ukrainian-Jewish Relations)

Summer School 2013

" Jewish History and Multiethnic Past: Discussions and Approaches to the Study of Society, Culture, and Heritage in East Central Europe"

July 14 - August 8, 2014

Center for Urban History, Lviv (Ukraine)



This course covers the period from the partitions of Poland through the Russian and Habsburg Empires, the Soviet Union and interwar Poland. Students will familiarize with the geopolitical results of Russia's westward and Austria's eastward expansions and will focus among other overarching themes on the shtetl, the unique East European Jewish habitat; on Hasidism, a Ukraine-born popular movement of religious enthusiasm; on the interaction between Zionists and Ukrainian nationalists in Galicia; on the development of Ukrainization and Yiddishization (or Ukrainian and Jewish *korenizatsiia*) in the 1920s and the situation of Jews in Poland in the 1920s; on the Holocaust and its aftermath; on Ukrainians and Jews in the dissident movement; and on Jewish-Ukrainian artistic and literary avant-garde and on Jewish-Polish historical scholarship. This course teaches students critical skills such as contextualization and primary source analysis, which will enable them to look beyond the conflicting national narratives. The participants will explore various ways of integrating Jewish issues into general East European history and the history of East Europe, Ukraine in particular, into a larger European context.

This course combines multi-media power-point presentations, in-depth study of documents, and interactive class discussions. Students' grades will be based on **two** 2-page long response papers

(requirements for and samples of which will be made available separately), active **participation** in class discussions and a **final in-class test** in the form of 5 short essay-type responses.

Instructor:

YPS is the Crown Family Professor of Jewish Studies at History Department at Northwestern University (Chicago/Evanston) and the NU Center for Jewish and Israeli Studies. He is a winner of multiple grants and fellowships including NU Distinguished Teaching Award. He is a doctor *honoris causa* of the National University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, a Fellow at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, and a honorary visiting professor at the Free Ukrainian University in Munich. He authored four books, including *Jews in the Russian Army, 1827-1917: Drafted into Modernity* (2008), *The Anti-Imperial Choice* (American Association of Ukrainian Studies Book Award, 2009), *Lenin's Jewish Question* (2010) and *The Golden Age Shtetl: a New History of Jewish Life in East Europe* (2014). YPS taught at various universities in Israel, Poland, USA, Austria, and Ukraine, including Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and Harvard.

Readings:

All readings are students' responsibility and will be available for free download from the course web-site two months before the course starts. Given the intensity of your class schedule, it is highly advisable to read all the assigned articles and book chapters before the course starts.

Requirements:

You can submit your brief proposals for response papers any time starting from July 15 through August 1, 2014. The structure and topic of your final paper must be vetted by the instructor, who is available on-line 24/6. Bracketing of your grade:

30% class participation
30% two response paper
40% final paper

Interactive discussions will be incorporated into lectures. The response papers should be based on one, maximum on two articles or book chapters. Your footnotes/endnotes/bibliographies should fit the standards of CMS-16 (Chicago Manual of Style, 16th edition). Please be advised that all submitted papers will be processed through the anti-plagiarism "Safe Assignment" electronic database. Papers should be submitted in electronic format (make sure it is **.doc** only) to the instructors email address by the time they are assigned (early submission is welcome).

Session One**Monday, July 14, 2014*****Polish Enlighteners and the Jews: an abrupt Reform*****Readings:** Polonsky, *Jews in Poland and Russia*, 2:**Session Two****Tuesday, July 15, 2014*****Hasidism: a Judaic movement of religious revivalism*****Readings:** Assaf, Dan, "Hasidism," in *The YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in East Europe*, 659-672http://www.yivoencyclopedia.org/article.aspx/Hasidism/Historical_Overviewhttp://www.yivoencyclopedia.org/article.aspx/Hasidism/Teachings_and_Literature**Session Three****Wednesday, July 16, 2014*****Polish Partitions and the Rise of the Russian, Polish, and Austrian Jews*****Readings:** YPS, "Russia discovers its Shtetl," in his *The Golden Age Shtetl*, 29-56***Session Four****Thursday, July 17, 2014*****Joseph II and Nicholas I reforming the Jews: a comparison*****Readings:** YPS, "Evrei i armiiia," in *Istoriia evreiskogo naroda v Rossii*, 2: 66-85***Session Five****Monday, July 21, 2014*****The Rise of the Jewish Intelligentsia in Habsburg and Russian Empire*****Readings:** Klier, "Sion-Osnova Controversy," in his *Imperial Russia's Jewish Question****Session Six****Tuesday, July 22, 2014*****Liberalism in Crisis and the Making of the Jewish Diaspora Nationalism: Russian and Habsburg Empires*****Readings:** Shanes, YPS, "An unlikely alliance," 483-505***Session Seven****Wednesday, July 23, 2014*****Jewish Migrations, 1870s-1920s*****Readings:** Lederhendler, *Jewish Immigrants and American Capitalism*, 1-37***Session Eight****Thursday, July 24, 2014**

Jews Proletarians in the Russian Revolutions**Readings:** Mendelsohn, *Class Struggle in the Pale*, 82-103****First response paper due*****Thursday, July 24, 2014****Session Nine****Monday, July 28, 2014*****The Beilis Case and the Russian Antisemitism*****Readings:** Loewe, "Anti-Semitism at the Close of the Czarist Era," in *Hostages of Modernization*, 1188-1207*
Rogger, "The Beilis Case," in *Hostages of Modernization*, 1257-1273***Session Ten****Tuesday, July 29, 2014*****Jews and Ukrainians in the Revolutionary Years*****Readings:** Abramson, *Prayer for the Government*, 109-140***Session Eleven****Wednesday, July 30, 2014*****Jews and Ukrainians under NEP and National Communism vs. Jews in Polish Galicia*****Readings:** Dekel-Chen, "Farming the Red Land," 96-130***Session Twelve****Thursday, July 31, 2014*****The Holocaust and its Impact on the post-War Ukraine*****Readings:** Lowy, Brandon, *The Shoah in the Ukraine*,
Movie: "Damskii portnoi"***Second response paper due*****Thursday, July 31, 2014****Session Thirteen****Monday, August 4, 2014*****Rootless Cosmopolitans: Communism and Racism*****Readings:** Roi, "Anticosmopolitan Campaign;" Brent, "Doctors' Plot," in *The YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe*, 1: 51-52 and 1: 412-414*
YPS, "Klei dlia pozvonkov," in his *Evreiskii vopros Leninu*, 157-204***Session Fourteen****Tuesday, August 5, 2014*****Life and Fate of Vassili Grossman*****Readings:** Grossman, *Vse techet*, 184-219*
Movie: "Komissar"

Session Fifteen**Wednesday, August 6, 2014*****Ukrainian and Jewish Dissent and the Rise of the National-Democratic Consciousness***

Secondary sources:

YPS, "Jews in Ukrainian Thought: Between the 1940s and the 1990s," 231-270*

Session Sixteen**Thursday, August 7, 2014*****Jewish Cultural Revival--the End of Homo Sovieticus?*****Readings:**YPS, "The Revival of Academic Studies of Judaica in Independent Ukraine," in *Jewish Life after the USSR*, 152-172.**FINAL IN-CLASS TEST:****August 7, 2014****GRADES DUE:****August 7, 2014 (3PM)****Selected secondary sources for *JEWS IN EAST EUROPE, 1772-1990***

- Abramson, Henry. *A Prayer for the Government: Ukrainians and Jews in the Revolutionary Times, 1917—1920* (Harvard University Press, 1999).
- Assaf, David. *The Regal Way: the life and times of Rabbi Israel of Ruzhin* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2002).
- Aster, Howard, and Potichnyj, Peter. *Ukrainian-Jewish Relations in Historical Perspective*. (Alberta: Canadian Institute for Ukrainian Studies, 1990).
- Brandon, Ray, and Lowy, Wendy, eds. *Shoah in Ukraine: history, testimony, memorialization* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2008)
- Janusz Bardach, *Surviving Freedom: After the Gulag* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003).
- Petrus Buwalda, *They Did Not Dwell Alone: Jewish emigration from the Soviet Union, 1967—1990* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1999).
- Dekel-Chen, Jonathan. *Farming the Red Land: Jewish Agricultural Colonization and Local Soviet Power, 1924-1941* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005).
- Frankl, Jonathan, *Prophecy and Politics*
- Garrard, John and Carol. *The Bones of Berdichev: the Life and fate of Vasily Grossman* (New York: The Free Press, 1996).
- Gitelman, Zvi. *Jewish Nationality and Soviet Politics: The Jewish Section of the CPSU, 1917—1930* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1972).
- Heschel, Abraham Yehoshua. "The Eastern European Era in Jewish History," *Studies in Modern Jewish Social History*. Ed. by Joshua Fishman (KTAV Publishing House, 1972), 3-23.
- Himka, John-Paul. *Ukrainians Jews, and the Holocaust: divergent memoirs* (Saskatoon: Heritage, 2009).

- Hundert, Gershon, ed. *The YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2008). Available on the Internet: <http://www.yivoencyclopedia.org/>
- Katz, Dovid. *Words on Fire: the unfinished story of Yiddish* (NY: Basic Books, 2004).
- Khanin, Zeev. *Documents on Ukrainian Jewish Identity and Emigration* (London: Frank Cass, 2003).
- Mendelsohn, Ezra. *Class Struggle in the Pale: the Formative Years of the Jewish Workers' Movement in Tsarist Russia* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1970).
- Meir, Nathan. *Kiev: a Jewish metropolis* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2009).
- Miron, Dan. *The Image of the Shtetl and Other Studies of Modern Jewish Literary Imagination* (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2000).
- Moss, Kenneth. *Jewish Renaissance in the Russian Revolution* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2009).
- Nathans, Benjamin. *Beyond the Pale: the Jewish encounter with Late Imperial Russia* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2002).
- Polonsky, Antony. *Jews in Poland and Russia. 3 vols.* (Oxford and Portland: Littman Library, 2010-2011).
- Polonsky, Antony, ed. *POLIN: Journal in Polish-Jewish Studies*, ed. by Antony Polonsky, nos. 1-26 (1991-2013) (Oxford and Portland, OR.: Littman Library of Jewish Civilization).
- Rosman, Murray (Moshe). *Founder of Hasidism: a Quest for the Historical Ba'al Shem Tov* (Berkeley: California University Press, 1996).
- Redlich, Simon. *Together and Apart in Brzezany: Poles, Jews, and Ukrainians, 1917-1945* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2002).
- Rubenstein, Joshua. *Stalin's Secret Pogrom: The Postwar Inquisition of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2001).
- Rudnytsky, Ivan L. *Essays in Modern Ukrainian History* (Edmonton: Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, 1987).
- Sicher, Efraim. *Jews in Russian Literature After the October Revolution: Writers and Artists between Hope and Apostasy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995).
- Shneer, David. *Yiddish and the Creation of Soviet Jewish Culture, 1918—1930* (Cambridge University Press, 2003).
- Shternshis, Anna. *Soviet and Kosher: Jewish popular Culture in the Soviet Union, 1923-1939* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006).
- Jeffrey Veidlinger, *The Moscow State Yiddish Theater: Jewish Culture on the Soviet Stage* (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2000).

YPS's selected publications on Jews in Ukraine:

BOOKS

- The Golden Age Shtetl: a New History of Jewish Life in East Europe* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2014), in press.
- POLIN: Jews and Ukrainians*, vol. 26 (Oxford and Portland: Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 2013), co-edited with Antony Polonsky.
- The Anti-Imperial Choice: the Making of the Ukrainian Jew* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009).

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- "In Search of a Lost People: Jews in Present-Day Ukrainian Historiography," *East European Jewish Affairs*, no. 1 (2003): 67-82.
- "The Revival of Academic Studies of Judaica in Independent Ukraine," a book chapter in *Jewish Life after the USSR: A Community in Transition*, ed. by Zvi Gitelman, Marshall Goldman, (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2003), 152-172.

- “Do ievreis’ko-ukrains’koho dialohu: Roman Rakhmannyi,” (Toward a Ukrainian-Jewish Dialogue: The Case of Roman Rakhmannyi), *Yehupets*, no. 14 (2004), 353-362.
- “Jews in Ukrainian Thought: Between the 1940s and the 1990s,” *The Ukrainian Quarterly* vol. LX, nos. 3-4 (Fall-Winter 2004): 231-270.
- “The Drama of Berdichev: Levy Yitshak and His Town,” *POLIN*, no. 17 (2004), 83-95.
- “Ukraine-Jewish Culture” in *Encyclopedia of Modern Jewish Culture*, ed. by Glenda Abramson. 2 vols. (London and New York: RoutledgeCourzon, 2005), 2: 915-921.
- “Russian Legislation and Jewish Self-Governing Institutions: the case of Kamenets-Podol’sk,” essay, and “The Minute-book of the Kamnits (Kamenets) Burial Society,” the 1798/99 Hebrew document, a translation, with commentary, *Jews in Russia and Eastern Europe*, no. 1 (56) (2006), 107-130.
- “The Marketplace in Balta: Aspects of Economic and Cultural Life,” *East European Jewish Affairs*, vol. 37, no. 3 (2007): 277-298.
- “Ukrainian literature,” *The YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2008), 2: 1937-1940.
- “Slaviansko-evreiskie kontakty v oblasti prakticheskoi magii i narodnoi meditsiny” (Slavic-Jewish Contacts in the Realm of Practical Magic and Popular Medicine), two articles forthcoming in Israel Bartal, ed., *Istoriia evreev Rossii (A History of the Jews in Russia)*, in 3 vols. (Jerusalem: Zalman Shazar, 2008), 453-475. In Russian and Hebrew.
- “Moshko Imperskii,” *Ab Imperio*, no. 1 (2009): 115-148.
- “An Unlikely Alliance: the 1907 Ukrainian-Jewish electoral coalition,” in *Nations and Nationalism*, vol. 15, no. 3 (July, 2009), 483-505 (co-authored with Joshua Shanes).
- “Nalezhaty do tykh, koho vbyvaiut’ . . . : vnutrishnii vybir Leonida Pervomais’koho,” *Judaica Ucrainica* (Kyiv), vol. 1 (2012), 317-405.