

Professor Lupovitch
2011-2012
hlupovit@uwo.ca
4429 Social Science
Office hours: M 1:30-2:30, Th 2-3,
& by appointment

History 2809: Jewish History and Culture to 1492

This course will survey the history of the Jews from biblical antiquity until the Expulsion from Spain. The course will explore a wide variety of topics, but will focus around three themes: the emergence of rabbinic Judaism and the Jewish life in the diaspora out of the religious and social matrix of ancient Israelite religion and society; the challenges to the primacy of Torah Judaism by Hellenistic culture; and the disparities between Jewish life under Christianity and Islam. Although primarily a lecture course, students are strongly encouraged to participate by asking and answering questions in class. Please note: the two-hour class meeting on Monday will be divided into two sessions separated by a break.

Required Reading (available at the campus book store and are on reserve in the library):

Eli Barnavi, *A Historical Atlas of the Jewish People*
Judith Baskin, *Jewish Women in Historical Perspective*
Robert Chazan, *The Jews of Medieval Western Christendom*
Jane Gerber, *The Jews of Spain*
William Hallo, et al, *Heritage, Civilization, and the Jews: A Source Reader* (HCJ)
Howard Lupovitch, *Jews and Judaism in World History*
Lawrence Shiffman, *From Text to Tradition*
Norman Stillman, *The Jews of Arab Lands*
Tanakh: The Holy Scriptures (JPS Edition)

Grading

You will be evaluated each semester based on midterm exam, semester exam, and a term paper. Although class participation is not required, it will be rewarded. There will be no formal class discussions, but consistent contribution in class – meaning asking and answering questions – will be taken into account when calculating your overall grade. Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

Midterm Examination #1	15%
Term-Paper #1 (5 pages)	15%
Semester Examination #2	15%
Midterm Examination #2	15%
Term Paper #2 (5 pages)	15%
Semester Examination #2	25%

During the fall semester, the midterm examination will take place in class on October 31 and the term-paper will be due in class on November 28. During the Winter semester, the midterm examination will take place in class on February 13 and the term-paper will be due April 2. The two semester examinations will be distributed at the last scheduled class meeting each semester, and will be due one week later. **Late papers and exams will not be accepted.**

Lecture topics and reading assignments:

Fall Term: Ancient Israel and the Beginnings of the Diaspora

Sep 12 **Introduction: the Dimensions of Jewish History**

The World of the Hebrew Bible

Reading: HCJ, 1-1 – 1-12

Schiffman, 17-32

Barnavi 1-9

Baskin, ch 1

Lupovitch, Intro, ch 1

Tanakh: Genesis 12, 22; Exodus 19-24; Leviticus 19, Numbers 16,

Deuteronomy 6:1-9, 26

The Tribal Confederation

Reading: HCJ, 1-15

Barnavi, 10-13

Tanakh: Judges 18-21, I Samuel 1, 4-6, 8, 9, 12, 15

19 **The Kingdom of David and Solomon**

Reading: HCJ, 1-16, 1-17, 1-18

Barnavi, 14-19

Tanakh: II Samuel 5-7, 11-12, I Kings 3-6, 8, 10-11, Proverbs 5-6

The Divided Monarchy

Reading: HCJ, 1-19, 1-20, 1-22

Barnavi, 20-23

Tanakh: I Kings 12

26 **The Age of Prophecy**

Reading: HCJ, 1-23

Barnavi, 26-27

Tanakh: I Kings 17-19; Isaiah 6, 36-39; Hosea 1-3,; Amos 1-2

The Reforms of Josiah

Reading: HCJ 1-24

Tanakh: II Kings 22-25, Jeremiah 1, 7, 26, Deuteronomy 22,

Oct 3 **Exile and the Return to Zion**

Reading: HCJ, 1-25, 2-1, 2-2, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 2-6, 2-7, 2-10, 2-11

Barnavi, 24-25, 28-29, 30-32

Tanakh: II Kings 21-25; Job 1-3, 38-42. Ecclesiastes 1,3; Psalm 130

Lamentations 1, Ezekiel 1, Genesis 5:18-23, 28:12-19, Exodus 24:9-18

I Enoch 14

Schiffman, 33-59

The Persian Diaspora(and the real story of *Purim*)

Reading: Esther,

10 **Thanksgiving – no class**

17 The Challenge of Hellenism

Reading: Shiffman, 60-71
H CJ, 52-54 2-12, 2-13
Barnavi, 34-39
Baskin, ch 2
Lupovitch, ch 2
I Maccabees 1-2, Ben Sirah (online)

The Maccabean Revolt (and the *real* Story of Hanukkah)

Reading: H CJ 2-14, 2-15
Schiffman, 72-79
Barnavi, 40--45
I Maccabees 3-4; II Maccabees ???(online)
Tanakh: Daniel 7, 12

24 The Hasmonean Dynasty

Reading: Barnavi, 46-47
Schiffman, 98-103

The Reign of Herod

Reading: Barnavi, 48-51
Schiffman, 139-149

31 Midterm Examination

Nov 7 **Jewish Sects: Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes,**
Reading: H CJ, 2-17

The Great Revolt, Masada, and Bar Kochba

Reading: H CJ, 2-16, 2-19
Barnavi, 56-57, 60-61
Schiffman, 157-176

14 Coming of Age in the Diaspora: the Jews of Rome and Alexandria

Reading: H CJ, 3-3
Baskin, ch 2
Schiffman, 94-96

“Rebecca’s Children”: Jesus, Paul, and the Great Schism

Reading: H CJ, 2-18, 3-5
Barnavi, 54-55
Schiffman, 149-156
Galatians, 1-3

21 The Rise of Rabbinic Judaism

Reading: H CJ, 3-4
Barnavi, 58-59, 62-63
Schiffman, 177-200
Baskin, ch 3
Lupovitch, ch 3

Roman Rule and the Limits of Christian Toleration

Reading: HCJ, 3-6, 3-7, 3-8, 3-9
Schiffman, 201-213
Barnavi, 68-69

28 **The Jews of Babylonia**

Reading: Barnavi, 64-67

The Mind of the Rabbis I: Religious and Ethical Dimensions

Reading: Baskin, ch 3
Barnavi, 72-73
Schiffman, 200-264

Temp paper due

5 **The Mind of the Rabbis II: Philosophical and Political Dimensions**

Reading: Barnavi, 70-71

On the Eve of the Muslim Conquest

Lecture Topics and Reading Assignments:

Winter Term: Under Cross and Crescent

Jan 9 **Muhammed and the *Dhimmi***

Reading: HCJ, 3-10, 3-11
Barnavi, 74-77, 8-85
Stillman, 3-39, 113-170
Lupovitch, ch. 4

Exilarchs and *Gaonim*

Reading: HCJ, 3-12, 3-13, 3-14
Barnavi, 86-89, 90-93
Stillman, 171-182

16 **Sa'adia Gaon and the Karaite Schism**

Reading:

The Decline of the Baghdad Caliphate

Reading: Stillman, 40-61, 183-209

23 ***Convivencia*: The Jews of Muslim Spain**

Reading: Barnavi, 94-95, 100-101
Gerber, chapter 1
HCJ, 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5, 4-6
Stillman, 210-211
Abraham Ibn Daud, "The Legend of the Four Captives" (on Webct)

“I am David in My Generation”: Samuel Ibn Nagrela

Reading: Gerber, ch 2-3
Stillman, 211-225

30 **Maimonides**

Reading: HCJ, 4-7, 4-8

Yehuda Halevi, and the Waning of the Golden Age

Reading: HCJ, 4-9
Barnavi, 102-103
Stillman, 233-254

Feb 6 **Ashekenazic Jews from Charlemagne to the First Crusade**

Reading: HCJ, 3-16, 4-10
Baskin, ch 4
Barnavi, 78-79
Chazan, ch 1, 3-4
Lupovitch, ch 5

The Crusades

Reading: HCJ, 4-11, 4-12
Barnavi, 108-109

13 **Midterm Examination**

20 **Reading week – no class**

27 **Ashkenazic Culture: The Pietists of Ashekanaz and the Tosafists**

Reading: Barnavi, 98-99
HCJ 4-17, 4-18
Chazan, ch 5

***Servi Camarae Nostrum* and the Medieval Jewish Community**

Reading: Barnavi, 104-105
Chazan, ch 6

March 5 **The Fourth Lateran Council and the Mendicant Friars**

Reading: Barnavi, 106-107
Chazan, ch 2

The Jew in the Christian Popular Imagination

Reading: HCJ, 4-14

12 **The Age of Expulsions I: England and France**

Reading: Chazan ch 7
HCJ, 4-16
Barnavi, 110-111

The Age of Expulsions II: The Holy Roman Empire and the Italian States

Mar 19 **The Jews of Persia**

Emerging Centers: Poland and the Ottoman Empire

Reading: Barnavi, 116-119

26 ***Reconquista: the Jews of Christian Spain***

Reading: Gerber, ch 4

The Aljama

April 2 **Nachmanides and the Disputation of Barcelona**

Reading: Nachmanides, *Vikuach* (online)

Las Siete Partidas

Reading: *Las Siete Partidas*(online)

9 **1391 and the *Converso* Problem**

Reading: HCJ, 4-19, 4-20

Barnavi, 114-115

Gerber, ch 5

1492

Reading: HCJ, 4-21

Barnavi, 120-121

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

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FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

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The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

MEDICAL ACCOMMODATION

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. Please go to <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf> to download the necessary form. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation is warranted. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once a decision has been made about accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for term tests, assignments, and exams.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Rebecca Dashford, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84962 or rdashfo@uwo.ca