

## **Cities, Spaces and Minority Identities in Modern Europe: The Experiences of Jews and Muslims**

History 3431

Wednesdays 9:30am-11:30am (Stevenson Hall, 2166)

Prof. Sarah Wobick-Segev, [swobicks@uwo.ca](mailto:swobicks@uwo.ca)

Office: Lawson Hall 2245

Office Hours: Thursdays 9:30-11:30am

### **Course Description:**

This course will focus on the role of the city and urban spaces in the lives of religious and ethnic minorities in Europe during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. In particular, we will explore the experiences of Jews and Muslims in Europe, as well as interactions between the two communities. Further, we will examine different theories of identity, space and the public sphere, and integrate these texts into our discussion of the place of minorities in modern Europe. In so doing, we will see how concrete and abstract notions of space were employed to justify the inclusion of minority groups into larger society just as these same spaces were harnessed to exclude them from the public. We will also see how minority groups could employ public spaces to encourage collective consciousness and safeguard their identities. As tools of exclusion/inclusion, urban spaces thus helped groups (minority and majority cultures) to define their own senses of self, just as the very debate over the place of minorities in public space furthered the development of minority identity.

### **Learning outcomes:**

After taking this class students will be able to:

Explain the role that public places have played in minority/majority interactions in Europe, employing categories of analysis and approaches developed in recent writing on the subject of place and space;

Analyze recent and historic debates regarding the place of minorities in European societies, with a special focus on the experiences of Jews and Muslims;

Formulate clear and analytic arguments in research essays based on primary and secondary sources.

### **Requirements and Grading:**

15% Active and engaged **Participation** (attendance to all classes is mandatory)

15% one **Presentation** of weekly readings

15% **Book analysis (due October 8), 3 pages in length**

20% **Response paper, 2-3 pages in length**

35% **Final research paper (due December 3), 8-10 pages in length**

**Required Readings (For purchase at the Bookstore):**

Maud S. Mandel, *Muslims and Jews in France: History of a Conflict*

Rita Chin et al, *After the Nazi Racial State: Difference and Democracy in Germany and Europe*

**The remaining readings will be available online through OWL.**

**All assignments must be typed, double-spaced, use 1" margins, 12-point font.**

\*Students are encouraged **THOUGH NOT REQUIRED** to use their foreign language skills when researching their final research essay.

\*\* Over the course of the year, students will be **EXPECTED** to attend several lectures and events outside of our regular class time.

**Assignments handed in late will be penalized 2% per day. Extensions will be granted only in extreme circumstances.**

**No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations.**

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| <b>Sept. 10</b> | <b>Introduction</b>  |
| <b>Sept. 17</b> | <p><b>The City as Space and Trope, the case of Jewish urbanization</b></p> <p>Readings:<br/> Arthur Ruppin, <i>The Jews in the Modern World</i> (London: Macmillan, 1934), 36-42;<br/> Steven M. Lowenstein, "Was Urbanization Harmful to Jewish Tradition and Identity in Germany?" 80-106;<br/> Hillel J. Kieval, "Antisemitism and the City: A Beginner's Guide," 3-18.</p> |
| <b>Sept. 24</b> | <p><b>The Public Sphere and making of the Nation</b></p> <p>Readings:<br/> Jürgen Habermas, <i>The Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere</i>, 27-56.<br/> Stefan Rohrbacher, "The 'Hep Hep' Riots", 23-42.<br/> Ian Coller, <i>Arab France: Islam and the Making of Modern Europe, 1798-1831</i> (excerpt).</p>   |
| <b>Oct. 1</b>   | <p><b>Building Spaces and (re)-creating Identities I</b></p> <p>Readings:<br/> Michel Foucault, "Of Other Spaces, Heterotopias."<br/> Klaus Hödl, "The Turning to History of Viennese Jews," in <i>Journal of Modern Jewish Studies</i> 3 (2004): 17-32.<br/> Nadia Malinovich, "Enlivening the Public Sphere".</p>  |
| <b>Oct. 8</b>   | <p><b>Vienna and the Jews: Literature and memoir</b></p> <p>Readings:<br/> Stefan Zweig, <i>World of Yesterday</i><br/> <b>OR</b><br/> Torberg, <i>Tante Jolesch</i><br/> <b>OR</b><br/> David Vogel, <i>Married Life</i></p> <p><b><i>Book analysis due today</i></b></p>   |
| <b>Oct. 15</b>  | <p><b>Building Spaces and (re)-creating Identities II</b></p> <p>Readings:<br/> Martin Heidegger, "Building, Dwelling, Thinking".<br/> Shachar Pinsker, "The Urban Literary Cafe".<br/> Jeffrey Veidlinger, "Libraries: From the Study Hall to the Public Library".</p>  |

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| <p><b>Oct. 22</b></p> | <p><b>Leisure Space as Political Arena</b></p> <p>Readings:<br/> David Harvey, "From space to place and back again" in <i>Mapping the Futures: Local Cultures, Global Change</i>.<br/> Nina Warnke, "Immigrant Popular Culture as Contested Sphere: Yiddish Music Halls, the Yiddish Press, and the Processes of Americanization, 1900-1910" in <i>Theatre Journal</i> 48 (1996): 321-335.<br/> Rebecca E. Margolis, "A Tempest in Three Teapots: Yom Kippur Balls in London, New York, and Montreal," in <i>Canadian Jewish Studies</i> 9 (2001): 38-84.</p> |
| <p><b>Oct. 29</b></p> | <p><b>Minority Interaction and the Holocaust</b></p> <p>Readings:<br/> Talal Asad, "Religion, Nation-State, Secularism".<br/> Ethan Katz, "Did the Paris Mosque Save Jews?: A Mystery and Its Memory" <i>Jewish Quarterly Review</i>, Volume 102, Number 2, Spring 2012, 256-287.</p>   |
| <p><b>Nov. 5</b></p>  | <p><b>Minorities in Post-War Germany</b></p> <p>Readings:<br/> Rita Chin et al, <i>After the Nazi Racial State: Difference and Democracy in Germany and Europe</i>, chp. 1 and 2.</p>   |
| <p><b>Nov. 12</b></p> | <p><b>Minority Interaction and Decolonization</b></p> <p>Readings:<br/> Elizabeth Friedman, <i>Colonialism and After: An Algerian Jewish community</i>, 102-127.<br/> Maud Mandel, <i>Muslims and Jews in France</i> , chp. 2 and 3.</p>  |
| <p><b>Nov. 19</b></p> | <p><b>The politics of Minority Interaction</b></p> <p>Maud Mandel, <i>Muslims and Jews in France</i> , chp. 1 and 4.<br/> Maud Mandel, "The War Comes home: Muslim-Jewish Relations in Marseilles during the 1991 Gulf war."</p>  |
| <p><b>Nov. 26</b></p> | <p><b>Migrants and Citizenship</b></p> <p>Rita Chin et al, <i>After the Nazi Racial State: Difference and Democracy in Germany and Europe</i>, chp. 3.<br/> Ruth Mandel, <i>Cosmopolitan Anxieties: Turkish Challenges to</i></p>   |

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|               | <i>Citizenship and Belonging in Germany</i> , chp. 10.  |
| <b>Dec. 3</b> | <p><b>Multicultural Europe?</b></p> <p>Readings:<br/> Rita Chin et al, <i>After the Nazi Racial State: Difference and Democracy in Germany and Europe</i>, chp. 4.<br/> Maud Mandel, <i>Muslims and Jews in France</i> , chp. 6.</p> <p><b>Research Papers are due today in class and through Turnitin.</b></p> |

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### Prerequisites and Antirequisites:

Unless you have either the requisites for this course, as described in the Academic Calendar description of the course, or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites. The Academic Calendar description of each course also indicates which classes are considered antirequisites, i.e., to cover such similar material that students are not permitted to receive academic credit for both courses.

### Academic Offences:

Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitute a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:  
[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

### Plagiarism:

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>).

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 Issues:**

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](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf) to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links the necessary forms. 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 should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

### **SUPPORT SERVICES:**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western, <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

*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.*

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](mailto:rdashfo@uwo.ca)