

ANTISEMITISM, THE HOLOCAUST AND RACISM

Textbooks available at Temple Bookstore:

Doris L. **Bergen**, *War & Genocide: A Concise History of the Holocaust* (Rowman & Littlefield)
Leonard **Dinnerstein**, *Anti-Semitism in America* (Oxford)
Steve **Hochstadt**, ed., *Sources of the Holocaust* (Palgrave/Macmillan)
Michael R. **Marrus**, *The Holocaust in History* (Meridian/Penguin)
Donald L. **Niewyk**, ed., *The Holocaust: Problems and Perspectives of Interpretation* (Houghton Mifflin)
(3rd ed.)

Recommended Memoirs available at Temple Bookstore:

Judith Isaacson, *Seed of Sarah* (Hopkins) **or**
Alan Adelson, ed., *The Diary of Dawid Sierakowiak* (Oxford)

Blackboard Website (Bb): Antisemitism, the Holocaust, and Racism

(includes syllabus, guidelines, bibliographies, web links, definitions, additional readings, etc.)

Course Requirements:

All required primary and secondary readings listed in syllabus
Regular class attendance and participation (only **3** unexcused absences permitted without penalty)
Reaction journals (**4** required, **2 on primary sources** and **2 on secondary sources; extra credit for extra journals and/or web site reviews**) (*See Guidelines for Journals on Blackboard.*)

Due dates: 1) Feb. 8; 2) Feb. 22; 3) March 22; 4) April 12

Class trip to Holocaust Museum in Washington, Sunday, March 27

Two short (4-6 page) papers:

- 1) comparison of two Holocaust memoirs (**Due March 17**)
- 2) evaluation of visit to Holocaust Museum **or** a book report on recommended history of the Holocaust (**Due April 7**) (*Guidelines and selected bibliographies on Blackboard*)

Examinations: Mid-term (**March 1**) and Final (**May 10, 8:30-10:30 AM**)

Grading Policy: Class participation	10%
Journals	15%
Papers	30% (15% per paper)
Mid-term	20%
Final exam	25%

Come to class on time and hand in your assignments on time.

Late papers and journals will be penalized.

University rules regarding plagiarism will be enforced.

Please let the instructor know about any special problems or disabilities so that appropriate arrangements can be worked out.

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ANTISEMITISM, THE HOLOCAUST AND RACISM

Syllabus

1) Introduction: Antisemitism, The Holocaust and Racism

Background: Michael R. **Marrus**, *The Holocaust in History*, 1-7

Donald L. **Niewyk**, ed., *The Holocaust*, 1-7

Steve Hochstadt, ed., *Sources of the Holocaust*, 1-6

David Berger, "Anti-Semitism: An Overview" from *History and Hate*, 3-14 (on **Blackboard/Bb**)

Doris L. **Bergen**, *War & Genocide*, vii-xi (**Bb**)

Web link: [What is Antisemitism?](#)

2) Roots of Antisemitism: Prejudice and Hatred in the Christian World

Primary Readings: **Sources**, 7-21

Secondary: **Bergen**, 1-6 (**Bb**)

Leonard **Dinnerstein**, *Antisemitism in America*, xix-xxviii

Rita Botwinick, "Prejudice and Anti-Semitism"; Milton Kleg, "Hate Prejudice and Racism" and Joel Carmichael "Satanizing the Jews" from Rita Steinhardt Botwinick, ed., *A Holocaust Reader: From Ideology to Annihilation*, 1-18 (**Bb**)

Robert Chazan, "Medieval Anti-Semitism" in *History and Hate*, 49-65 (**Bb**)

Recommended web links: [Classical/Christian Antisemitism](#)

Film: *The Longest Hatred*

3) Modern Antisemitism and Racism: Europe and America

Primary Readings: **Sources**, 22-28

Documents on "Political and Racial Antisemitism" from Paul Mendes-Flohr & Jehuda Reinharz, eds., *The Jew in the Modern World: A Documentary History*, 2nd ed: Wilhelm Marr, 331-333; Adolf Stoecker, Theodor Fritsch, 340-350; Protocols of the Elders of Zion, 363-367; Awaiting a Pogrom, The Massacre of Jews at Kishinev, The City of Slaughter, The Beilis Trial, 408-412 (**Bb**)

Secondary: **Bergen**, 6-28 (**Bb**)

Jacob Katz, "Anti-Semitism Through the Ages," in **Niewyk**, 12-24

Todd M. Endelmann, "Comparative Perspectives on Modern Anti-Semitism in the West," in *History and Hate*, 95-114 (**Bb**)

Dinnerstein, pp.3-104 (recommended)

Web links: [Modern Antisemitism](#); [The Protocols of the Elders of Zion](#)

4) The Development of Nazi Antisemitism and Jewish Responses (to 1939)

Primary Readings: **Sources**, 29-31, 37-84

Documents on "The Holocaust" from *The Jew in the Modern World*: Adolf Hitler; Robert Weltsch; Reichsvertretung der deutschen Juden; The Nuremberg Laws; R.T. Heydrich; Kristallnacht; H.W. Goering; The Plight of the Refugees, 636-660 (**Bb**)

Secondary: **Bergen**, 29-100

Marrus, 8-30

Henry Friedlander, "The Opening Act of Nazi Genocide," **Niewyk**, 39-55

Yisrael Gutman, "On the Character of Nazi Antisemitism," from Shmuel Almog, ed., *Antisemitism Through the Ages*, 349-379 (**Bb**)

Web links: [Nazi Rule \(USHMMM\)](#); [The Nazis \(Museum of Tolerance\)](#)

Film(s): *Triumph of the Will* and/or *Into the Hands of Strangers*

5) The Holocaust: The Perpetrators

Primary Readings: **Sources**, 85-178

Secondary: **Bergen**, 101-172

Marrus, 31-83

Ian Kershaw, "Hitler's Decisive Role"; Robert Jay Lifton, "The Nazi Doctors,"

Christopher R. Browning, "Ordinary Men"; Daniel Jonah Goldhagen, "Hitler's Willing Executioners," in **Niewyck**, 24-38; 60-103

Web links: [Antisemitism and the Final Solution \(Museum of Tolerance\)](#); [The 20th Century History Newsletter: The Holocaust](#)

Film clips: *Eclipse of Humanity*

6) Ghettos and Labor Camps: Co-operation vs. Resistance

Primary Readings: **Sources**, 179-221

Documents on "The Holocaust": Jewish Fighting Organization; Mordecai Anielewicz; Emanuel Ringelblum; Juergen Stroop, 673-682 (**Bb**)

Secondary: **Bergen**, 193-219

Marrus, 133-155

Raul Hilberg, "Two Thousand Years of Jewish Appeasement"; Yehoda Bauer, "Forms of Jewish Resistance"; Isaiah Trunk, "Why the Jewish Councils Cooperated"; in **Niewyck**, 139-176

Web links: [Resistance and Rescue \(Museum of Tolerance\)](#)

7) The Victims: Men, Women and Children

Primary Readings: **Sources**, 222-254

Documents on "The Holocaust": Chaim Kaplan; Janusz Korczak, 666-673 & Mordecai Chaim Rumkowski; Franzi Epstein, 690-696 (**Bb**)

Secondary: **Bergen**, 172-193

Marrus, 108-132

Bruno Bettelheim, "Helpless Victims"; Terrence Des Pres, "The Will to Survive"; Sybil Milton, "Women's Survival Skills"; Lawrence L. Langer, "Women's Survival Skills," in **Niewyck**, 105-136

Web links: [The Jews \(Museum of Tolerance\)](#)

8) Rescuers and Bystanders in Nazi Europe

Secondary: **Marrus**, 84-107 and 156-183

Yisrael Gutman and Shmuel Krakowski, "The Poles Helped Persecute the Jews"; Richard C. Lukas, "The Poles Were Fellow Victims"; Michael R. Marrus and Robert O. Paxton, "Western Europeans and the Jews"; Samuel P. and Pearl M. Oliner, "The Altruistic Personality," in **Niewyck**, 179-231

Web links: [The Righteous Among the Nations \(Yad Vashem\)](#)

9) The Western World and the Holocaust: Possibilities of Rescue

Primary Readings: Documents on "The Holocaust": Bermuda Conference; Shmuel Zygelboym, 682-684 (**Bb**)

Secondary: **Marrus**, 184-202

Dinnerstein, 105-149

William D. Rubinstein, "The Myth of Rescue"; Michael Payer, "The Silence of Pope Pius XII," Walter Laqueur, "The Failure to Comprehend," in **Niewyck**, 233-274

Web links: [The World Response](#)

Film: *America and the Holocaust: Deceit and Indifference*

10) After the Holocaust: Europe, America and Israel

Primary Readings: **Sources**, 255-269

Documents on "The Holocaust:" Estimated Number of Jews Killed by the Nazis; Gideon Hausner, pp.696-699 (**Bb**)

Secondary: **Bergen**, 221-228

Bernard Wasserstein, "Displaced Persons," pp.1-35 (**Bb**)

Dinnerstein, 150-174

Web links: [After the War \(Museum of Tolerance\)](#)

11) Remembering the Holocaust

Secondary: James E. Young, "Introduction" to *The Art of Memory: Holocaust Memorials in History*, 19-38 (**Bb**)

Web links: [United States Holocaust Memorial Museum](#); [Yad Vashem](#);

[And I Still See Their Faces: Images of Polish Jews](#); [A Cybrary of the Holocaust](#);

[Antisemitism and the Holocaust](#)

Films: *Survivors of the Shoah*; *All But My Life*

12) Racism and Antisemitism in America: American Jews and African-Americans

Secondary: **Dinnerstein**, 175-227

David M. Gordis, "Jews, Race and American Pluralism," *Jews and Race in America*, 33-38 (**Bb**)

Lawrence Wright, "One Drop of Blood," *The New Yorker* (July 25, 1994) (**Bb**)

Web links: [Hate in America \(Public Research Associates\)](#)

12) The Post-World War II "Other": Racism, Anti-Zionism and Neo-Nazism

Secondary: **Dinnerstein**, 228-250

Yehuda Bauer, "Antisemitism and Anti-Zionism - New and Old" from Robert Wistrich, ed., *Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism in the Contemporary World*, 195-207 (**Bb**)

13) Wrap Up: What Can We Learn from the Holocaust? Genocide and Antisemitism in Recent History

Primary Readings: **Sources**, 270-299

ANTISEMITISM, THE HOLOCAUST AND RACISM

Course Description:

This course examines the history of antisemitism with a focus on the Holocaust and racism. We will investigate the development and implementation of racial antisemitism in Germany and compare Nazi antisemitism with other forms of racism and antisemitism in Europe and America. We will also explore the social construction of race, the connection between antisemitism and anti-Zionism, the growth of neo-Nazism, the complex relationship between American Jews and African Americans, and racism in the world today.

Skills/competencies emphasized:

- Reading both primary and secondary historical sources
- Understanding different historical approaches to the study of antisemitism and the Holocaust
- Ability to evaluate and compare different types of antisemitism and racism in various historical contexts
- Writing journals critically analyzing main ideas in readings
- Oral communication skills through participation in class discussions
- Formulating historical arguments verbally and on paper
- Writing short papers reviewing memoirs, historical monographs and visual materials dealing with the Holocaust