

Sociology/Jewish Studies 258  
Fall semester 2006  
Tuesday/Thursday 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
Classroom: 367 Van Hise

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Office hours: Tues./Thurs. by appointment

## **THE JEWS, STATES, AND CITIZENSHIP: A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE**

### **Course Objectives**

In this course we will investigate the civic emancipation of European Jews – the process by which European Jews acquired full and equal citizenship – from the French Revolution in 1789 to the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917. The purpose of the course is *not* to teach a narrative of events in modern Jewish history, but instead to construct sociological explanations for historical outcomes and patterns. To achieve this objective, the course will adopt a comparative-historical perspective, focusing primarily on Britain, France, Germany, and Russia (the last as a case of failed emancipation prior to 1917). The course will focus on the following key questions:

- (1) What are the social origins of Jewish emancipation in nineteenth-century Europe? Why did it occur? Who pushed emancipation, who opposed it, and why? Under what conditions was emancipation most likely?
- (2) Why did emancipation happen at different times and take different forms in different countries?
- (3) How did emancipation affect the social organization and collective identity of Jews in Europe? Were these effects the same in all countries? Why or why not?
- (4) How did Jews respond to emancipation? Why did they respond in different ways?

A second goal of this course is to provide an introduction to political and comparative-historical sociology, including theories of state formation, citizenship, nationalism, and ethnic conflict. Rather than learn these theories as an abstract and formal body of knowledge, you will have the opportunity to learn, test, and build theory as sociologists do, by confronting and solving problems (namely, the four questions listed above). To this end, we will seek to relate emancipation to the broader social forces that transformed Europe in the nineteenth century, paying close attention to two master processes highlighted by previous sociological research: (1) The development in Europe of a *modern capitalist economy* and related phenomena, including class formation, class conflict, and industrialization; and (2) the development of the *modern state*, including the impact of war and political centralization, the timing of national unification in each country, and the emergence of nationalism. We may also consider other factors such as the history of church/state relations, the historical legacy of prior arrangements for resolving conflicts between Protestants and Catholics, and the relative size, concentration, and migration of the Jewish population in and among different countries.

Finally, while the course is primarily intended to shed light on the civic and political integration of Jews into modern Europe, it will also use Jewish emancipation to better understand the formation of modern Europe itself. As Yirmiyahu Yovel writes: “Jews were not only the targets and victims of modern European upheavals; they also provided Europeans with a mirror, a crooked, passion-laden mirror, in which to see a reflection of their own identity problems. The ‘Jewish problem’ was basically a European problem: that is, not only a problem for Europe but a reflection of Europe’s

own problem with itself, of how, in an age of rapid transformation, Europeans were understanding their own identity, future, and meaning of life.”

## Course Requirements

**Reading:** Students are required to do a heavy amount of reading (up to 100 pages per week) and to complete assigned readings before each class meeting. **If you are unable or unwilling to do this much reading consistently, you should drop the course now.** Please bring the assigned readings to class with you each day.

**Attendance and participation:** The course will be run seminar-style, and class time will be devoted to discussion of the assigned texts. Students are required to attend class regularly, arrive on time, and participate fully and actively in class discussions based on the readings. You are encouraged to raise questions about the assigned readings (this counts as participation). You do not need to explain or justify occasional absences, but frequent tardiness, absences, or lack of participation will reduce your overall grade.

**Five pop quizzes:** There will be five pop quizzes throughout the semester. Each quiz will consist of four short-answer or multiple-choice questions about that day’s reading assignment. You may use your notes (but not the assigned texts) to answer the questions. The questions will be simple, straightforward, and easy if you have completed the reading assignment. You will be given 15 minutes to take each quiz.

**Mid-term and final papers:** You are required to write a mid-term essay and a final essay, 5-7 pages each. You may write on any course-related topic of your choice, but the paper must try to *explain* rather than merely *describe* some aspect of Jewish emancipation. (See “Guidelines for Writing Papers” for further instructions.) Essays must be typed and double-spaced.

This course is taught in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin’s Undergraduate Writing Fellows Program. Writing Fellows are a group of highly talented, carefully selected, and extensively trained undergraduates who serve as peer writing tutors in classes throughout the College of Letters and Science. I have asked the two Fellows assigned to this course to read the first draft of each paper you write, make thoughtful and constructive comments, and hold one-to-one conferences with each of you to help you revise the paper before you resubmit it for a grade. Every student must therefore (1) submit a draft version of each paper to the Writing Fellows, (2) meet with a Writing Fellow to discuss the paper before submitting the revised version, and (3) resubmit a revised version of the paper for a grade. Please provide a printed copy and computer file of the revised essay. You may submit the file on a diskette or as an e-mail attachment to [cgoldber@ssc.wisc.edu](mailto:cgoldber@ssc.wisc.edu). Essays handed in late will generally not be accepted unless you have received an extension from me.

**Academic misconduct:** If you have any questions about what constitutes academic misconduct, please consult <http://www.wisc.edu/students/conduct/uws14.htm> before proceeding in this course. If you have questions about plagiarism specifically, please consult the hand-out “Quoting, Paraphrasing, and Acknowledging Sources,” available at the Writing Center (6171 Helen C. White Hall). You are expected to be familiar with these guidelines before you submit any written work in this course; lack of familiarity with these rules in no way constitutes an excuse for acts of misconduct. All essays will be screened with anti-plagiarism software, and any instance of plagiarism or other misconduct will be dealt with strictly according to university policy.

There is no final exam during exam week.

## Grading

Your overall grade for the semester will be calculated on a 100-point scale as follows:

Attendance & participation:	15 points
Five pop quizzes:	20 points (4 points each)
Mid-term paper:	30 points
Final paper:	35 points

A = 95-100, AB = 90-94, B = 85-89, and so forth.

## **Reading Assignments**

There are three main books for the course, all of which are available from the University Book Store. These books will also be on reserve at College Library:

- 1) Lloyd P. Gartner, *History of the Jews in Modern Times* (Oxford University Press, 2001).
- 2) Gianfranco Poggi, *The Development of the Modern State: A Sociological Introduction* (Stanford University Press, 1978).
- 3) David Vital, *A People Apart: A Political History of the Jews in Europe, 1789-1939* (Oxford University Press, 1999).

For supplementary reading, I recommend Victor Karady, *The Jews of Europe in the Modern Era: A Socio-Historical Outline* (Budapest: Central European University Press, 2004). Though challenging for undergraduates, it provides a superb sociological analysis of modern Jewish history.

Reading assignments marked with an asterisk (\*) will be distributed as hand-outs or in a course packet on reserve at College Library and available at Bob's Copy Shop in University Square.

Students who are not familiar with European history may wish to consult an introductory textbook such as John M. Merriman, *A History of Modern Europe* (New York: W. W. Norton, 1996), also on reserve at College Library.

## I. JEWS IN EUROPE BEFORE THE MODERN ERA

### **September 5**

Introduction to the course.

Recommended: Theda Skocpol, "Emerging Agendas and Recurrent Strategies in Historical Sociology," in *Vision and Method in Historical Sociology*, ed. Theda Skocpol (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1984), 356-391.

### **September 7**

Poggi, *Modern State*, "The Feudal System of Rule," 16-35.

Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 1-21.

\* Max Weber, excerpt from "Class, Status, Party" (hand-out, originally published 1922).

\* Arnaldo Momigliano, "A Note on Max Weber's Definition of Judaism as a Pariah-Religion," *History and Theory* 19, no. 3 (Oct. 1980): 313-318.

### **September 12**

Poggi, *Modern State*, "The Standestaat," 36-59.

Vital, *People Apart*, 1-25.

### **September 14**

- \* Calvin Goldscheider and Alan S. Zuckerman, "The Jewish Condition in Premodern Europe" in *The Transformation of the Jews* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1984), 11-28.
- \* Eli Lederhendler, "The Medieval Legacy of the Polish-Lithuanian Kahal," in *The Road to Modern Jewish Politics* (Oxford University Press, 1989), 11-35.

## **II. REFORM AND REVOLUTION IN THE WEST, TSARISM IN THE EAST, 1780 – 1815**

### **September 19**

- Poggi, *Modern State*, "The Absolutist System of Rule," 60-85.
- \* Charles Tilly, "The Emergence of Citizenship in France and Elsewhere," in *Citizenship, Identity and Social History*, ed. Charles Tilly (Cambridge, UK: University of Cambridge, 1996), 223-236.
  - \* Rogers Brubaker, "The French Revolution and the Invention of National Citizenship" in *Citizenship and Nationhood in France and Germany* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1992), 35-49.
- Recommended: Rogers Brubaker, "Introduction" in *Citizenship and Nationhood*, 1-17.

### **September 21 - Britain, France, and Germany**

- Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 95-121.  
Vital, *People Apart*, 29-42.  
Recommended: Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 83-94.

### **September 26 - France**

- \* Arthur Hertzberg, chapters I and X in *The French Enlightenment and the Jews* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1968), 1-11, 314-368.

### **September 28 - France**

- \* Gary Kates, "Jews into Frenchmen: Nationality and Representation in Revolutionary France," *Social Research* 56, no. 1 (Spring 1989): 213-232.
- Vital, *People Apart*, 42-62.

### **October 3 - Germany**

- Vital, *People Apart*, 63-69.
- \* Goldscheider and Zuckerman, *Transformation of the Jews*, "Political Modernization," 31-41.
  - \* Michael Mann, "Ruling Class Strategies and Citizenship," *Sociology* 21, no. 3 (Aug. 1987): 339-354.
- Recommended: T. H. Marshall, "Citizenship and Social Class," in *Class, Citizenship, and Social Development* (Garden City: Doubleday, 1964), 65-122.  
Recommended: Bryan S. Turner, "Outline of a Theory of Citizenship," *Sociology* 24, no. 2 (May 1990): 189-217.

### **October 5 - Russia**

- Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 36-39, 68-70, 122-126.  
Vital, *People Apart*, 69-98.  
Recommended: Karady, *Jews of Europe*, chap. 1-2.  
Recommended: Lederhendler, *Road to Modern Jewish Politics*, chap. 2.

### III. AFTER NAPOLEON, 1815 - 1880

#### **October 10 - Religious, demographic, economic, and educational change** **MIDTERM PAPER DUE (DRAFT VERSION).**

Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 128-155.

\* Goldscheider and Zuckerman, *Transformation of the Jews*, "The First Waves of Social and Economic Modernization in Europe," 42-62.

Recommended: Goldscheider and Zuckerman, *Transformation of the Jews*, "New Religious Ideologies and Institutions," 63-75.

Recommended: Vital, *People Apart*, chap. 2, especially 130-135, 163-165.

#### **October 12 - Political change**

Poggi, *Modern State*, "The Nineteenth-Century Constitutional State," 86-116.

Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 155-161.

Vital, *People Apart*, 165-183.

#### **October 17 - Russia**

Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 162-180, 185-190.

Vital, *People Apart*, 146-165, 205-211.

Recommended: Lederhendler, *Road to Modern Jewish Politics*, chap. 3-5 and conclusion.

#### **October 19 - Anti-Semitism, the AIU, and the Damascus Affair**

Vital, *People Apart*, 183-205, 232-248.

\* Norbert Elias, "On the Sociology of German Anti-Semitism," *Journal of Classical Sociology* 1, no. 2 (2001): 219-225.

Recommended: Eric Dunning, Hermann Korte, Stephen Mennell, "Introduction to Norbert Elias's 'On the Sociology of German Anti-Semitism,'" *Journal of Classical Sociology* 1, no. 2 (2001): 213-217.

Recommended: Karl Marx, "On the Jewish Question," in *The Marx-Engels Reader*, ed. Robert C. Tucker (New York: W. W. Norton, 1978), 26-52 (originally published 1843).

Recommended: Vital, *People Apart*, 211-232.

#### **October 24 - German nationalism and anti-Semitism**

Vital, *People Apart*, 248-277.

\* Anthony D. Smith, "'Ethnic' and 'Civic' Nationalism," in *Nationalism* (Malden, MA: Polity Press, 2001), 39-42.

\* Rogers Brubaker, "Immigration, Citizenship, and the Nation-State in France and Germany: A Comparative Historical Analysis," *International Sociology* 5, no. 4 (Dec. 1990): 379-407.

Recommended: Anthony D. Smith, "Theories" in *Nationalism* (Malden, MA: Polity Press, 2001), 62-86.

Recommended: David Sorkin, "The Impact of Emancipation on German Jewry," in *Assimilation and Community*, ed. Jonathan Frankel and Steven J. Zipperstein (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1992), 177-198.

#### **October 26 - Anti-Semitism in Germany and France, the Dreyfus Affair**

Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 213-238.

\* William I. Brustein and Ryan D. King, "Anti-Semitism in Europe before the Holocaust," *International Political Science Review* 25, no. 1 (Jan. 2004): 35-53.

Recommended: Karady, *Jews of Europe*, 197-243, 299-371.

IV. CRISIS AND RESPONSE:  
MIGRATION, SOCIALISM, ZIONISM, 1881-1914

**October 31 - The crisis of 1881, emigration from Russia  
MIDTERM PAPER DUE (REVISED VERSION).**

Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 238-242, 258-266.  
Vital, *People Apart*, 281-297, 317-345.

**November 2 - Socialism and Zionism**

Vital, *People Apart*, 346-366.  
Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 243-258.

**November 7 - Zionism**

Vital, *People Apart*, 366-400.  
\* Goldscheider and Zuckerman, *Transformation of the Jews*, "Modernization in Large and Organized Jewish Communities," 94-115.

**November 9 - Socialism**

Vital, *People Apart*, 400-415.  
\* Goldscheider and Zuckerman, *Transformation of the Jews*, "The Rise and Development of Jewish Political Movements in Europe," 116-135.

**November 14 - The Bund**

Vital, *People Apart*, 415-437.  
\* Peter Y. Medding, "Towards a General Theory of Jewish Political Interests and Behaviour," *The Jewish Journal of Sociology* 19, no. 2 (Dec. 1977): 115-144.

**November 16 - Zionism**

Vital, *People Apart*, 437-475.  
\* Joseph Goldstein, "Some Sociological Aspects of the Russian Zionist Movement at its Inception," *Jewish Social Studies* 47, no. 2 (Spring 1985): 167-178.

**November 21 - Organization and intercession (in Russia and Romania)**

\* Goldscheider and Zuckerman, *Transformation of the Jews*, "The Tempo and Intensity of Modernization," 79-93.  
Vital, *People Apart*, 476-509.

**November 23: Thanksgiving holiday (no class).**

**November 28 - Kishinev and the Russian Revolution of 1905**

**FINAL PAPER DUE (DRAFT VERSION).**  
Vital, *People Apart*, 509-535, 566-593.  
Recommended: Vital, *People Apart*, 535-540, 593-640.

**November 30 - The Dreyfus Affair revisited**

Vital, *People Apart*, 540-566.  
\* Emile Durkheim, "Antisémitisme et crise sociale," in *Textes*, vol. 2 (Paris: Editions de Minuit, 1975), 252-254 (hand-out, originally published 1899, translated by instructor).  
Recommended: Karady, *Jews of Europe*, 243-297.

## V. WORLD WAR AND REVOLUTION IN RUSSIA, 1914-1918

### **December 5 - The First World War and the Balfour Declaration**

Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 267-276.

Vital, *People Apart*, 643-675, 687-702.

### **December 7 - The Bolshevik Revolution and the Russian civil war**

Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 281-294.

Vital, *People Apart*, 703-728.

Recommended: Arno J. Mayer, "The Perils of Emancipation: Protestants and Jews,"  
*Archives de sciences sociales des religions* 40, no. 90 (Apr.-Jun. 1995): 5-37.

### **December 12 - The Paris Peace Conference: A New World Order?**

Vital, *People Apart*, 728-754.

Gartner, *History of the Jews*, 294-301.

### **December 14 - Final reflections**

#### **FINAL PAPER DUE (REVISED VERSION).**

\* Zygmunt Bauman, "Exit Visas and Entry Tickets: Paradoxes of Jewish Assimilation,"  
*Telos* 77 (Fall 1988): 45-77.

Recommended: Goldscheider and Zuckerman, *Transformation of the Jews*,  
"Modernization, Conflict, and Ethnic Cohesion" and "The Bases of Ethnic  
Cohesion," 3-10, 223-242.

Recommended: Arthur Hertzberg, "The Emancipation: A Reassessment after Two  
Centuries," *Modern Judaism* 1, no. 1 (May 1981):46-53.