



The Weiss-Livnat International MA Program in Holocaust Studies



Yad Vashem
The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority
The International Institute for Holocaust Research



BEIT LOHAMEI HAGHETAOT
THE GHETTO FIGHTERS' HOUSE

Course Title	German Jewry under the Nazi Regime		
Name of Instructor	Professor Hagit Lavsky	Number of Credit Points	2
Instructor Email	hagit.lavsky@mail.huji.ac.il	Time Course is offered	Fall: Wednesdays 9:15-10:45

Course Description

The Nazi rise to power changed dramatically the situation of German Jewry, from being the most prosperous and integrated/assimilated community in Europe to become the first community to experience the Nazi persecution, violent terror, expulsion, robbery, ghettoization, and deportation over a long period before the war. How did they react? How did various groups perceive what was happening and what were the chances? How did the Jewish leadership cope with the crisis? What were their options to emigrate and how did they change along the time? How did they act to survive on a daily basis? How did the new situation shape their Jewish identity and solidarity? What happened to them during the war? How many and who were the survivors and how did they cope with the post-war situation? All these issues and more will be dealt with against the background of the developing Nazi anti-Jewish policy and on the basis of first-hand documentation, personal testimonies and correspondence, and by addressing a variety of studies with pluralistic approaches.

Course Requirements:

- Weekly reading assignments: Each week's discussion will be based on a few articles, chapters, and sources. Reading will be guided by leading questions. All weekly requirements and assignments will appear on the course website. All reading materials will be available on the Reserve shelves in the library and the required materials are scanned and available on the course site.
- Class participation: Attendance in at least 10 classes of the course; occasional individual assignment and presentation.
- Response papers: Students will have to submit twice a short response paper of 2-5 pages, addressing an issue based on selected pieces of the course assigned reading.
- Final short paper – for those who opt for: Length - up to 10 pages, double-spaced, font 12. You should submit **proposal of 1-2 pages for final short papers through email or through the course website by the end of December 2016.** A proposal should include research question, a brief explanation about the literature on the topic, methodological considerations, table of contents and bibliography. Final papers should follow standard academic practice. Proposals may be submitted and discussed via the course website.
- **Submission deadline for final short papers: One month after the end of the semester, on February 28th, 2017, via email +cc to Ilana Eshhar.**
- Seminar paper: Students who opt for seminar paper (25-30 pages, double spaced, font 12) will have to set appointment with the teacher to discuss topic and get initial guidelines. Submission of proposal of up to 3 pages along the same lines as required for the short final paper, by the end of December 2016.
- **Submission deadline for seminar papers: By the end of the spring semester, on June 20, 2017 Via email + cc Ilana Eshhar**

- Communication: Make sure to check your emails and the course website every week for any update regarding the seminar. Each student must make sure to meet with me at least once in the semester.

Final Grade for students who opt for short or seminar papers:

Class participation and response papers 50%; Final paper or seminar paper 50%

Course Outline

1. Nov. 2, 2016: German Jewry on the Eve of the Nazi seizure of power

2. Nov. 9, 2016: Initial responses to the Nazi seizure of Power

Bibliography

Barkai, *From boycott to annihilation*, chap 1, 13-36.

Friedlander, *Nazi Germany and the Jews*, vol. 1 *The years of persecution, 1933-1939*, chap. 1, 9-40.

Primary sources:

Jewish Responses to Persecution, ed. Matthäus, Jürgen and Mark Roseman, (AltaMira Press 2010), vol. I:

1. "Inner security", *Jüdische Rundschau*, Feb. 3, 1933, 10-11.

2. Final Letter by Fritz Rosenfelder to his friends, April 1933, 30-31.

3. List of youth 1934; letter by Lea Folk, Nov. 1933, 71-74.

3. Nov. 16, 2016: Confronting the Nuremberg Laws 1935

Bibliography

Friedlander, *Nazi Germany and the Jews*, chap. 4-5.

Meyer and Brenner, *German-Jewish History*, Chap. 9, sec. 3, 210-216.

Primary Sources

Cohn, Willy, *No Justice in Germany: The Breslau Diaries*, 183-213.

Jewish Responses, vol. I:

Letter by CV president, 16-9-1935, 193.

Louise Solmitz diary entry, Nov. 15, 1935, 196.

4. Nov. 23, 2016: The tragic turning point: 1938 and its aftermath

Bibliography

Barkai, *From Boycott to Annihilation*, 110-138.

Meyer and Brenner, *German Jewish History*, Chap. 9, sec. 5, 220-224; chap. 13, sec. 2-4, 318-332.

Primary sources

Jewish Responses, vol. I:

Doc.12-5, Rudolf Bing, 351-52.

Doc.12-12, Mally Dienemann, 363-366.

Jewish Responses, vol. II, doc. 2-1, 29-30.

5. Nov. 30, 2016: Institutional responses – Jewish leadership and Jewish parties

Bibliography

Meyer and Brenner, *German-Jewish history in modern times*, vol. 4. Chap. 11, 258-282.

Lavsky, *Before Catastrophe*, chap. 12, 227-253.

Or

Nicosia, "German Zionism and Jewish Life in Nazi Berlin."

Primary sources

Jewish Responses, vol. I:

1. Appeal at the Inauguration of the *Reichsvertretung*, 55-56.
2. Letter by Willy Rosenfeld to CV Head Office, Nov. 6, 1933, 81-82.

Submission of 1st response paper: Analysis of one of the primary sources assigned to Class 5.

6. Dec. 7, 2016: The dynamics of emigration: emigrants and refugees

Bibliography

Lavsky, "German Jewish Interwar Migration."
Marrus, *The Unwanted*, chap. 3, 128-138, 145-183.

Primary sources

Jewish Responses:

Vol. I: Doc. 3-3+3-4+3-5, 69-71; Doc. 11-1, 307-311.
Vol. II: Doc. 2-7 and 2-8, 45-47.

7. Dec. 14, 2016: The daily battle for survival in advancing deterioration

Bibliography

Barkai, "Jewish Self-Help in Nazi Germany."

Or

Barkai, *From Boycott to Annihilation*, 37-53, 77-99, 106-109, 139-151.
Kaplan, *Between Dignity and Despair*, chap. 4, 94-118 (notes 250-253)

Or

Kaplan, "Changing Roles in Jewish Families."
Meyer and Brenner, *German-Jewish History*, chap. 14, sec. 1-4, 333-354.

8. Dec. 21, 2016: The Jewish leadership – functioning under pressure

Bibliography

Meyer and Brenner, *German-Jewish History*, chap. 13, sec. 1, 314-318.
Kulka, "Jewish society in Germany as reflected in secret Nazi reports."

Primary sources

Jewish Responses I, doc. 2-13, 54-56.

9. Dec. 28, 2016: Spiritual and cultural withstanding

Bibliography

Meyer and Brenner, *German-Jewish History*, chap. 12, 283-312.

Or

Brenner, "Jewish Culture in a Modern Ghetto."
Hirsch "“Ein Tanz auf dem Vulkan”: The legacy of the Jewish Culture League.”

Primary sources

Jewish Responses, doc. 8-13—8-20, 236-346.

Kurt Baumann memoirs, in: Richarz, *Jewish life in Germany*, 378-386.

Submission of 2nd response paper: On the meaning of spiritual and cultural withstanding based on the assigned readings.

Dec. 31, 2016: Deadline for submission of proposals for final short papers and for seminar papers

10. Jan. 4, 2017: The war years: Ghettoization, forced labor, and deportations

Bibliography

Kwiet, "Without Neighbors: Daily Living in Judenhäuser."

Kaplan, *Between Dignity and Despair*, chap. 6, 145-172 (notes 255-258), chap. 8, 201-228 (notes 261-263).

Primary sources

Jews in Nazi Berlin, Part 7: Deportations, sec. 10, 173-183

In Richarz, *Jewish Life*:

Michael Meyer, 406-412

Elisabeth Freund, 412-424

11. Jan. 11, 2017: The war years: Leadership, underground, and flight

Bibliography (allocated)

Meyer, Beate, "Between Self-Assertion and Forced Collaboration."

Meyer, Beate, "The inevitable dilemma"

Elkin, "The survival of the Jewish Hospital in Berlin, 1938-1945."

Meyer and Brenner, *German-Jewish history*, chap. 14, sec. 4, 346-354, sec. 6, 356-360.

Kaplan, *Between Dignity and Despair*, chap. 7, 173-200 (notes 258-261).

Seligmann, "An illegal way of life in Nazi Germany."

Zariz, "Officially approved emigration from Germany after 1941."

Primary sources

Jews in Nazi Berlin: From Kristallnacht to Liberation, 52-59, 89-99

Richarz, *Jewish Life*:

Miriam Gerber, 424-429.

Bruno Blau, 460-474.

12. Jan. 18, 2017: German-Jewish survivors and Jewish DPs in Germany

Bibliography

Bauer, *Out of the Ashes*, chap. 3, 45-70.

Dinnerstein, *America and the Survivors of the Holocaust*, chap. 7.

Kochavi, *Post-Holocaust politics*, Chap. 1., 13-31+notes, 287-291; chap. 4, 89-97+ notes, 304-306.

13. Jan. 25, 2017: The emergence of German-Jewish postwar communities

Bibliography

Lavsky, *New Beginnings*, chap. 8, 124-140 + 256-260.

A balance-sheet: German Jewry in the Holocaust.

Bibliography: All reserved and scanned or electronic sources

Barkai, Avraham, *From boycott to annihilation : the economic struggle of German Jews, 1933-1943*, Hanover N.H: University Press of New England, c1989. DS135.G33 B38513 1989
German:

Barkai, Avraham, *Vom Boykott zur "Entjudung" :Der wirtschaftliche Existenzkampf der Juden im Dritten Reich, 1933-1943*, Frankfurt am Main 1988. DS135.G33B385 1988
001297875

Bauer, Yehuda *Out of the Ashes*, Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1989. DS 126.4 B37 1989

Dinnerstein Leonard, *America and the Survivors of the Holocaust*, New York: Columbia University Press, 1982. DS 135. U5 .

Elkin, Rivka, 'The survival of the Jewish Hospital in Berlin, 1938-1945'. *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book* 38 (1993), 157-192.

Friedlander, Saul, *Nazi Germany and the Jews*, vol. 1 *The years of persecution, 1933-1939*, New York: HarperCollins, c1997. DS 135.G33 F75,

עברית:

פרידלנדר, שאול, *גרמניה הנאצית והיהודים – שנות הרדיפות 1933-1939*, תל אביב 1997

German:

Friedländer, Saul, *Das Dritte Reich und die Juden*; aus dem Englischen übersetzt von Martin Pfeiffer, Bd. 1, München 1998. DS135.G3315F7515 1998 001368854

Hirsch, Lilly E., "'Ein Tanz auf dem Vulkan': The legacy of the Jewish Culture League," *Music and Politics*, 5(2), 2011 (Electronic source)

Kaplan, Marion, *Between Dignity and Despair: Jewish Life in Nazi Germany*, New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. DS135 .G33 K288 1998

Kaplan Marion, "Changing Roles in Jewish Families," in *Jewish life in Nazi Germany: dilemmas and responses*. edited by Francis R. Nicosia and David Scrase, New York: Berghahn Books, 2010. Chapter 1. DS134.255.J495 2012

Kochavi Arie J., *Post-Holocaust politics :Britain, the United States & Jewish refugees, 1945-1948*, Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, c2001. HV640.5.J4K63 2001

1992 DS126.4.K56 עברית: כוכבי, אריה, עקורים ופוליטיקה בינלאומית, תל אביב 1992
Kulka, Otto Dov, "Jewish society in Germany as reflected in secret Nazi reports on 'public opinion' 1933-1945", in Zimmermann, Moshe (ed.), On Germans and Jews under the Nazi Regime, Jerusalem: The Richard Koebner Minerva Center for German History, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 2006, 261-279. DS134.255.O52 2006

Lavsky, Hagit, Before Catastrophe - The Distinctive Path of German Zionism, 1897-1938, Detroit and Jerusalem: Wayne State University Press and the Magnes Press, 1996 (Second edition, 1998). DS149.5.G4L353 1996

Lavsky, Hagit. "German Jewish Interwar Migration in a Comparative Perspective: Mandatory Palestine, The United States, and Great Britain," in Ethnicity and Beyond: Theory and Dilemmas of Jewish Group Demarcation. Studies in Contemporary Jewry XXV (2011), 115-144. XBM.S798

Lavsky, Hagit, New Beginnings: Holocaust Survivors in Bergen-Belsen and the British Zone in Germany, 1945-1950, Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2002

Marrus, Michael M., The Unwanted: European Refugees from the First World War through the Cold War, Philadelphia: Tempel University Press, 2002. JV7590.M37 2002

Meyer, Beate, "The inevitable dilemma : the Reich Association (Reichsvereinigung) of Jews in Germany, the deportations, and the Jews who went underground", In Zimmermann, Moshe (ed.), On Germans and Jews under the Nazi Regime, Jerusalem: The Richard Koebner Minerva Center for German History, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 297-312
Meyer, Beate, "Between Self-Assertion and Forced Collaboration: The Reich Association of Jews in Germany, 1939-1945," in Jewish life in Nazi Germany: dilemmas and responses. edited by Francis R. Nicosia and David Scrase, New York: Berghahn Books, 2010. Chapter 6. DS134.255.J495 2012

Meyer, Michael A. (ed.) and Michael Brenner (assistant editor), German-Jewish history in modern times, vol. 4. Renewal and destruction,, ed. Avraham Barkai, Paul Mendes-Flohr, New York: Columbia University Press, c1996-c1998, DS135.G3B713 1996

עברית:

תולדות יהודי גרמניה בעת החדשה / עורך: מיכאל מאיר ; עורך מישנה: מיכאל ברנר, ירושלים 2000 . [DS135.G3B716 2000](#), כרך רביעי יש שני עותקים באוסף הכללי ואחד במחסן [אוסף כללי](#) 2000
German: Meyer, Michael A. (ed), Deutsch-jüdische Geschichte in der Neuzeit, München: Verlag C.H. Beck, c1996-1997, Band 4. DS135.G3B7 1996

[Seligmann, Avraham](#), "An illegal way of life in Nazi Germany.", [Leo Baeck Institute Year Book](#). 1992, Vol. 37, 327-361. Electronic Access

Zariz, Ruth, "Officially approved emigration from Germany after 1941: a case study," in: Yad Vashem Studies, 18 (1987), 275-291. XBM.Y3

תוספת בעברית:

תולדות השואה: גרמניה, כרכים א-ב, בעריכת אברהם מרגליות ויהויקים כוכבי, ירושלים: יד ושם, תשנ"ח
DS135.G33T58 1998

