

Course “Holocaust in the USSR,” July 2 – August 20, 2017

The Weiss-Livnat International MA in Holocaust Studies at
University of Haifa

With the support of the Moshe Mirilashvili Center for Research on the Holocaust in the Soviet Union at the International Institute for Holocaust Research, Yad Vashem

There is an additional list for those who write seminar papers and referats. Students who do not choose this option, will be obliged to submit, instead, two short (two-three) page papers (first - until July 23 and second – until August 20, 2017) in which they discuss a separate topic (an article) taken from the lists.

Title	Lecturer	Date	Number of meeting
Introduction: Jewish Population in the USSR on the Eve of the Holocaust	Dr. Arkadi Zeltser	1 2 July 14:15 – 15:45	1
Murder Sites in the Occupied Soviet Union: Personal Voice in Overall Perspective	Dr. Lea Prais	2 2 July 16:15 – 17:45	2
The Holocaust in the Soviet Union: Minsk as a Case Study Jewish Diaries in Lithuanian Ghettos	Dr. Lea Prais	3 9 July 14:15 – 15:45	2
German Military and Police Units and the Holocaust in the USSR	Dr. Leonid Rein	4 9 July 16:15 – 17:45	



Local Collaboration in the Holocaust	Dr. Leonid Rein	5 16 July 14:15 – 15:45	3
Righteous among the Nations	Ms. Katia Gusarov	6 16 July 16:15 – 17:45	
Nazi anti-Communism and the Holocaust in the USSR	Dr. Kiril Feferman	7 30 July 14:15 – 15:45	4
Soviet Muslims and the Holocaust	Dr. Kiril Feferman	8 30 July 16:15 – 17:45	
The Eastern Groups of Jews in the Framework of Nazi Racial Policy	Dr. Kiril Feferman	9 6 August 14:15 – 15:45	5
Jews in the Red Army	Dr. Kiril Feferman	10 6 August 16:15 – 17:45	
Regional Similarities and Unique Features: the Holocaust in Belarus	Dr. Leonid Rein	11 13 August 14:15 – 15:45	6
Regional Similarities and Unique Features: the Holocaust in Ukraine	Dr. Leonid Rein	12 13 August 16:15 – 17:45	
Jews in the Soviet Interior during the Soviet-German War	Dr. Kiril Feferman	13 20 August 14:15 – 15:45	7



Soviet Propaganda and the Holocaust	Dr. Arkadi Zeltser	14 20 August 16:15 – 17:45	
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Literature (List 1):

1. Jewish Population in the USSR on the Eve of the Holocaust

Mordechai Altshuler, *Soviet Jewry on the Eve of the Holocaust: A Social and Demographic Profile*, Jerusalem: The Center for Research of East European Jewry, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem; Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 1998, pp. 9-19, 47-62, 106-132, 148 – 163, 323.

2. Murder Sites in the Occupied Soviet Union: Personal Voice in Overall Perspective

Web-site: The Untold Stories: The Murder sites of the Jews in the Occupies Territories of the Former USSR - <http://www.yadvashem.org/untoldstories/homepage.html>

Arkadi Zeltser, ed., *To Pour Out My Bitter Soul: Letters of Jews from the USSR 1941 – 1945*, Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 2016.

3. The Holocaust in the Soviet Union: Minsk as a Case Study.

Barbara Epstein, *The Minsk Ghetto, 1941 – 1943: Jewish Resistance and Soviet Internationalism*, Berkley: University of California Press, 2008, pp. 77 – 109.

Anika Walke, "Jewish Youth in the Minsk Ghetto – How Age and Gender Mattered", *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 15, 3 (Summer 2014), pp. 535 - 562.

4. German Military and Police Units and the Holocaust in the USSR

Hannes Heer, "Killing Fields: The Wehrmacht and the Holocaust in Belorussia, 1941-1942", *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, 1(1997), pp. 79–101.

Edward B. Westermann, *Hitler's Police Battalions: Enforcing Racial War in the East* (Lawrence, Kan. 2005), pp. 163–199.

5. Local Collaboration in the Holocaust

Martin Dean, "Local Collaboration in the Holocaust in Eastern Europe," in Dan Stone. ed., *The Historiography of the Holocaust* (Basingstoke, Hampshire, 2004), pp. 120-140.



Leonid Rein, "Local Collaboration in the Execution of the 'Final Solution' in Nazi-Occupied Belorussia", *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, vol. 20 (3), winter 2006, pp. 381–409.

6. Righteous Among the Nations

The Encyclopedia of the Righteous Among the Nations: Rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust. Europe II, Jerusalem: Yad Vashem. – Former Soviet Union, pp. XLVII – LXXXVI.

7. Nazi anti-Communism and the Holocaust in the USSR

Waddington Lorna. *Hitler's Crusade: Bolshevism, the Jews and the Myth of Conspiracy*. Paperback ed.; revised ed. New York: I. B. Tauris, distributed by Palgrave Macmillan, 2012.

Feferman Kiril. "The Jews' War': Attitudes of Soviet Jewish Soldiers and Officers towards the USSR in 1940-41." *The Journal of Slavic Military Studies* 27, 4 (2014): 574-590.

8. Soviet Muslims and the Holocaust

David Motadel, "Islam and Germany's War in the Soviet Borderlands, 1941–5." *Journal of Contemporary History* 48 (October 2013), pp. 784-820.

Mikhail Tyaglyi, "Antisemitic doctrine in the Tatar Newspaper 'Azat Kirim' (1942-1944)," *Dapim: Studies on the Shoah* 25 (2011), pp. 161-182.

9. The Eastern Groups of Jews in the Framework of Nazi Racial Policy.

Kiril Feferman, "Nazi Germany and the Karaites in 1938-44: Between Racial Theory and *Realpolitik*." *Nationalities Papers* 39, 2 (March 2011), pp. 277-294.

Kiril Feferman, "Nazi Germany and the Mountain Jews: Was There a Policy?" *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 21, 1 (Spring 2007), pp. 96-114.

10. Jews in the Red Army

Yad Vashem's Project "Jews in the Red Army, 1941-1945" –
http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/about/institute/ppka_soldiers/index.asp

Mordechai Altshuler, "Jewish Combatants of the Red Army Confront the Holocaust," in Harriet Murav and Gennady Estraiikh, eds., *Soviet Jews in World War II: Fighting Witnessing, Remembering* (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2014), pp. 16-35.



Yitzhak Arad, *In the Shadow of the Red Banner: Soviet Jews in War Against Nazi Germany* (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 2010), pp. 1-24.

11-12. Regional Similarities and Unique Features

Leonid Rein, "Local Collaboration in the Execution of the "Final Solution" in Nazi-occupied Belarussia," *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, vol. 20, No. 3, 2006, pp. 381-409

Dieter Pohl, "The murder of Ukraine's Jews under German Military Administration and in the Reich Commissariat Ukraine," in Ray Brandon, Wendy Lower, eds., *The Shoah in Ukraine: History, Testimony Memorialization* (Bloomington & Indianapolis, 2008), pp. 23–77.

Dennis Deletant, "Transnistria and the Romanian Solution to the "Jewish Problem" in Ray Brandon, Wendy Lower, eds., *The Shoah in Ukraine: History, Testimony Memorialization* (Bloomington & Indianapolis: 2008), pp. 156-190.

13. Jews in the Soviet Interior during World War II

Mordechai Altshuler, "Evacuation and Escape During the Course of the Soviet-German War," *Dapim: Studies on the Holocaust*, Vol. 28, No. 2 (2014), pp. 57-73.

Rebecca Manley, "The Perils of Displacement: The Soviet Evacuee between Refugee and Evacuee," *Contemporary European History* (2007), pp. 495-509.

Shternshis Anna. "Between Life and Death: Why Some Soviet Jews Decided to Leave and Others to Stay in 1941," *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 15, 3 (Summer 2014), pp. 477-504.

14. Soviet Propaganda and the Holocaust

Ilya Altman, "The History and Fate of the Black Book and the Unknown Black Book," in Joshua Rubenstein and Ilya Altman, eds., *The Unknown Black Book* (Bloomington and Indianapolis, 2008), pp. xix–xxxix.

Karel C. Berkhoff, "Total Annihilation of the Jewish population: The Holocaust in the Soviet Media," *Kritika*. Vol. 10, No. 1, 2009, pp. 61–105, or in Michael David-Fox, Peter Holquist, Alexander M. Martin, eds., *The Holocaust in the East: Local Perpetrators and Soviet Responses* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2014), pp. 83 – 117.

Zeltser, "Differing Views among Red Army Personnel about the Nazi Mass Murder of Jews," *Kritika: Exploration in Russian and Eurasian History*, Volume 15, Number 3, Summer 2014, pp. 563–590.



General overview:

Mordechai Altshuler, "The Unique Features of the Holocaust in the Soviet Union," in Yaacov Ro'i, ed., *Jews and Jewish Life in Russia and the Soviet Union* (Ilford: Frank Cass, 1995), pp. 171–188.

List 2:

Themes of Student Reports for the Course "The Holocaust in the Former Soviet Union"

1. **"Judeo-Bolshevism" as a central idea of Nazi propaganda on the Eastern Front** (Daniel Uziel, "Wehrmacht Propaganda Troops and the Jews," *Yad Vashem Studies* 29 [2001]: 46–57, David Welch, *The Third Reich: Politics and Propaganda* [London 2007]: 129-137.)
2. **Unique Features of the Holocaust in the USSR** (Literature: Mordechai Altshuler, "The Unique Features of the Holocaust in the Soviet Union, *Jews and Jewish Life in Russia*, (1995): 171-188,
3. **Nazi annihilation of Soviet Jews** (Literature: Jürgen Matthäus, "Controlled Escalation: Himmler's Men in the Summer of 1941 and the Holocaust in the Occupied Soviet Territories," *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 21, 2 (2007): 218-242; Alexander Prusin, "A Community of Violence: the SiPo/SD and its role in the Nazi terror system in Generalbezirk Kiew," *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 21,1 [2007]: 1-30; Wendy Lower, *Nazi Empire-Building and the Holocaust in Ukraine* (part 6: The General Commissariat's Machinery of Destruction: The Holocaust in the Countryside and Jewish Forced Labor, 1942 – 1943) [Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2005]: 129 - 161).
4. **Murder of Jews in Ukraine: the issue of periodization** (Literature: Dieter Pohl, "The Murder of Ukraine's Jews under German Military Administration and in the Reich Commissariat Ukraine", in *The Shoah in Ukraine: History, Testimony, Memorialization*, ed.: Ray Brandon and Wendy Lower [Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2008]: 23-76).
5. **Destruction of West Belorussian and/or West-Ukrainian shtetls during the Holocaust** (Literature: Yehuda Bauer, "Buczacz and Krzemieniec: the Story of Two Towns during the Holocaust," *Yad Vashem Studies* 33 (2005): 245-306; Yehuda Bauer, "Jewish Baranowicze in the Holocaust," *Yad Vashem Studies* 31 (2003): 95-151; Yehuda Bauer, "Nowogródek: the Story of a 'Shtetl'", *Yad Vashem Studies* 35,2 [2007]: 35-70).
6. **The Romanian solution of "the Jewish Question"** (Dennis Deletant, *Transnistria and the Romanian Solution to the "Jewish Problem"*, in *The Shoah in Ukraine: History, Testimony, Memorialization*, ed.: Ray Brandon and Wendy Lower [Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 2008]: 156-189, Dalia Ofer, "The Holocaust in Transnistria: a special case of genocide", in *The Holocaust in the Soviet Union*, eds.: Lucjan Dobroszycki and Jeffrey S. Gurock [New York, 1993]: 133 – 154).



7. **Participation of local collaborationists in the murder of Jews during the first stage of the German-Soviet War** (Literature: Christoph Dieckmann, "Lithuania in Summer 1941: the German Invasion and the Kaunas Pogrom," *Shared History - Divided Memory*, ed.: Elazar Barkan at al. [Leipzig: Leipziger Universitaetsverlag, 2007]: 355-385; Dieter Pohl, "Anti-Jewish Pogroms in Western Ukraine: a Research Agenda," *Shared History - Divided Memory* [2007]: 305-313, John-Paul Himka, "The Lviv Pogrom of 1941: The Germans, Ukrainian Nationalists, and the Carnival Crowd", *Canadian Slavonic Papers*, Vol. LIII, Nos. 2–3–4, June-September-December 2011: 209 – 243).
8. **Local Ukrainian administration and auxiliary police in the Holocaust** (Literature: Yuri Radchenko, "Accomplices to Extermination: Municipal Government and the Holocaust in Kharkiv," 1941–1942, *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 27, no. 3 (Winter 2013): 443–463; Yuri Radchenko, "We emptied our magazines into them": the Ukrainian auxiliary police and the Holocaust in Generalbezirk Charkow, 1941-1943," *Yad Vashem Studies*, 41 [1] (2013): 64 – 98).
9. **Ethnic auxiliary forces during the Holocaust in the USSR** (Literature: Martin C. Dean, "Lithuanian Participation in the Mass Murder of Jews in Belarus and Ukraine, 1941-44," in *The Vanished World of Lithuanian Jews* [Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2004]: 285-296; Leonid Rein, "Local collaboration in the execution of the 'Final Solution' in Nazi-occupied Belorussia," *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 20,3 [2006]: 381-409).
10. **The challenges faced by Judenrat leaders** (Shalom Cholawski, "The Judenrat in Minsk," in *Patterns of Jewish Leadership in Nazi Europe, 1933-1945: Proceedings of the Third Yad Vashem International Historical Conference, Jerusalem, April 1977*, ed. by Cynthia J. Haft, Yisrael Gutman (Jerusalem : Yad Vashem, 1979): 113-132, Vadim Altskan, "On the Other Side of the River: Dr. Adolph Herschmann and the Zhmerinka Ghetto, 1941–1944," *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 26, no. 1 [Spring 2012]: 2–28; Dina Porat, "The Jewish Councils of the Main Ghettos of Lithuania: a Comparison," *Modern Judaism* 13,2 [1993]: 149 – 163).
11. **Jewish Police in the Ghetto: the case of Kaunas** (Literature: Dov Levin, "How the Jewish Police in the Kovno Ghetto Saw Itself", *Yad Vashem Studies* 29 (2001): 183-240, Samuel D. Kassow, "Inside the Kovno Ghetto, in *The Clandestine History of the Kovno Jewish Ghetto Police* [Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2014]: 1-62).
12. **Jewish diaries in the ghettos** (Literature: Nathan Cohen, "The Last Days of the Vilna Ghetto—Pages from a Diary," *Yad Vashem Studies*, 31 (2003): 15–59; Benjamin Harshav, "Introduction: Herman's Kruk's Holocaust Writing," in Herman Kruk, *The Last Days of the Jerusalem of Lithuania: Chronicle form the Vilna Ghetto and the Camps, 1939 – 1944* [New Haven: Yale University Press, 2002]: xxi – lii; Dina Porat, "The Vilna ghetto diaries," *Holocaust Chronicles: Individualizing the Holocaust through Diaries and Other Contemporaneous Personal Accounts*. Ed.: Robert Moses Shapiro [Hoboken, NJ: Ktav, 1999]: 157 – 169);
13. **Problems of interpretation of testimonies** (Literature: Karel C. Berkhoff, "Dina Pronicheva's Story of Surviving the Babi Yar Massacre: German, Jewish, Soviet, Russian, and Ukrainian Records," in *The Shoah in Ukraine: History, Testimony, Memorialization*, ed.: Ray Brandon and Wendy Lower, [Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2008]: 291-317,



14. **Jewish Family Partisan Camps** (Literature: Yitzhak Arad, "Jewish Family Camps in the Forests - an Original Means of Rescue?" *Rescue Attempts during the Holocaust: Proceedings of the Second Yad Vashem International Historical Conference*, ed.: Yisrael Gutman, Efraim Zuroff. Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 1977, pp. 333-353, Nechama Tec, *Defiance: The Belski Partisans* [New York: Oxford University Press, 1993]).
15. **The Rescue of Jewish cultural treasures: Stab Rosenberg in Vilna** (Literature: David E. Fishman, *The Rise of Modern Yiddish Culture*, part 10: Embers Plucked from Fire: The Rescue of Jewish Cultural Treasures in Vilna [Pittsburg: University of Pittsburg Press, 2005]: 139 - 153,
16. **Jewish women in the partisan movement** (Literature: Nechama Tec, *Defiance: The Belski Partisans* [New York: Oxford University Press, 1993], part 12: "The Fate of Women," : 154 - 169)
17. **Jewish combatants of the Red Army confront the Holocaust** (Literature: Mordechai Altshuler, "Jewish combatants of the Red Army: Confront the Holocaust", in *Soviet Jews in World War II: Fighting, Witnessing, Remembering*, ed.: Harriet Murav and Gennady Estraikh, Boston, 2014: 16 – 35; Arkadi Zeltser, "Differing Views among Red Army Personnel about the Nazi Mass Murder of Jews," *Kritika: Explorations in Russian and Eurasian History* 15, 3 (Summer 2014): 563–90); Arkadi Zeltser, "Jewish Response to the Non-Jewish Question: 'Where Were the Jews During the Fighting,' 1941-45," *East European Jewish Affairs*, 1, 2016, pp. 4 – 25; "How the Jewish Intelligentsia Created the Jewishness of the Jewish Hero: the Soviet Yiddish Press," in Harriet Murav and Gennadi Estraikh, eds., *Soviet Jews in World War Two: Fighting, Witnessing, Remembering* (Brighton, MA: Academic Studies Press, 2014), pp. 104-128.
18. **Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee in the USSR** (Literature: Ilya Altman, "The History and Fate of the Black Book and the Unknown Black Book," in *The Unknown Black Book*, eds.: Joshua Rubenstein and Ilya Altman [Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 2008]: xix–xxxix).
19. **Soviet mass media and the Holocaust** (Literature: Karel C. Berkhoff, "Total Annihilation of the Jewish Population": the Holocaust in the Soviet Media, 1941-45, *Kritika* 10,1 [2009]: 61-105, Mordechai Altshuler, "The Holocaust in the Soviet Mass Media during the War and in the First Post-War Years Re-examined," *Yad Vashem Studies*, 39 (2) (2001): 121 – 168, Dov-Ber Kerler, "The Soviet Yiddish Press: 'Eynikayt' during the War, 1942-1945," in *Why Didn't the Press Shout?, American & International Journalism during the Holocaust*, ed.: Robert Moses Shapiro. [[New York]: Yeshiva University Press, 2003]: 221-249).
20. **Holocaust commemoration activity of Soviet Jews** (Literature: Mordechai Altshuler, "Jewish Holocaust commemoration activity in the USSR under Stalin," *Yad Vashem Studies* 30 [2002]: 271-295, Rebecca Golbert, "Holocaust Memorialization in Ukraine," *Polin, Studies in Polish Jewry*, Volume twenty, 2008: 222 – 243).