



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Benjamin Disraeli - 13923

Last update 26-07-2021

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: History of Jewish People & Contemporary Jewry

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Anat Helman

Coordinator Email: anathelman85@gmail.com

Coordinator Office Hours: pre-arranged by email

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Anat Helman

Course/Module description:

Anglo-Jewry in the 19th century and the Victorian society are viewed through the career of politician and writer Benjamin Disraeli (1804-1881). How was Disraeli's Jewish ancestry reflected in his writing and ideology, and how did it affect his treatment by colleagues, Jews, and the British public?

Course/Module aims:

Present the main features of 19th century British society, including Anglo-Jewry; explore Disraeli's life and career and analyze his Jewishness; explore the research on this topic.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Summarize the features of 19th century Britain and its Jews; explain the life and career of Disraeli; interpret his public image; criticize historical studies on the topic.

Attendance requirements(%):

100

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The seminar is conducted as a round-table discussion, in which all students present their conclusions of the weekly reading. Four written reviews will be submitted during the semester.

Course/Module Content:

*Anglo-Jewry in the 19th century
Disraeli's political career
Disraeli's literary career
Disraeli's Jewishness
Disraeli and Jewish Emancipation
Anglo-Jewish attitudes
Disraeli and Antisemitism*

Required Reading:

Lloyd P. Gartner, "Emancipation, Social Change and Communal Reconstruction in Anglo-Jewry 1789-1881", Proceedings of the American Academy for Jewish

Research, 54 (1987), pp. 73-116.

Clyde J. Lewis, "Theory and Expediency in the Policy of Disraeli", *Victorian Studies*, 4/3 (1961), pp. 237-258.

J. P. Parry, "Disraeli and England", *The Historical Journal*, 43/3 (2000), pp. 699-728.

Sandra Mayer, "The Prime Minister as Celebrity Novelist: Benjamin Disraeli's 'Double Consciousness'", *Forum for Modern Language Studies*, 54/3 (2018), pp. 354-368.

Todd M. Endelman, "'A Hebrew to the End': The Emergence of Disraeli's Jewishness", *The Self-Fashioning of Disraeli, 1818-1851*, edited by Charles Richmond and Paul Smith (Cambridge and New York, 1998), pp. 106-130.

Claire Nicolai, "The Anxiety of 'Mosaic' Influence: Thackeray, Disraeli, and Anglo-Jewish Assimilation in the 1840s", *Nineteenth Century Contexts*, 25/2 (2003), pp. 119-145.

Gigliola Sacerdoti Mariani, "An Aspect of Disraeli's Parliamentary Rhetoric", *Il Politico*, 49/4 (1984), pp. 593-606.

Abraham Gilam, "Anglo-Jewish Attitudes toward Benjamin Disraeli during the Era of Emancipation", *Jewish Social Studies*, 42/3-4 (1980), pp. 313-322.

Ann Pottinger Saab, "Disraeli, Judaism, and the Eastern Question", *The International History Review*, 10/4 (1988), pp. 559-578.

Anthony S. Wohl, "'Dizzi-Ben-Dizzi': Disraeli as Alien", *Journal of British Studies*, 34/3, *Victorian Subjects* (1995), pp. 375-411.

Anthony S. Wohl, "'Ben Juju': Representations of Disraeli's Jewishness in the Victorian Political Cartoon", *Jewish History*, 10/2 (1996), pp. 89-134.

R. W. Davis, "Disraeli, the Rothschilds, and Anti-Semitism", *Jewish History*, 10/2 (1996), pp. 9-19.

Additional Reading Material:

Albion and Jerusalem: The Anglo-Jewish Community in the Post-Emancipation Era, 1858-1887, by Michael Clark

The emancipation of the Jews in Britain: the question of the admission of the Jews to Parliament, 1828-1860 by M.C.N. Salbstein

Disraeli: the novel politician by David Cesarani.

The making of modern Anglo-Jewry edited by David Cesarani.

Benjamin Disraeli: the fabricated Jew in myth and memory by Bernard Glassman

Disraeli's grand tour: Benjamin Disraeli and the Holy Land, 1830-31 by Robert Blake.

Disraeli's Jewishness edited by Todd M. Endelman and Tony Kushner

The self-fashioning of Disraeli :1818-1851 edited by Charles Richmond and Paul Smith.

Radical assimilation in English Jewish history, 1656-1945, by Todd M. Endelman

The Jews and British romanticism: politics, religion, culture edited by Sheila A. Spector

Philosemitism, Antisemitism and 'the Jews': Perspectives from the Middle Ages to the Twentieth Century, edited by Tony Kushner and Nadia Valman

Englishmen and Jews: social relations and political culture, 1840-1914 by David

Feldman

Anglo-Jewry in changing times: Studies in diversity, 1840-1914 by Israel Finestein

Disraeli: The Romance of Politics by Robert O'kell

The Historiography of Gladstone and Disraeli by Ian St. John

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 0 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 80 %

Reports 20 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: