



## *Syllabus*

# *The Philosophical Implications of the Holocaust - 15535*

*Last update 03-10-2022*

*HU Credits:* 2

*Responsible Department:* Philosophy

*Academic year:* 0

*Semester:* 1st Semester

*Teaching Languages:* Hebrew

*Campus:* Rehovot

*Course/Module Coordinator:* Dr. Shimon Azulay

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*Coordinator Office Hours:*

*Teaching Staff:*

*Dr. Shimon Azulay*

*Course/Module description:*

*The Holocaust is a break in world and Jewish history. It is not only the destruction*

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*of communities and systematic murder, but also the collapse of thought, culture and a system of values that failed to prevent it. This course seeks to introduce the student to some of the basic questions raised by standing in the face of the horrors of the Holocaust, such as: the source of evil, the value of life and the problem of bystanders, suffering and the meaning of life. We will also touch on theological questions such as the question of God's justification in the face of suffering and evil, and the questions concerning the post holocaust world and the essence of memory*

*In the course we will meet some of the major thinkers who dealt with these questions. Among them: Yehuda Bauer, Victor Frenkl, Primo Levy, Jean Amery, Emil Fackenheim and Berl Lang. The course offers interdisciplinary study that includes history, philosophy, theology, psychology and literature.*

*Course/Module aims:*

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

- 1. Recognize and analyze value and moral issues from the world of the Holocaust*
- 2. Analyze evidence and historical documents from a philosophical and value point of view*

*Attendance requirements(%):*

*75*

*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:*

*Course/Module Content:*

- 1. "Here, there is no "why" - the paralysis of thought in the face of the survivors' demand for listening. Introductory meeting and basic concepts.*
- 2. Sub-human to super-human - Nazi ideology and characteristics of totalitarian perception.*
- 3. How is it possible? Between everyday evil and radical evil.*
- 4. The Homeland of the Enlightenment - Is Nazi crime a deviation from the dream of the Enlightenment or its complete realization?*
- 5. The question of guilt - Are today's Germans guilty?*
- 6. "It is not my business" □ issues concerning the bystanders.*
- 7. Man's search for meaning in the world of the Holocaust - Victor Frenkl and Etty Hillesum.*
- 8. The Impossible Duty of Testimony - Primo Levy, Jean Amery and Eli Wiesel*

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.9Where was God in the Holocaust?

10. The world after the Holocaust - Zionism, Judaism and a new anti-Semitism. Does a Jew have a new duty?

Required Reading:

אמרי, ז'אן, 2007, מעבר לאשמה ולכפרה, תר' יונתן ניראד, הוצאת עם עובד, ישראל  
באואר, יהודה, 2012, הרהורים על השואה, הוצאת יד ודם ומכון בן-גוריון, ישראל.  
גרבווסקי, יאן, תפקידם של העומדים מן הצד ביישום הפתרון הסופי בפולין הכבושה, בתוך...  
לוי, פרימו, 2006, הזהו אדם, תר' יצחק גרטי, הוצאת עם עובד, ישראל  
לוי, פרימו, 1986, השוקעים והניצולים, תר' מרים שוסטרמן-פדובאנו, הוצאת עם-עובד, ישראל  
פרנקל, ויקטור, 2001, האדם מחפש משמעות, תר' חיים איזק, הוצאת דביר, ישראל.

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Additional information: