

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Jewish- Non-Jewish Relations and Rescue During t - 48417

Last update 25-02-2020

HU Credits: 3

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Program for Undergraduate Students (y/s)

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: English

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: David Silberklang

Coordinator Email: david.silberklang@huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours:

Teaching Staff:

Dr. David Silberklang

Course/Module description:

The course will examine case studies of Jewish – non-Jewish relations during the Holocaust, as well as rescue attempts – whether initiated by Jews, by non-Jews, or both. Several overlapping topics will be addressed, among them: the events in Jedwabne in July 1941; partisans and family camps; rescue efforts in several European countries; the question of the bombing of Auschwitz; and the reactions of the Pope and the Vatican; the Righteous Among the Nations. The discussions will include an examination of literature on the subject, documents, and visual material where possible.

Course/Module aims:

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

On completion of this course, students should have a better understanding of the complexities of Jewish – Non-Jewish Relations during the Holocaust and of rescue attempts, whether initiated (or avoided) by Jews, non-Jews, or both.

Attendance requirements(%):

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

The course will examine case studies of Jewish – non-Jewish relations during the Holocaust, as well as rescue attempts – whether initiated by Jews, by non-Jews, or both. Several overlapping topics will be addressed, among them: the events in Jedwabne in July 1941; partisans and family camps; rescue efforts in several European countries; the question of the bombing of Auschwitz; and the reactions of the Pope and the Vatican; the Righteous Among the Nations. The discussions will include an examination of literature on the subject, documents, and visual material where possible.

Required Reading:

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Rothberg International School
Division of Undergraduate Studies
Spring 2018

**48417: JEWISH-NON-JEWISH RELATIONS
& RESCUE ATTEMPTS DURING THE HOLOCAUST**

Mondays and Wednesdays, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Dr. David Silberklang

Email: david.silberklang@huji.ac.il; david.silberklang@yadvashem.org.il

Office Hours: By appointment

Description: The course will examine case studies of Jewish – non-Jewish relations during the Holocaust, as well as rescue attempts – whether initiated by Jews, by non-Jews, or both. Several overlapping topics will be addressed, among them, the events in Jedwabne in July 1941; partisans and family camps; rescue efforts in several European countries; the question of the bombing of Auschwitz; and the reactions of the Pope and the Vatican.

The discussions will include an examination of some of the literature on the subject, documents, and visual material where possible.

Requirements:

There are 4 factors in determining the student's grade for the course.

- Background reading on the Holocaust and an exam (10%);*
- An oral presentation or a short analytical essay (5-6 pages) on one of the subjects to be discussed in the class. Keeping up with the reading and participation in class discussions will be factored into this part of the grade. (30%);*
- Final Exam (essay-based) (30%);*
- Term paper (10-15 pages) on a subject of the student's choice, to be approved by the instructor. (due June 7) (30%)*

The class will also include a seminar at Yad Vashem on May 21. We will leave Mount Scopus at ca. 12:00 p.m. and return at ca. 18:45. Details will follow.

Two books are required of all participants, in addition to the readings that are

available on Moodle and/or reserve in the Boyar Library:

- Yehuda Bauer, *A History of the Holocaust*, 2nd edition (NY: Franklin Watts, 2001).
Overseas Library 933.47 B344

- Jan Tomasz Gross, *Neighbors* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001) E-book,
Overseas Library 933.47(438) G878

Note:

* indicates readings required only for the presenter(s) or those writing an essay

** indicates classes for which the readings will be divided among the participants.

A. General Background

1-4. February 26, 28, and March 5, 7

Yehuda Bauer, *A History of the Holocaust*, 2nd edition (NY: Franklin Watts, 2001),
esp. chapters 3-13, pp. 61-369. Overseas Library 933.47 B344

5. Mon, March 12: Exam on General Holocaust Knowledge

B. The Bright Side of Relations and Rescue?

6. Wed, March 14

Each student will prepare 2 stories of Righteous Among the Nations, using sources
such as

The Encyclopedia of the Righteous Among the Nations (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem,
2003), Overseas Library 933.472(03) Y12;

Mordecai Paldiel, *The Path of the Righteous: Gentile Rescuers of Jews During the
Holocaust* (Hoboken: Ktav, 1993). Overseas Library 933.472 P155;
and the like.

C. Jedwabne and Polish-Jewish Relations during the Holocaust

7. Mon, March 19: Jedwabne

Jan Tomasz Gross, *Neighbors* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2001) E-book;
Overseas Library 933.47(438) G878

8. Wed, March 21: Polish Views of Jedwabne

Dariusz Stola, "A Monument of Words," *Yad Vashem Studies* 30 (2002), pp. 21-49.
Overseas Library 933.47 Y12; ERESERVE

From Antony Polonsky and Joanna Michlic, eds., *The Neighbors Respond: The*

Controversy over the Jedwabne Massacre in Poland (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2004), E-book, Overseas Library 933.47(438) G878:

"Interview with the Primate of Poland, Cardinal Józef Glemp, on the Murder of the Jews in Jedwabne, 15 May 2001," pp. 166-172

Rev. Stanisław Musiał, "We Ask You to Help Us Be Better," pp. 173-178

Anna Bikont, "We of Jedwabne," pp. 267-302

****9. Mon, March 26 Polish-Jewish Relations**

Emanuel Ringelblum, *Polish-Jewish Relations during the Second World War* (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 1974), chapters 1, 10-12, Conclusion, pp. 1-9, 156-248. Overseas Library 933.47(438) R581; ERESERVE (ch. 10-11)

Alina Skibińska and Jakub Petelewicz, "The Participation of Poles in Crimes Against Jews in the Świętokrzyskie Region," *Yad Vashem Studies* 35:1 (2007), pp. 5-48. Overseas Library 933.47 Y12; ERESERVE

Jan Grabowski, "Rewriting the History of Polish-Jewish Relations from a Nationalist Perspective: The Recent Publications of the Institute of National Remembrance," *Yad Vashem Studies* 36:1 (2008), pp. 253-269. Overseas Library 933.47 Y12; ERESERVE

D. Partisans and Family Camps

10. Mon, April 9: Overview

Yitzhak Arad, "Jewish Family Camps in the Forests: An Original Means of Rescue," in *Rescue Attempts During the Holocaust* (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 1977), pp. 333-353. Overseas Library 933.47(08) G984; ERESERVE

Shalom Cholawsky, *The Jews of Bielorussia During World War II* (Amsterdam: Harwood, 1998), chaps. 8, 11, 12, pp. 159-183, 209-249. Main Library DS 134.734 R93 B4423; ERESERVE

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

****11. Wed, April 11: The Bielski Group**

Jack Kagan and Dov Cohen, *Surviving the Holocaust with the Russian Jewish Partisans* (London: Valentine Mitchell, 1998), pp. 50-84; 162-204. Overseas Library 933.47(476.5) K11, ERESERVE

*Nechama Tec, *Defiance: The Bielski Partisans* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1993). Overseas Library 933.47(476.5) T255

Recommended Film: Defiance (Media Library OSV 10059)

E. The Bombing of Auschwitz

12. Mon, April 16: Why Bomb, I?

David S. Wyman, "The Bombing of Auschwitz," in idem, The Abandonment of the Jews: America and the Holocaust, 1941-1945 (New York: Pantheon, 1984), pp. 288-307. Overseas Library 933.47 W984; ERESERVE

Michael Neufeld and Michael Berenbaum, eds., The Bombing of Auschwitz: Should the Allies Have Attempted It? (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2003). Overseas Library 933.47 N482:

Gerhard L. Weinberg, "The Allies and the Holocaust," pp. 15-26 (notes on p. 283) ERESERVE

Martin Gilbert, "The Contemporary Case for the Feasibility of Bombing Auschwitz," pp. 65-75 ERESERVE

Rondall R. Rice, "Bombing Auschwitz: U.S. Fifteenth Air Force and the Military Aspects of a Possible Attack," pp. 157-179 (notes on pp. 314-318) ERESERVE

13. Mon, April 23: Why Bomb, II?

Michael Neufeld and Michael Berenbaum, eds., The Bombing of Auschwitz: Should the Allies Have Attempted It? (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2003). Overseas Library 933.47 N482:

James H. Kitchens III, "The Bombing of Auschwitz Re-Examined," pp. 80-100 (notes on pp. 289-298). ERESERVE (p. 80-100)

Richard H. Levy, "The Bombing of Auschwitz Revisited: A Critical Analysis," pp. 101-126 (notes on pp. 298-303), or from Holocaust and Genocide Studies, 10:3 (1996), pp. 267-293. E-journal

Documents: pp. 256-260 (Pehle and McCloy); 262-264, 266-268 (Eden and Sinclair); 273-274 (Kubowitzki and McCloy). ERESERVE

Recommended Film: Auschwitz and the Allies

F. Assorted Nationwide Rescue Attempts

***14. Wed, April 25: Slovakia, Hungary, Denmark*

Gila Fatran, "The Working Group," Holocaust and Genocide Studies, 8:2 (1994), pp. 164-201. E-Journal

Asher Cohen, "He-Halutz Underground in Hungary: March-August 1944," Yad Vashem Studies 14 (1981), pp. 247-267. Overseas Library 933.47 Y12 ; ERESERVE

LeniYahil, "The Uniqueness of the Rescue of Danish Jewry," in Yisrael Gutman and Efraim Zuroff, eds., *Rescue Attempts During the Holocaust* (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 1977), pp. 617-624. Overseas Library 933.47(08) G984; ERESERVE

Hans Kirschhoff, "The Rescue of the Danish Jews in October 1943," in David Bankier and Israel Gutman, eds., *Nazi Europe and the Final Solution* (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 2003), pp. 539-555. Overseas Library 933.47 B218; ERESERVE

15. Mon, April 30: Rescue Through Baptism -Belgium, Poland

Luq Dequeker, "Baptism and Conversion of Jews in Belgium, 1939-1945," in Dan Michman, ed., *Belgium and the Holocaust* (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 1998), pp. 235-271. Overseas Library 933.47(493) M624; ERESERVE

Nahum Bogner, "The Convent Children: The Rescue of Jewish Children in Polish Convents During the Holocaust," *Yad Vashem Studies* 27 (1998), pp. 235-285. Overseas Library 933.47 Y12 ; ERESERVE

**16. Wed, May 2: The Pope and the Vatican, I

Grazia Loparco, "Pius XII and Hiding in Italy: Did the Pope Give Instructions to Help or Hide Jews in Italy?" in David Bankier, Dan Michman, Iael Nidam-Orvieto, eds., *Pius XII and the Holocaust: Current State of Research* (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 2012), pp. 115-125. Overseas Library 933.47(493) M624; ERESERVE

Walter Zwi Bacharach, "Antisemitism, Holocaust, and the Holy See: An Appraisal of Recent Books about the Vatican and the Holocaust," *Yad Vashem Studies*, 31 (2003), pp. 365-388. Overseas Library 933.47 Y12; ERESERVE

Michael Phayer, "Pope Pius XII, the Holocaust, and the Cold War," *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, 12:2 (1998), pp. 233-256. E-Journal

Susan Zuccotti, "Pope Pius XII and the Rescue of Jews in Italy: Evidence of a Papal Directive?" *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, 18:2 (2004), pp. 255-273. E-Journal

Michael Phayer, "'Helping the Jews is not an easy thing to do.' Vatican Holocaust Policy: Continuity or Change," *Holocaust and Genocide Studies*, 21:3 (2007), pp. 421-446. E-Journal

17. Mon, May 7: The Pope and the Vatican, II

Pope Pius XII, "The Internal Order of States and People," Christmas Message, December 24, 1942. Free access:
<https://www.ewtn.com/library/PAPALDOC/P12CH42.HTM>

"The Pope's Letter to Msgr. Konrad Preysing, Archbishop of Berlin, April 30, 1943,

and address to the Sacred College of Cardinals, June 2, 1943," in Saul Friedländer, *Pius XII and the Third Reich: A Documentation* (London: Chatto & Windus, 1966), pp. 135-143. Overseas Library 933.47 F911, ERESERVE

From Bankier, Michman, and Nidam-Orvieto, eds., *Pius XII and the Holocaust*: Overseas Library 933.47(493) M624:

"Dossier on a Meeting Held by the International Red Cross on the Jewish Topic, February 12, 1943," pp. 223-224. ERESERVE

"Extract of Letter from the Mother General of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary, March 1944," pp. 236-238. ERESERVE

****18. Wed, May 9: The Righteous Among the Nations – Why Did They Rescue?**

Remembering for the Future: Jews and Christians During and After the Holocaust (Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1988):

Douglas Huneke, "Glimpse of Light in a Vast Darkness: A Study of the Moral and Spiritual Development of Nazi Era Rescuers," p. 486-493. ERESERVE

Samuel Oliner and Pearl Oliner, "Rescuers of Jews During the Holocaust: Justice, Care and Religion," pp. 506-516. ERESERVE

Mordecai Paldiel, "The Altruism of the Righteous Gentiles," pp. 517-525. ERESERVE

Nechama Tec, "Altruism During World War II," pp. 542-549. ERESERVE

Eva Fogelman, *Conscience and Courage: Rescuers of Jews during the Holocaust* (New York: Anchor Books Doubleday, 1994), 155-160, 253-270. Overseas Library 933.47 F655; ERESERVE

19. Wed, May 16: Why Did They Rescue?

David Gushee, "Many Paths to Righteousness: An Assessment of the Research on Why Righteous Gentiles Helped Jews," *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* 7:3 (1993), pp. 372-401. E-Journal

Jan Grabowski, "Rescue for Money: Paid Helpers in Poland, 1939-1945," *Search and Research*, 13 (2008), pp. 7-54. ERESERVE

20. Mon, May 21: Seminar at Yad Vashem
12:00 – 18:15 (Details to be announced)

21. Wed, May 23: Relations and Rescue during the Holocaust – Summing up

May 28 & May 30: No Class

Mon, June 4: Final Exam (Tentative) (16:30 – 18:30)

Thurs, June 7 : Term Papers due in program office

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Additional information: