University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Anti-Semitism through the Ages  
Jewish Studies 431  
Ingraham Hall 214  
Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:45 A.M.  
Spring 2014

Dr. Tim Crain

Office Hours: 4222 Mosse Humanities  
Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 A.M -12:00 P.M., and by appointment.  
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Course Overview: Anti-Semitism has remained prominent for over two thousand years. In this class we will look at anti-Semitism from the Roman Empire into the present day. Particular attention will be paid to Christian anti-Semitism, medieval anti-Semitism, European anti-Semitism, American anti-Semitism, the holocaust, and Arab anti-Semitism. The model of bias against the Jewish people is very similar regardless of the century. By reviewing the historic hatred of the Jews, we hope to arrive at a better understanding of intolerance in general. The course assumes no prior knowledge of Jewish history.

Required Reading:
Dawidowicz, The War Against the Jews.  
Poliakov, History of Anti-Semitism: Suicidal Europe.  
Trachtenberg, The Devil and the Jews.  
Wiesel, Night.

Course Requirements: All students are required to attend each lecture and attendance will be regularly taken. If you have to leave the class early on any given day, please let me know prior to the start of class. You cannot leave the classroom during an exam. Also, please refrain from leaving the classroom during lecture. Grading will be based on three examinations given on the following dates: February 20, April 3 and May 14. Each exam will constitute 20% of your final grade. Two 5-6 page essays are also required and are due on March 13 and April 24. Each paper will amount to 20% of your course grade.

Course and University Policies: Students who need special accommodations due to disability must submit their requirements in writing no later than the second class meeting. Any students with religious observances that would involve missing class are asked to inform the instructor prior to the absence.
Accommodations will be made for students called to active military service. Incompletes will be granted in unique circumstances, but students are encouraged to complete all course requirements by the conclusion of the semester. Discriminatory conduct, such as sexual harassment, will not be tolerated. Academic misconduct, cheating on exams or plagiarism, will not be tolerated and may result in a failing course grade. The student can also address any further questions or concerns to the instructor.

Class Schedule:

January 21-23: Anti-Semitism: The Longest Hatred
Read Trachtenberg, 1-108.

January 28-30: Jews and Christians
Read Trachtenberg, 109-155.

February 4-6: Jews and the Middle Ages
Read Trachtenberg, 156-220.

February 11-13: The Jew as Non-European
Read Poliakov, 3-156.

February 18-20: Emancipation and Hope
Read Poliakov, 157-254.
Examination #1: Thursday, February 20.

February 25-27: Europe and the Jews
Read Poliakov, 255-337.

March 4-6: The Birth of Modern Anti-Semitism
Read Poliakov, 338-379.

March 11-13: Zionism
Read Poliakov, 380-457.
Essay #1 Due: Thursday, March 13.

March 18-20: Spring Break

March 25-27: America and the Jews
Read Dawidowicz, 3-149.

April 1-3: The East European Jews and Palestine
Read Dawidowicz, 150-222.
Examination #2: Thursday, April 3.
April 8–10: Germany
Read Dawidowicz, 223–260.

April 15–17: The Holocaust
Read Wiesel.

April 22–24: Israel
Read Dawidowicz, 261–310.
Essay #2 Due: Thursday, April 24.

April 29–May 1: Modern Anti-Semitism and the Middle East
Read Dawidowicz, 311–340.

May 6–8: Anti-Semitism
Read Dawidowicz, 341–401.

Final Examination: Wednesday, May 14, 2:45-4:45 P.M.