University of Wisconsin-Madison
Jewish Studies 431
Jewish Wisconsin
Ingraham Hall 224
Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:45 A.M.
Fall 2013

Instructor: Dr. Tim Crain

Office Hours: 4222 Mosse Humanities
Tuesday/Thursday 11:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M., or by appointment.
414-915-7360
tjcrain@wisc.edu

Required Reading:
Gurda, One People, Many Paths: A History of Jewish Milwaukee.
Janik, A Short History of Wisconsin.
Nesbit, Wisconsin: A History.
Readings on Wisconsin Jews distributed in class.

Course Description: How have Jews impacted the history of Wisconsin, and how did Wisconsin shape the lives of those Jews who settled here? This course examines the experience of Jews in Wisconsin from the early nineteenth century to the present day. While the Jewish population of Wisconsin remained small until the nineteenth century, many Jews who immigrated to America during the Great Migration of 1881 chose to settle in Wisconsin. We will study the development of Jewish communities large and small, from Milwaukee and Madison, to Appleton, Racine, Kenosha, and even towns like Rhinelander and Arpin. The course will pay particular attention to the individuals and communities that made the Wisconsin Jewish experience unique.

Course Requirements: All students are required to attend each lecture and attendance will be regularly taken. Grading will be based on three examinations given on the following dates: October 3, November 7, and December 15. Each exam will constitute 20% of your final grade. Two 5-6 page essays will also be due on October 17 and December 5. Each paper will amount to 20% of your course grade.

Course and University Policies: Students who need special accommodations due to disability are encouraged to 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:

September 3-5: Wisconsin: A History
Read Nesbit, 3-46; Janik 1-44.

September 10-12: Jews in America
Read Nesbit, 47-75; Janik 45-104.

September 17-19: Wisconsin in the 19th Century
Read Nesbit, 76-105; Gurda, 1-36.

September 24-26: Wisconsin Territory and Statehood
Read Nesbit, 106-132; Gurda, 37-90.

October 1-3: Jews in 19th Century America and Wisconsin
Read Nesbit, 133-189.
Examination #1: Thursday, October 3.

October 8-10: Early Jewish Communities
Read Nesbit, 190-241; Gurda, 91-144.

October 15-17: Wisconsin enters the Modern Era
Read Nesbit, 242-262.
Paper #1 Due: Thursday, October 17.

October 22-24: Jews and Wisconsin
Read Nesbit, 263-295; Gurda, 145-200.

October 29-31: The Modern Era
Read Nesbit, 296-337; Janik 105-147.

November 5-7: The Jews and the Melting Pot
Read Nesbit, 339-380.
Examination #2: Thursday, November 7.

November 12-14: The Twentieth Century
Read Nesbit, 381-418; Janik, 149-170.

November 19-21: Progressivism and the Twentieth Century
Read Nesbit, 419-456; Janik, 171-205.

November 26: The Modern State
Read Nesbit, 457-498.

December 3-5: Jews of Wisconsin
Read Nesbit, 497-560; Gurda, 201-253.
Paper #2 Due: Thursday, December 5.

December 10-12: Present and Future
Read Gurda, 254-298.

Final Exam: Sunday, December 15, 5:05-7:05 P.M.