

University of California San Diego

Politics in the Jewish Past

Spring 2009

HIEU 176/276

#654155

Professor Deborah Hertz
Humanities and Social Science Building 6024
858 534 5501

Class meets Tuesdays from 9---11:50 HSS 6008

Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:00---3:00

REQUIREMENTS:

Students are expected to come to class, do the reading, and participate in class discussions. Your grade will be based on the following point weights: abstract of essay topic 10; outline and short bibliography for essay 10; final essay 60; WebCT contributions 10; class participation 10. Points received during the quarter should not be translated into letter grade estimates because there is no fixed curve in the final assignment of grades.

WebCT:

The address on the web is <http://webct.ucsd.edu>. Use your UC San Diego email address and password. I sometimes sent messages to the entire class using the mail feature of WebCT so make sure to check that mail regularly. Call Academic Computing at 4-4061 or 4-2113 if you experience problems.

Students should check the WebCt before class. At least five times during the quarter, students should post a provocative claim or question based on the reading. This post should be a solid paragraph and be composed with proper spelling and grammar. Students should plan to post five additional short responses of one sentence or a few sentences to the posts of other students. Make sure to participate in the WebCT on a timely basis to enrich our class debates and discussions.

ESSAY. The major assignment in the class is to write an interpretive essay. Undergraduate students will submit a 20 page essay, and graduate students will complete a 30 page paper. Undergraduates should expect to use two scholarly monographs or eight scholarly articles. Graduate students will typically use many more secondary sources.

Please get to work right away and choose a topic for your proposed essay during the very first week of the quarter. You will of course modify your original plan because “the journey is the destination.” During the quarter, students will submit an abstract, an outline and short bibliography, and ultimately the final version of their essay on the dates noted in the syllabus.

Late work will not be accepted unless the instructor has given permission 24 hours before the due date. No internet sources are allowed for the final version of the essay, although of course students may utilize published material which they access electronically. Students will participate in a Roundtable on the essays at the close of the quarter.

BOOK LIST

All of the books have been ordered at Groundworks Books in the Old Student Center and have been placed on Reserve in the Library.

Yosef Yerushalmi, ZACHOR: JEWISH HISTORY AND JEWISH MEMORY University of Washington Press 0295975199

David Biale POWER AND POWERLESSNESS IN JEWISH HISTORY Schocken Books, 0805208410

Ernst Pawel, LABYRINTH OF EXILE: A LIFE OF THEODOR HERZL Farrar Straus and Giroux 0 374 52351-7

Jerome Kohn and Ron H. Feldman, eds., THE JEWISH WRITINGS OF HANNAH ARENDT Schocken Books, 978 0 8052 4238 6

Jonathan Frankel, THE DAMASCUS AFFAIR Cambridge University Press 0 521 48246

David Roskies, THE JEWISH SEARCH FOR A USABLE PAST Indiana University Press, 0253 33505-1

Colin Shindler, A HISTORY OF MODERN ISRAEL Cambridge University Press 978 0 521 61538 9

SCHEDULE

March 31 Introduction to the themes of the course

April 7 The Politics of Writing Jewish History

Yerushalmi, *Zakhor*, Chapters One, Two and Three
Biale, *Power and Powerlessness*, Chapter Two [only if the book is in the store in time]
Roskies, Chapter One
Arendt, "Jewish History, Revised," 303-311

Students should be prepared to declare a topic for their essay.

April 14 Emancipation and its Discontents

Biale, *Power and Powerlessness*, Chapters Four and Five
Arendt, "Antisemitism" 46-121; "Jew as Pariah," 275-297

Short abstract of your essay topic due.

April 21 How the Damascus Affair Changed Jewish Politics

Frankel, Chapters Two, Five, Six, Nine and Twelve. [Please skim the other chapters.]

April 28 The Herzl Family from Budapest

Pawel, Chapters One through Twenty

Submit a two-page outline of your essay and a one-page bibliography.

May 5 Imagining A New Hebrew Republic

Pawel, Chapters Twenty One through Thirty
Shindler, Chapters One through Five
Arendt, "The Minority Question" 125-132; "Zionism Reconsidered," 343-374

May 12 In the Land of Milk and Honey

Roskies, Chapters Four, Five, Six and Seven

May 19 Holocaust in Europe

Roskies, Chapter Two
Arendt, "The Jewish War that Isn't Happening," 134-185; "The Eichmann Controversy," 465-471.

May 26

The Hebrew Republic Today

Shindler, Chapters Six through Eleven

Roskies, Chapter Nine

Arendt, "A Way Toward the Reconciliation of Peoples," 258-263

Please post your final essay on our WebCT and turn in one hard copy.

June 2

Roundtable on Student Essays