

Anti-Semitism and History

HST 495 001

Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212

Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny
Phone: 910-962-7580
Email: tannyj@uncw.edu
Web: <http://people.uncw.edu/tannyj/>
Office: Morton 254
Office hours: Monday, 1-2pm
Wednesday, 2-3pm
Friday, 12-1pm
Or by appointment



I encourage you either to drop by my office or to get in touch with me as often as you like. I am ready to help you with any problems or questions that you may have pertaining to the course. If there are other personal or academic related problems that may be affecting your performance or your attendance, do not hesitate to contact me. I am here to help you learn.

About this Course

Anti-Semitism has often been called “the longest hatred.” Seemingly irrational hostility toward the Jewish people can be traced from the biblical world to the modern middle east, with the Crusades, the Inquisition, and the Holocaust standing out to as moments of severe persecution, expulsion, and genocide. This seminar will examine the complex history of anti-Semitism, its causes, and consequences. We will explore how anti-Semitism has evolved over time and place, how it’s affected world politics, and how it has had a profound impact on the collective memory of the Jews, who have responded to such hostility through theology, violence, literature, and even humor.

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



This course is part research seminar and part historiographical colloquium. Each week we will meet to discuss the assigned readings. We will examine how historians have tackled the subject of anti-Semitism in different eras and evaluate their work against some of the primary sources upon which their works are based. Through this approach you will develop the skills needed to produce your final research paper.

Grading and Course Requirements

Your final grade will be based on the following:

Class Participation, Discussion Leading	30 %
Response Papers	15 %
Research Presentation	15 %
Research Paper	40 %

Attendance: Attending all classes is mandatory. If you miss more than two classes, your final will be reduced by 10% for every subsequent absence. If you are having a serious issue that is affecting your ability to come to class, please come and speak with me.

In order to pass the course, you need to complete **every assignment**. Please retain an **extra copy** or an electronic version of each written assignment until the instructor returns the one you submitted.

Written Assignments

Three short analytical response papers – 15% of your final grade:

1. Response paper #1; 1-2 pages; due on **Monday, January 23** (based on the **Beller** book)
2. Response paper #2; 2 pages; due on **Monday, February 6**

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



3. Response paper #3: 3 pages; due on **Monday, March 5**

Major Research Paper – 18-20 pages – 40% of your final grade – due Friday May 4

Although your research paper is due on Friday, May 4, it will be a **work in progress**. You will complete a series of steps along the way to help you produce the final product:

- Meet with instructor to choose topic: **by Friday, February 17**
- Research topic proposal: due **Monday, February 20**
- Annotated bibliography: due **Thursday, March 22, Noon** (in my mailbox)
- Thesis paragraph: **Thursday, April 5, Noon** (in my mailbox)
- Draft paper: due **Thursday, April 19, Noon** (in my mailbox)
- Poster display: due **Monday, April 23** (group 1) or **Monday, April 30** (group 2)

These portions of your work will count toward your grade on the paper, which constitutes 40% of your grade in the course

All written assignments must be submitted in Hard Copy. A **late assignment** will incur a penalty of 1/3 of a letter grade for each day that it is late.

*****Your Final Paper is due on Friday May 4 at 12pm*****

Further details concerning the assignments will be provided over the course of the semester

Oral Assignments

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



Class Participation and Leading the Discussion (30% of your final grade)

Each student will be assigned a specific week to lead the class discussion. As discussion leader, your job is to briefly introduce the topic of the week and to **formulate questions** based on the reading material and present them in class as a means of generating and guiding discussion. Your goal is to get the other students to think about the material in the context of the course's larger themes and then voice their own opinions in an intelligent manner.

Each presenter needs to meet with the instructor the week before his or her presentation and should have completed the assigned readings by that day. The presenter(s) must also circulate some (but not all) of their discussion questions to the entire class via **email** no later than **two days before** (by the Saturday before) class.

Each student will also give a **brief presentation** relating to the first response paper on **Monday, February 6.**

Students are expected to come to class **prepared to discuss the weekly course material** even when it is not their week to present. This is a seminar, not a lecture course.

Leading the discussion and general participation constitute 30% of your final grade

Research / Poster Presentation (15% of your final grade)

During the final two weeks of our seminar (Monday April 23 and April 30), each student will present his or her research to the class. Your presentation should be approximately **10 minutes long**, followed by 5 minutes to respond to questions. Your presentation should be accompanied

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



by a **poster display** highlighting your topic. You will be encouraged to enter your poster in the history department's annual poster competition.

Academic Integrity

All members of UNCW's community are expected to follow the **academic Honor Code**. Please read the UNCW Honor Code carefully (as covered in the UNCW **Student Handbook**).

Academic dishonesty in any form will not be tolerated in this class.

Please be especially familiar with UNCW's position on **plagiarism** as outlined in the UNCW Student Handbook. **Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty in which you take someone else's ideas and represent them as your own.**

Disabilities and Special Needs

Students with diagnosed disabilities should contact the **Office of Disability Services** (962-7555). Please give me a copy of the letter you receive from the Office of Disability Services detailing the class accommodations you may need. If you require accommodation for test-taking please make sure I have the referral letter no less than three days before the test.

Required Readings and Video Recordings

Students are expected to come to class each week having completed the assigned readings and the visual material.

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



Books For Purchase

The following required readings are available for purchase at the university's bookstore

- Steven Beller, *Antisemitism: A Very Short Introduction*.
- Joshua Trachtenberg, *The Devil and the Jews*.
- Helmut Walser Smith, *The Butcher's Tale: Murder and Anti-Semitism in a German Town*.
- Jeffrey Herf, *The Jewish Enemy: Nazi Propaganda during World War II and the Holocaust*.
- Deborah E. Lipstadt, *Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory*.
- Will Eisner, *The Plot: The Secret Story of The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*.
- Philip Roth, *The Plot Against America*.
- Marvin Perry and Frederick M. Schweitzer (editors), *Antisemitic Myths: A Historical and Contemporary Anthology*.

Readings on Blackboard and the Web

The other required readings will be available for download as pdf files from **Blackboard** (<https://learn.uncw.edu>) or from internet websites. Readings available on Blackboard will be marked with an asterisk (*) The hyperlinks to the readings on the web are included in the syllabus.

Films and Video Recordings

Some weeks the assigned material will include films. You are responsible for watching these before class. I will make these films available to you in advance if Randall library does not have a copy.

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



Weekly Breakdown

Please note – There is no class on the first Monday of the semester, January 16. However, I would like each of you to come by my office during the first week of the semester to introduce yourself.

(1) Monday Jan. 23 – Introduction

Required Reading

- Steven Beller, *Antisemitism: A Very Short Introduction*.

Assignment – Response Paper # 1, due in class

(2) Monday Jan. 30 – Anti-Semitism in Antiquity

Required Readings (Secondary Sources)

- Benjamin Isaac, “The Ancient Mediterranean and the Pre-Christian Era” (**Blackboard***)
- Louis H. Feldman, “Anti-Semitism in the Ancient World” (**Blackboard***)
- Shaye J. D. Cohen, “‘Anti-Semitism’ in Antiquity: The Problem of Definition” (**Blackboard***)
- Philip A. Cunningham, “Jews and Christians from the time of Christ to Constantine’s Reign” (**Blackboard***)

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



Required Readings (Primary Sources)

- Tacitus on the Jews, Histories 5:1-13. Available at:
<http://www.ourcivilisation.com/smartboard/shop/tacitusc/histries/chap18.htm>
- Exodus 1. Available at:
<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus%201&version=KJV>
- Esther 3. Available at:
<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=esther%203&version=KJV>
- Matthew 27. Available at:
<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matthew%2027&version=KJV>
- John 8:31-47. Available at:
<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john%208:31-47&version=KJV>

(3) Monday Feb. 6 – The Middle Ages and Early Modern Era (Part 1)

Required Readings (Primary Sources with commentary):

- Perry and Schweitzer *Antisemitic Myths*, Part 1, pages 1-54.
- Selected documents from, *The Jew in the Medieval World* (**Blackboard***)
- Nathan Hanover, *Abyss of Despair* (Selections) (**Blackboard***)
- Excerpts from the Koran. Available at:
<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/anti-semitism/koranjews.html>
- The Pact of Umar (**Blackboard***)

Assignment – Response Paper # 2, due in class

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



(4) Monday Feb. 13 – The Middle Ages and Early Modern Era (Part 2)

Required Readings (Secondary Sources):

- Joshua Trachtenberg, *The Devil and the Jews*.
- Robert Chazan, “Medieval Anti-Semitism” (and response) (**Blackboard***)
- Jane Gerber, “Anti-Semitism and the Muslim World” (**Blackboard***)

Assignment – Preliminary Paper topic – meet with instructor by Friday Feb. 17

(5) Monday Feb. 20 – Modernity: Emancipation and its Discontents

Required Readings (Primary Sources):

- Perry and Schweitzer *Antisemitic Myths*, Part 2, pages 55-126
- Selected documents from *The Jew in the Modern World* (**Blackboard***)

Required Readings (Secondary Sources):

- Albert S. Lindemann and Richard S. Levy (eds.), *Antisemitism: A History*, chapters 7-9 (**Blackboard***)
- Sander Gilman, *The Jew's Body* (selections) (**Blackboard***)

Required Film

- *Jud Süß (Jew Süss)*, 1940

Assignment – Paper topic proposal, due in class

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



(6) Monday Feb. 27 – Global Jewish Conspiracies

Required Readings (Primary Sources):

- Perry and Schweitzer *Antisemitic Myths*, Part 2, pages 138-155

Required Readings (Secondary Sources):

- Eisner, *The Plot: The Secret Story of The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*

(7) Monday March 5 – Eastern Europe: Pogroms and Blood Libels

Required Readings (Primary Sources):

- Perry and Schweitzer *Antisemitic Myths*, Part 2, pages 127-137

Required Readings (Secondary Sources):

- Smith, *The Butcher's Tale: Murder and Anti-Semitism in a German Town*

Assignment – Response Paper # 3, due in class

(8) Monday, March 19 – Nazism and the Holocaust

Required Readings (Primary Sources):

- Perry and Schweitzer *Antisemitic Myths*, Part 2, pages 156-216

Required Readings (Secondary Sources):

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



- Jeffrey Herf, *The Jewish Enemy: Nazi Propaganda during World War II and the Holocaust*

Required Film

- *Der Ewige Jude (The Eternal Jew)*, 1940

Assignment – Annotated Bibliography – due Thursday March 22 at Noon

(9) Monday, March 26 – Is America Different?

Required Readings (Primary Sources):

- Philip Roth, *The Plot Against America*
- Selected documents (**Blackboard***)

Required Readings (Secondary Sources):

- Jonathan Sarna, “American Anti-Semitism” (**Blackboard***)

Required Film

- *Gentlemen’s Agreement*, 1947

(10) Monday April 2 – Neo-Nazism and Holocaust Denial

Required Readings (Primary Sources):

- Perry and Schweitzer *Antisemitic Myths*, Part 2, pages 264-290

Required Readings (Secondary Sources):

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



- Lipstadt, *Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory*

Required Film

- *The Believer*, 2001

Assignment – Thesis Paragraph – due Thursday April 5 at Noon

(11) Monday April 9 – Post-Holocaust Anti-Semitism

Required Readings

- Perry and Schweitzer *Antisemitic Myths*, Part 2, pages 219-263, 291-306
- Selections on Black Jewish relations (TBD) (**Blackboard***)

(12) Monday April 16 – Anti-Semitism and Anti-Zionism in the Muslim World

Required Readings

- Perry and Schweitzer *Antisemitic Myths*, Part 2, pages 306-336
- Lindemann and Levy, chapter 15
- Selected documents on the Middle East (TBD) (**Blackboard***)

Assignment – Draft Essay – due Thursday April 19 at Noon

(13) Monday April 23 – Research Presentations (1)

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



(14) Monday April 30 – Research Presentations (2)

*****Your Final Paper is due on due Friday May 4 at Noon*****

Please Note – 400 level seminars are required to meet during the scheduled exam slot, even though we **do not** have a final exam in this course. **We will be meeting on Monday May 7, at 7pm**, agenda TBD.

Grading Standards

A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	0-59

Work in the A range displays clear excellence and will make clear, cogent historical arguments that demonstrably engage all reading materials.

Work in the B range displays solid effort and thoughtfulness if not clear excellence. It makes clear arguments that engage most if not all of the reading materials.

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



Work in the C range is fair. It may make solid arguments, but suffers from a lack of engagement with reading materials and perhaps lack of context as well.

Work in the D range is poor – It has some redeeming features but suffers from lack of sustained effort, lack of context, and lack of most engagement with reading materials.

Work in the F range is failing. It does not meet credit standards for a university level course.

History Department Student Learning Outcomes

This course meets University Studies and History Department Student Learning Outcomes as described at <http://uncw.edu/hst/majors/learninggoals.html>

The University Learning Center

Westside Hall, first floor, office #1056

910.962.7857

<http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/index.htm>

The University Learning Center's (ULC) mission is to help students become successful, independent learners. Tutoring at the ULC is NOT remediation: the ULC offers a different type of learning opportunity for those students who want to increase the quality of their education.

ULC services are free to all UNCW students and include the following:

--Learning Services (Basic Studies) <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/tutoring.htm>

--The Math Lab <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/math.htm>

Anti-Semitism and History
HST 495 001
Mon 6:30-9:15pm – Morton 212
Instructor: Dr. Jarrod Tanny, Spring 2012



--Study Skills <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/study.htm>

--Supplemental Instruction <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/si.htm>

--The Writing Center <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/writing.htm>

ULC operating hours: <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/hours.htm>

ULC Identity Statement and Vision: <http://www.uncw.edu/stuaff/uls/ULS-About.htm>