RS3450:
Judaism and the Holocaust
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Office 319A, ext 279.
Office Hours: Wed 1-3 pm or by appointment.

Prerequisites Required for this Course:

Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course, and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Course Description:

This reading course will examine the impact of the Holocaust (1938-45) on Judaism in terms of its philosophy-theology, subsequent placement in Western society and effect that the Holocaust has had on Western and Global society. The course will examine the historical-social context of anti-Semitism and its relation to Christianity (and Islam) and the rise of National Socialism, investigate Jewish (and other faiths) responses to theology, theodicy and ethics after the Holocaust and then look at the role of the Holocaust in Jewish and non-Jewish social-political structures after 1945.

Readings:

There are two (2) required texts for this course.

The required texts are:

1. Dorff and Newman, *Contemporary Jewish Theology: A Reader* (OUP, 1999, ISBN 13-978-0-19-511467)
2. Katz et al, *Wrestling with God,* (OUP, 2007, 978-0-19-530015-4).

There are numerous recommended texts:

1. C Browning, *The Path to Genocide* (CUP, 1998, 0-521-55878-6).
2. W Laqueur, *The Changing Face of AntiSemitism* (OUP, 2006, 0-19-530429).
3. L Leff, *Buried by the Times*, (CUP, 2005, ISBN 0-521-81287-9).
4. Idith Zertal, *Israel's Holocaust and the Politics of Nationhood*, (CUP, 2005, 0-521-85096)
5. M Goldberg, *Why Should Jews Survive,* (OUP, 1995, 0-19-511126-5)
6. M Morgan, *Beyond Auschwitz, Post-Holocaust Thought in America*, (OUP, 2001, 0-19-5144862-2).
7. G Achcar, *The Arabs and the Holocaust* (Holt, 2009, 978-0-8050-8954-7)

Course Outline:

Week One: Introduction

Week Two: Roots of Genocide: Antisemitism

Reading: **Laqueur pp 1-107.**

Week Three: Roots of Genocide: The Final Solution

Reading: **Browning pp 3-58, 77-124.**

Week Four and Five: The Victim's Voices

Reading*:** **Art Speigelman, *Maus (Graphic Novel),V1/2.
Primo Levi, *Survival in Auschwitz : the Nazi assault on humanity.*
Elie Wiesel, *Night*
Jean Amery, *At the Mind's Limits*

Week Six: Contemporary Voices: In Europe

Reading: **Katz *et al*, pp 3-73**

Week Seven: Contemporary Voices: In Israel and America

Reading: **Katz *et al, pp 287-304 and 376-93***
Leff, 1-48, 135-237 and 330-58

Week Eight and Nine: Theological Responses

Reading: **Dorff and Newman, pp 345-416. (Berkovitz, Rubenstein, Fachenheim and Greenberg)**
Katz et al, pp 450-684 (Levinas, Cohen, Funkenstein, Sacks and Wiesel)

Week Ten: Philosophical Responses

Reading: **Morgan pp 1-90, 196-211.**

Week Eleven: Contemporary Responses (Jewish and Arab)

Reading: **Goldberg.**
Achcar

Week Twelve and Thirteen: Politics of the Holocaust

Readings: **Zertal**
Dorff/Newman pp 417-485. (Yehoshua, Hartman, Leibowitz, Ellis)

Evaluation:

Evaluation will take place in three modes:

a. **Seminar and Bibliography**: Student groups will be required to present a topic to the class (more to follow). **Worth 30% of final grade.** Bibliographical summary: For each seminar, each student group will submit a bibliography or literature search pertinent to their topic. They are to have minimum 10 sources cited and a précis of all sources of no more than 50 words. The biographical work is to demonstrate facility with the material and status of questions for the seminars to be presented **Worth 10% of final grade. The total for the seminar is 40% of final grade and as such is expected to reflect substantial work.**
b. **Essay:** Students will be required to write one (1) essay of 7-10 pages on a topic covered in class (more to follow): **Worth 30% of final grade**. Due final day of course.
c. **Participation/Discussion:** As this is not a lecture based course in the traditional sense, student participation is necessary. As such, attendance and participation is mandatory unless ill or otherwise indisposed. **30% of the final grade** will be given to participation, with **20%** being for two short (no more than 750 words) *critical response* papers chosen by the student to three seminars that they did not present and **10%** for class attendance and participation. Papers are due final day of class or in a timely fashion done throughout the term.

Seminar Guidelines: Seminars will be dedicated to presenting the assigned readings in an ordered and systematic manner and in directing questions and conversation throughout for peers. You are critically to engage and facilitate learning by others. Evaluation will reflect both aspects of the seminar. Groups will be two persons. Time will be split according to the number of seminars being presented, but usually students can expect to have 50 mins (two seminars) or 35 mins (three seminars). If three seminars, then students can expect to be dismissed at 5:30 and should plan on this.

Email: As per University policy, all email correspondence must come through your UWO account, and is to be treated as if a registered letter and thus as official correspondence. Please use appropriate discretion.

Late Submissions: Unless notified and accompanied by formal letters (doctor, dean etc) all papers that are late will lose academic standing. The scale is as follows: 1-3 days late (10%), 3-5 days (25%). No paper five or more days late will be accepted.

Essays: All essays are assumed to be academic papers. As such, they are expected to have a bibliography, follow a standard (MLA, APA, Chicago or CBE styles) citation and a standard academic format (refer to *Western Calendar).*

Appendix to Course Outlines
Prerequisite Information
Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.
Conduct of Students in Classes, Lectures, and Seminars
Membership in the community of Huron University College and the University of Western Ontario implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. The academic and social privileges granted to each student are conditional upon the fulfillment of these responsibilities.
In the classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Students can avoid any unnecessary disruption of the class by arriving in sufficient time to be seated and ready for the start of the class, by remaining silent while the professor is speaking or another student has the floor, and by taking care of personal needs prior to the start of class. If a student is late, or knows that he/she will have to leave class early, be courteous: sit in an aisle seat and enter and leave quietly.
Please see the *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities* at:
http://www.huronuc.ca/pdf/CodeStudentRights.pdf
Technology It is not appropriate to use technology (such as, but not limited to, laptops, PDAs, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and is distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the

classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Academic Accommodation for Medical/Non-Medical Grounds For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf [downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): https://studentservices.uwo.ca under the Medical Documentation heading] Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the instructor.

For **non-medical** grounds or for **medical grounds when work represents less than 10%**of the overall grade for the course, students seeking academic accommodation must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation will be determined by the Dean's Office in consultation with the instructor.

Statement on Academic Offences Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf .

Plagiarism Plagiarism is an academic offence and will be treated as such. Students who are in doubt as to the nature of this offence should consult their instructor, Department Chair or the Dean, as well as the Huron University College Statement on Plagiarism, available at the reference desk in the HUC Library and at http://www.huronuc.on.ca/pdf/FASSonPlagiarism.pdf . In addition, students may seek guidance from a variety of current style manuals available at the Reference Desk in the HUC Library. Information about these resources can be found at: http://www.huronuc.ca/library/research_guides_and_handouts .

Students found guilty of plagiarism will suffer consequences ranging from a grade reduction to failure in the course to expulsion from the university. In addition, a formal letter documenting the offence will be filed in the Dean's Office, and this record of the offence will be retained in the Dean's Office for the duration of the student's academic career at Huron University College.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com. Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

Personal Response Systems ("clickers") may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional.

Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else's clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence,
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Policy on Special Needs

Students who require special accommodation for tests and/or other course components must make the appropriate arrangements with the Student Development Centre (SDC). Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at:

http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/ssd/?requesting_acc

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.

2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Class Cancellations

In the event of a cancellation of class, every effort will be made to post that information on the Huron website, http://www.huronuc.ca/accessibility ("Postings of Service Disruptions").

Accessibility

Huron University College strives at all times to provide its goods and services in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. We are also committed to giving people with disabilities the same opportunity to access our goods and services and allowing them to benefit from the same services, in the same place as, and in a similar way to, other customers. We welcome your feedback about accessibility at Huron. Information about how to provide feedback is available at: http://www.huronuc.ca/accessibility

Program and Academic Counselling

Chinese students registered at Huron who require advice about modules and courses in CHN should contact Laura Wu, Coordinator for Chinese courses within the Department of French and Asian Studies, hwu1@huron.uwo.ca, 519-438-7224 ext. 332. For information about other French and Asian Studies, students should contact the Chair of the Department - Mariana Ionescu at mionesc2@huron.uwo.ca Students should contact Academic Counselling on other academic matters. See the Academic Counselling website for information on services offered. http://huronuc.ca/students/service_centre/academic_counselling/