



**HS/SO 333 DISCRIMINATION AND PERSECUTION IN SPAIN AND THE WEST: ANTI-SEMITISM AND OTHER FORMS OF RELIGIOUS AND
RADICAL PREJUDICE**
IES Abroad Madrid

DESCRIPTION:

Discrimination of ethnic and religious minorities have had a deep presence in Western History going back to the Roman Empire, when the growing Christian minority was widely persecuted by its institutions. With the adoption of Christianity as the official religion by the Empire and its fall into multiple Christian kingdoms at the beginning of the Middle Ages, such persecution changed target: first to the pagan remnants that refused to convert and the different heresies that appeared throughout Christian History, and afterwards to the Jewish minority scattered throughout the continent. This repression and persecution of the Jewish people would continue to the present, seeing small periods of peace followed by periods of atrocities, like the expulsion of the Jews from Spain (and their forced conversions) in 1492, the 19th and early 20th Centuries *Pogroms* in the Russian Empire, or the Holocaust during the Nazi Regime.

Alongside it, we also see the persecution and forced conversion of the Muslim minority of Southern Europe created by the expansion of the Christian Kingdoms of the Iberian Peninsula and Italy, with Spain expelling their Christian descendants (*Moriscos*) between the years 1609 and 1613. Although initially less intense than antisemitism, the present Western society has seen an increase of attacks and persecutions of the Muslim population, worsened by terrorism, the conflicts in the Middle East, and the increase of Muslim refugees and migration generated by them.

This course will study the history and evolution of the discrimination and persecution of the Jewish and Muslim peoples in Europe, focusing on Spain and its particular history.

The course is divided into three sections. The first section examines Spain of the Inquisition and the empire. Section Two analyzes early modern and modern anti-Semitism, culminating with the Holocaust. Section Three explores contemporary cases of racial and religious discrimination in Europe and the Americas, including the thorny question of immigration and citizenship. Throughout the course, the instructor will use historical cases of persecution and discrimination as a means to provoke students to critically examine cases of prejudice and exclusion in the world today.

CREDITS: 3 credits

CONTACT HOURS: 45 hours

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

PREREQUISITES: "None"

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

- Class discussion: The majority of each class will consist of discussions of key themes. Students will be provided with the texts to read for each class on Moodle, together with a list of reading questions designed to focus their attention on key points and concepts in the texts. These will form the basis of the class discussions.
- Course-related trips: Two of the sessions will be dedicated to course-related trips: one to the *Museo Arqueológico Nacional* to see the Al-Andalus collection, and another to the *Museo de Historia de la Comunidad Judía de Madrid* to learn about the Jewish people's present history in Spain. Besides these two trips, we will also visit the city of Toledo outside the regular class sessions through the trips organized by IES Abroad Madrid.
- Lectures: The professor will supplement class discussions with lectures to help the students interpret the material provided in the class readings, to tie the readings together, and provide summaries of theoretical approaches to the subject.

- Film viewing: There will be one film viewing during the course. The film will be screened prior to class. Students will be provided with viewing and discussion questions to be completed on Moodle before the class starts. The films will serve as material for discussion of the theoretical concepts covered in the course.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Draft Essay (10%)
- Final Essay (20%)
- Midterm exam (25%)
- Class participation (10%)
- Presentations (10%)
- Final exam (25%)

COURSE ELEMENT

- Draft Essay: Students will write an essay on the history of anti-Semitism or Islamophobia using required, recommended, and supplementary readings. Students will first submit a draft essay, which will serve as the subject of class discussion. After the class discussion and having received comments from the instructor, the student will then submit a final essay. The essay should be **at least 30 pages long** (double-spaced; standard margins and fonts). The completed essays will be submitted as assignments on Moodle.
- Final Essay: Students will submit a final version of the essay, which will be evaluated by taking into account the analytical, organizational, and formalistic quality of the work as well as the extent to which the student has effectively incorporated the instructor's comment on the draft. The final essay will be due approximately one week before the final exam.
- Midterm exam: This will use different formats to assess students' progress towards the learning outcomes in the first half of the course. The question formats will include essay questions, multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and justified True/False questions.
- Class participation: Students will be expected to come to class prepared, and to participate actively in class.
- Presentations: Students will be required to give two class presentations of fifteen minutes each. Given that all students will have done the reading, the presentations should consist of posing questions for debate and contextualizing the readings within the larger themes explored in the course.
- Final exam: This will use different formats to assess students' progress towards the learning outcomes.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Summarize the history of anti-Semitism from the Middle Ages to the present day.
- Analyze how racial purity laws directed against Jews during the Spanish Inquisition were transformed into a system of racial hierarchies in Spanish America
- Compare medieval, early modern, and contemporary forms of anti-Semitism.
- Contrast different theoretical perspectives used to analyze persecution and discrimination in history.
- Reflect critically upon the presence of Islamophobia and discrimination against immigrants in the west today.
- Analyze the historical reasons behind the evolution of contemporary doctrines of human rights.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

As a member of our class community, you are expected to be present and on time every day. Attending class has an impact on your learning and academic success. For this reason, attendance is **mandatory for all IES Madrid classes**, including course-related excursions. Absences will only be excused in cases of documented medical or family emergencies. Any assessed work, including exams, tests, and presentations, will be rescheduled if the absence is justified; otherwise, it will be graded as 0. You are allowed a maximum of 1 unexcused absence for once-a-week courses and 2 unexcused absences for twice-a-week courses. Each additional absence will deduct 5 points from your final grade. **Accumulating 7 or more absences in twice-a-week courses, or 4 or more in**

once-a-week courses, may lead to a failing grade. Students arriving more than 11 minutes after the scheduled start time will be marked as 'late.' Three 'late' arrivals will be counted as 1 absence. Any student arriving 30 minutes or more after the scheduled start time will be marked as 'absent.' For more information, please refer to the full [Attendance and Punctuality Policy](#) document.

CONTENT:

Session	Content	Assignments
Session 1	Introduction to the course.	
Session 2	Jewish communities in Early Medieval Europe	Ravid, Benjamin. "All Ghettos Were Jewish Quarters but not all Jewish Quarters Were Ghettos." <i>Jewish Culture and History</i>, 10 (2008), No.2, pp.5-24
Session 3	Convivencia or "living together": Christians, Jews and Muslims in medieval Spain.	Alex J Novikoff, "Between Tolerance and Intolerance in Medieval Spain: An Historiographic Enigma," in <i>Medieval Encounters</i>, 11 (2005), 7-36.
Session 4	The Ancient and Medieval Roots of Anti-Semitism and Anti-Semitic violence.	Phyllis Goldstein. "The Power of a Lie", in <i>a Convenient Hatred</i> (Brookline, MA: Facing History and Ourselves, 2011).
Session 5	Crisis and the Persecution of Minorities in Fifteenth-Century Spain	- Teófilo F. Ruiz, "Muslims, Jews, and Christians in a Century of Crisis," in <i>Spain's Centuries of Crisis, 1300-1474</i> (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007), 139-163. - David Nirenberg, "'The Revenge of the Saviour' Jews and Power in Medieval Europe," in <i>Anti-Judaism: The Western Tradition</i> (New York: Norton, 2013), 183-217.
Session 6	The Expulsion of the Jews and the Birth of the Inquisition	- David Nirenberg "The Extinction of Spain's Jews and the Birth of the Inquisition," in <i>Anti-Judaism: The Western Tradition</i>, 218-246. - Henry Kamen, "The Mediterranean and the Expulsion of the Spanish Jews," <i>Past and Present</i>, 196 (May 1998): 30-55.
Session 7	Exile or Conversion: the Birth of Sephardic Judaism and Spain's New Christians	Antonio Feros. "The Others Within". In <i>Speaking of Spain: The Evolution of Race and Nation in the Hispanic World</i> (Cambridge: Harvard university Press, 2017), pp.76-91.
Session 8	The Decline of Coexistence and the Expulsion of the Moriscos from Spain	Antonio Feros. "The Others Within". In <i>Speaking of Spain: The Evolution of Race and Nation in the Hispanic World</i> (Cambridge: Harvard university Press, 2017), pp.91-108.

Session 9	The Spanish Inquisition: Laws concerning the "purity of the blood" and the persecution of crypto-Jews.	• María Elena Martínez, "The Emergence of the Spanish Statutes of Limpieza de Sangre," and "Race, Purity, and Gender in Sixteenth Century Spain," in <i>Genealogical Fictions: Limpieza de Sangre, Religion, and Gender in Colonial Mexico</i> (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2008), pp. 25-60. • Henry Kamen, <i>The Spanish Inquisition: A Historical Revision</i> (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1999), 174-213.
Session 10	Racial Hierarchies in Spanish America and the Caste System	• María Elena Martínez, "The Initial Stages and the Sociological Roots of the Sistema de Castas," in <i>Genealogical Fictions</i>, pp. 142-170. • Stuart B. Schwartz, "Colonial Identities and the Sociedad de Castas," <i>Colonial Latin American Review</i>, v. 4, no. 1 (1995): 185-201.
Session 11	Course-related trip, Museo Arqueológico Nacional	
Session 12	Midterm Exam	
Session 13	The Modern Roots of Antisemitism	• Albert S. Lindemann, "Modern Time: 1700-1870s," in <i>Esau's Tears: Modern Antisemitism and the Rise of the Jews</i> (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), 40-96.
Session 14	Racial Science and Anti-Semitism	• Eric Ehrenreich, <i>The Nazi Ancestral Proof: Genealogy, Racial Science, and the Final Solution</i> (Bloomington: University of Indiana Press, 2007), 1-77.
Session 15	Jews and the Holocaust	• Phyllis Goldstein, "Anti-Semitism in France and Russia" and "In the Face of Genocide," in <i>A Convenient Hatred: The History of Anti-Semitism</i> (Brookline, MA: Facing History and Ourselves, 2011), 207-33, 259-89 • Omer Bartov, "Defining Enemies, Making Victims: Germans, Jews, and the Holocaust," <i>American Historical Review</i>, 103, no. 3 (1998): 771-816.

Session 16	Zionism and the Birth of Israel	- Mier Litvack and Esther Webman, "Israel and Anti-Semitism" in <i>Anti-Semitism: A History</i> (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010), ed. Albert S. Lindemann and Richard S. Levy, 237-50. - Bartov, Omer. "Part V: When Memory comes." In <i>Genocide, the Holocaust and Israel-Palestine</i> (London: Bloomsbury Academic), 151-205.
Session 17	Contemporary Anti-Semitism	Phyllis Goldstein, <i>A Convenient Hatred</i> (Brookline, MA: Facing History and Ourselves, 2011).
Session 18	Draft Papers Due	
Session 19	Persecution, Discrimination, and Stereotyping of Muslims	Anouar Majid, "Introduction: Specters of the Moor" and "Pious Cruelty," in <i>We are all Moors: Ending Centuries of Crusades against Muslims and Other Minorities</i> (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2012), 1-58.
Session 20	Religious Difference in a Liberal Society: What to Do When Religious Norms Conflict with Liberal Laws Against Discrimination?	Joan Wallach Scott, "The Headscarf Controversies". In <i>The Politics of the Veil</i> (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007), 21-41.
Session 21	Course-related trip, Museum of Madrid's Jewish Community or Museum of America	
Session 22	Islamophobia and Contemporary Discrimination against Immigrants	Anouar Majid, "Undesirable Aliens: Hispanics in America, Muslims in Europe," and "Conclusion: We are all Moors," in <i>We Are All Moors: Ending Centuries of Crusades against Muslims and Other Minorities</i>, 123-176
Session 23	Combating Islamophobia today	Film viewing
Session 24	Course conclusions. Review session for the final exam	

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

- Museo Arqueológico Nacional: Tour to see the Al-Andalusian collection and talk about the Muslim rule and life in the Peninsula.
- Museum of Madrid's Jewish Community: Guided tour through the museum to learn about the modern Jewish community in Spain.

- Museo de America: Tour to see the colonial collection of the museum to expand the student's knowledge of Spanish presence in the Americas.

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Bartov, Omer. "Defining Enemies, Making Victims: Germans, Jews, and the Holocaust," *American Historical Review*, 103, no. 3 (1998): 771-816.
- Bartov, Omer. "Part V: When Memory comes." In *Genocide, the Holocaust and Israel-Palestine* (London: Bloomsbury Academic), 151-205.
- Ehrenreich, Eric. *The Nazi Ancestral Proof: Geneology, Racial Science, and the Final Solution* (Bloomington: University of Indiana Press, 2007), 1-77.
- Feros, Antonio. "The Others Within". In *Speaking of Spain: The Evolution of Race and Nation in the Hispanic World* (Cambridge: Harvard university Press, 2017), pp.76-91.
- Feros, Antonio. "The Others Within". In *Speaking of Spain: The Evolution of Race and Nation in the Hispanic World* (Cambridge: Harvard university Press, 2017), pp.91-108.
- Goldstein, Phyllis. "Anti-Semitism in France and Russia" and "In the Face of Genocide," in *A Convenient Hatred: The History of Anti-Semitism* (Brookline, MA: Facing History and Ourselves, 2011), 207-33, 259-89
- Goldstein, Phyllis. *A Convenient Hatred* (Brookline, MA: Facing History and Ourselves, 2011).
- Kamen, Henry. "The Mediterranean and the Expulsion of the Spanish Jews," *Past and Present*, 196 (May 1998): 30-55.
- Kamen, Henry. *The Spanish Inquisition: A Historical Revision* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1999), 174-213.
- Kohn, Samuel J. "The Black Death and the Burning of the Jews," *Past and Present*, 196, (August 2007): 3-36.
- Lindemann, Albert S. "Introduction: Themes, Goals, Problems" and "Ancient and Medieval Jew Hatred," in *Anti-Semitism before the Holocaust* (London: Pearson, 2000), 1-31.
- Lindemann, Albert S. "Modern Time: 1700-1870s," in *Esau's Tears: Modern Antisemitism and the Rise of the Jews* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press), 40-96.
- Litvack, Mier and Webman, Esther. "Israel and Anti-Semitism" in *Anti-Semitism: A History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010), ed. Albert S. Lindemann and Richard S. Levy, 237-50.
- Majid, Anouar. "Introduction: Specters of the Moor" and "Pious Cruelty," in *We are all Moors: Ending Centuries of Crusades against Muslims and Other Minorities* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2012), 1-58.
- Majid, Anouar. "Undesirable Aliens: Hispanics in America, Muslims in Europe," and "Conclusion: We are all Moors," in *We Are All Moors: Ending Centuries of Crusades against Muslims and Other Minorities*, 123-176
- Martínez, María Elena. "The Emergence of the Spanish Statutes of Limpieza de Sangre," and "Race, Purity, and Gender in Sixteenth Century Spain," in *Geneological Fictions: Limpieza de Sangre, Religion, and Gender in Colonial Mexico* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2008), pp. 25-60.
- Martínez, María Elena. "The Initial Stages and the Sociological Roots of the Sistema de Castas," in *Geneological Fictions*, pp. 142-170.
- Nirenberg, David. "'The Revenge of the Saviour' Jews and Power in Medieval Europe," in *Anti-Judaism: The Western Tradition* (New York: Norton, 2013), 183-217.
- Nirenberg, David. "The Extinction of Spain's Jews and the Birth of the Inquisition," in *Anti-Judaism: The Western Tradition*, 218-246.
- Novikoff, Alex J. "Between Tolerance and Intolerance in Medieval Spain: An Historiographic Enigma," in *Medieval Encounters*, 11 (2005), 7-36.
- Ravid, Benjamin. "All Ghettos Were Jewish Quarters but not all Jewish Quarters Were Ghettos." *Jewish Culture and History*, 10 (2008), No.2, pp.5-24
- Ruiz, Teófilo F. "Muslims, Jews, and Christians in a Century of Crisis," in *Spain's Centuries of Crisis, 1300-1474* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007), 139-163.
- Schwartz, Stuart B. "Colonial Identities and the Sociedad de Castas," *Colonial Latin American Review*, v. 4, no. 1 (1995): 185-201.

- Scott, Joan Wallach. "The Headscarf Controversies". In *The Politics of the Veil* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007), 21-41.

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Bergen, Doris L. *War and Genocide: A Concise History of the Holocaust* (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2009)
- Bosworth, Mary. "Subjectivity and Identity in Detention: Punishment and Society in a Global Age," *Theoretical Criminology*, 212, no. 2 (16): 123-140.
- Browning, Christopher. *Ordinary Men: Reserve Police Battalion 101 and the Final Solution in Poland* (New York: Harper Collins, 1992)
- Chazan, Robert. *Medieval Stereotypes and Modern Anti-Semitism* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997)
- Esposito, John J. and Ibrahim Kalin eds., *Islamophobia: The Challenge of Pluralism in the 21st Century* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011)
- Finklestein, Norman. *The Holocaust Industry* (Cambridge: Verso, 2001), 1-79.
- Friedlander, Saul. *Nazi Germany and the Jews, 1933-1945* (New York: Harper Collins, 2009)
- Games, Alison. *Witchcraft in Early North America* (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2010)
- Garton Ash, Timothy. "Islam in Europe," *New York Review of Books* 53, no. 15 (October 5, 2006).
- Gerber, Jane S. *Jews of Medieval Spain. A History of the Sephardic Experience* (New York: Free Press, 1994)
- Goldhagen, Daniel J. *The Devil that Never Dies: The Rise and Threat of Global Anti-Semitism* (New York: Little, Brown and Co.: 2013)
- Peter Gottschalk and Gabriel Greenberg, *Islamophobia: Making Muslims the Enemy* (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2007)
- Joppke, Christian. "State Neutrality and Headscarf Laws in France and Germany" *Theory and Society*, 26, no. 4 (2007): 313-42.
- Kaplan, Marion A. *Between Dignity and Despair: Jewish Lives in Nazi Germany* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999)
- Mann, Michael. "The Dark Side of Democracy: The Modern Tradition of Ethnic and Political Cleansing," in *Democracy, Liberalism and War: Rethinking the Democratic Peace Debate*, edited by Tarak Barkawi and Mark Laffery (Boulder: Lynne Rienner Press, 2000)
- Lipstadt, Deborah. *Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory* (Great Britain: Penguin Books, 2016).
- Ray, Jonathan ed. *The Jew in Medieval Iberia* (Brighton, MA: Academic Press, 2012)
- Schuster, Eliza. "A Sledgehammer to Crack a Nut? Deportation, Detention and Dispersal in Europe," *Social Policy and Administration*, 39, no. 6 (December 2005), 606-21.
- Shadid, W. and P.S. Van Koningsveld, "Muslim Dress in Europe: Debates on the Headscarf," *Journal of Islamic Studies* 16, no.1 (2005): 35-61.
- Sheehi, Stephen. *Islamophobia: The Ideological Campaign against Muslims* (New York: Clarity Press, 2011)
- Wistrich, Robert S., *A Lethal Obsession: Anti-Semitism from Antiquity to the Global Jihad* (New York: Random House, 2009).