

Fall 2023
EUH 3672, section 3MH1
M-W-F | Period 5 (11:45 AM - 12:35 PM)
Keene-Flint 0119

Prof. Mitchell Hart
Office: Keene-Flint 18
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 3 pm -4 pm, and by appointment
Email: hartm@ufl.edu
Office phone: 273-3361

Modern European Jewish History: Emancipation, Integration, Rejection

How did Jews in Europe respond to the revolutionary transformations that occurred in Europe beginning in the seventeenth century? How did the emergence of the modern nation-state, notions of individual rights and duties, secularism, liberalism, socialism and other political ideologies impact on the condition of the Jews? What were the effects of industrialization, capitalism, and urbanization? This course introduces students to the major themes and issues in modern Jewish history through and exploration of two of the key mechanisms of modernization: emancipation and integration. We will explore the shifting ideas of “Jewish modernity” in Central and Western Europe as it was articulated intellectually and then politically and socially.

Required Texts

Jacob Katz, *Out of the Ghetto*

There is also a group of primary sources as PDF files that have been uploaded onto CANVAS. Some of these are required, others are optional.

Course Requirements: Attendance is required. More than three unexcused absences and your final grade will be affected. There will be two in-class midterms.

Class sessions will be structured around lectures and discussions. To get the most out of the lectures it is strongly suggested that you come to each class having read the assigned material for that week. Classroom discussions will be based largely around the in-class reading of required primary material and its interpretation.

Grading: Midterm One is worth 40% of your final grade. Midterm Two is worth 60%. However, please note that attendance (or rather the lack thereof) will affect your grade.

The **first midterm** will be given in class on Friday, October 6.

The **second midterm** will be given in class on Wednesday, May 3, December 7.

Grading Scale

A = 100–93 (4.0) B = 86–83 (3.0) C = 74–71 (2.0) D = 62–60 (1.0)
A- = 92–90 (3.67) B- = 82–79 (2.67) C- = 70–67 (1.63) D- = 59–56 (0.67)
B+ = 89–87 (3.33) C+ = 78–75 (2.33) D+ = 66–63 (1.33) F = below 55 (0)

For more information see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Relevant University Policies:

"Please do not hesitate to contact the instructor during the semester if you have any individual concerns or issues that need to be discussed. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office (www.dso.ufl.edu/drp/). The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation."

Students with disabilities will of course be accommodated, so long as their requests are accompanied by an official letter from UF's Office of Disabilities.

"In writing papers, be certain to give proper credit whenever you use words, phrases, ideas, arguments, and conclusions drawn from someone else's work. Failure to give credit by quoting and/or footnoting is PLAGIARISM and is unacceptable. Please review the University's honesty policy at www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/."

"Student records are confidential. UF views each student, not their parent(s), as the primary contact for all communication. For more information, see: www.registrar.ufl.edu/ferpahub.html."

STATEMENT REGARDING ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Students are expected to uphold the Academic Honor Code of the University of Florida. The Academic Honor Code is based on the premise that each student has the responsibility (1) to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity in the student's own work, (2) to refuse to tolerate violations of academic integrity in the University community, and (3) to foster a high sense of integrity and responsibility on the part of the University community. For a full explanation of visit:

www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html. An excellent website that discusses plagiarism, correct citing of references, and correct use of quotations is:

<http://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/mediasite/Viewer/?peid=adaa44500eaf460a84f238e6b9a558f9>.

UF Counseling and Academic Resources: On-campus services are available for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals. They include:

1. U Matter, We Care: If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or (352) 392-1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.
2. University Counseling Center, 301 Peabody Hall, (352) 392-1575,
3. Student Mental Health, Student Health Care Center, (352) 392-1171
4. Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, (352) 392-1161
5. CareerResourceCenter,ReitzUnion,(352)392-1601<http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>
6. E-learning technical support: (352) 392-4357/ email: Learningsupport@ufl.edu

<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.
7. LibrarySupport,<http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>
8. WritingStudio,302TigertHall,(352)846-1138<http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>

Course themes and lectures

***All the readings listed below, other than Jacob Katz, are pdf files on Canvas.**

1. Introduction

Required Reading:

Jacob Katz, chapter 1: Social Revolution with a Difference

David Rechter, "The Jews: A European Minority," in *A Companion to Nineteenth-Century Europe, 1789-1914*

2. Pre-Modern Jewish Life

Required Reading:

Katz, chapter 2: Ghetto Times

“The Writ of Excommunication Against Baruch Spinoza” (1656)

3. Utilitarian Thought about Jews

Required Reading:

Katz, chapter 3: The Portents of Change

Menasseh ben Israel, “How Profitable the Nation of the Jews are”

John Toland, “Reasons for Naturalizing the Jews in Great Britain and Ireland”

4. Enlightenment and *Haskalah*

Required Reading:

Katz, chapter 4: The Semi-neutral Society

Michael Meyer, “Enlightenment,” from *Jewish Identity in the Modern World*

Naphtali Herz Wessely, “Words of Peace and Truth”

Recommended:

David ben Nathan of Lissa, “A Sermon Contra Wessely” (1782)

Moses Mendelssohn, “The Right to be Different” (1783)

David Friedlander. “On Self-Development and the Abolishment of Jewish Autonomy” (1792)

Joseph Wolf, “Preface to Volume One of *Sulamith*” (1806)

“Call for Religious Enlightenment” (1808) in *Sulamith*

5. The Discourse of Emancipation, Reform and Regeneration

Required Reading:

Jacob Katz, chapters 5-6: The Image of the Future, and Gentile Objections

Christian Wilhelm von Dohm, "Concerning the Amelioration of the Civil Status of the Jews" (1781)

Johann David Michaelis, "Arguments Against Dohm" (1782)

Moses Mendelssohn, "Response to Dohm" (1782)

Abbé Gregoire, "An Essay on the Physical, Moral and Political Reformation of the Jews" (1789)

Recommended:

George Mosse, chapter one, "A Cultural Emancipation," *German Jews Beyond Judaism*

Robert Liberles, "From Toleration to *Verbesserung*: German and English Debates on the Jews in the Eighteenth Century"

6. Political and Social Emancipation in Europe and the Reactionary Response

Required Reading:

Katz, chapter 7: The Defecting Fringe

Joseph II (Habsburg Emperor) and the Edict of Tolerance

French National Assembly: "Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen"; "Debate on Eligibility of Jews for Citizenship"; "Decree Recognizing the Sephardim as Citizens"; "The Constitution of France"; "The Emancipation of the Jews of France" (1789-1791)

Berr Isaac Berr, "Letter of a Citizen to His Fellow Jews" (1791)

"First Emancipation in Rome" (1799)

Abolition and Destruction of the Ghetto in Padua (two documents)

"Emancipation in Prussia" (1812)

The Houses of Parliament of Great Britain, "The Jewish Relief Act" (1858)

"North German Confederation and Jewish Emancipation" (1869)

Primary documents related to Napoleon, the Assembly of Notables and the Sanhedrin

Recommended readings:

Paula Hyman, “The French Revolution and the Emancipation of the Jews,” from *The Jews of Modern France*

Todd Endelman, “Gentlemen Jews: The Acculturation of the Anglo-Jewish Middle Class,” from *The Jews of Georgian England*

7. Jewish Religious Responses to Emancipation and Integration

A. Reform Judaism

Required Reading:

Katz, chapter 8: A Blow for Reform

Michael Meyer, “Should and Can an ‘Antiquated’ Religion become Modern? The Jewish Reform Movement in Germany as Seen by Jews and Christians,” in *The Jews in European History: Seven Lectures*

Riv-Ellen Prell, “The Vision of Woman in Classical Reform Judaism”

“Constitution of the Hamburg Temple” (1817)

Eliezer Liebermann, “The Light of Splendor” (1818)

The Reform Rabbinical Conference at Brunswick, “The Question of Patriotism” (1844)

The Reform Rabbinical Conference at Frankfurt, “Hebrew as the Language of Jewish Prayer” and “The Question of Messianism” (1845)

B. Reactions to Reform: Conservative, neo-Orthodox and Ultra-Orthodox Judaisms

Required Reading:

Katz, chapter 9: Conservatives in a Quandary

The Hamburg Rabbinical Court, “These are the Words of the Covenant” (1819)

Hatam Sofer, “A Reply Concerning the Question of Reform” (1819)

Zacharias Frankel, “On Changes in Judaism” (1845)

Samson Raphael Hirsch, “Religion Allied to Progress” (1854)

Schlesinger, “An Ultra-Orthodox Position” (1864)

Recommended:

Miri Freud-Kandel, “Modernist Movements,” and Eliezer Don-Yehiya “Traditionalist Strands,” in *Modern Judaism: An Oxford Guide* (pdf file)

8. Modern Antisemitism

Required Reading:

Richard Wagner, “Jewry in Music” (1850)

Wilhelm Marr, “The Victory of Judaism over Germandom” (1879)

Karl Eugen Duehring, “The Question of the Jew is a Question of Race,” (1881)

Edouard-Adolphe Drumont, “Jewish France” (1886)

“Protocols of the Elders of Zion” (c. 1902)

Recommended:

Johann Gottlieb Fichte, “A State within a State” (1793)

Jakob Friedrich Fries, “On the Danger to the Well-Being and Character of the Germans Presented by the Jews” (1816)

Alphonse Toussenel, “The Jews: Kings of the Epoch”

Adolf Stoecker, “What we Demand of Modern Jewry” (1879)

9. Post-Emancipatory Movements and Developments

Required Reading:

Katz, chapters 10-12

Theodor Herzl, “A Solution of the Jewish Question” (1896)

Protestrabbiner, “Protest Against Zionism” (1897)

Max Nordau, “Jewry of Muscle” (1903)