

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

**Religious Studies
363.01**

Course Outline, Winter 1999

**Judaism in the
Modern World**

Class time: MWF 11:00-11:50

Instructor:

E. Segal

Office:

Social Sciences 1301

Office hours:

M 10:00-11:00, or by appointment

Telephone:

220-5886

Internet:

elsegal@ucalgary.ca

World-Wide Web:

Material related to this course can be found at:

http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/363_Transp/363_list.html

Textbook:

- Raphael Patai and Emmanuel S. Goldsmith, *Events and Movements in Modern Judaism*

Course Description:

This course will study the main currents of modern Jewish thought and religious life, dealing with theological, literary and sociological topics. Among the topics to be dealt with are:

- The nature of Jewish society at the end of the Middle Ages
- The European Enlightenment and Emancipation Movements: Moses Mendelssohn.
- The rise of the Reform Movement in Europe and America
- Hasidism and its opponents.
- Orthodoxy and Neo-Orthodoxy.
- Religious attitudes towards Jewish nationalism and the Zionist movement.
- The principal North American Jewish movements: Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and

Core Competencies:

In addition to familiarizing the student with the important facts, authorities and religious movements of Modern Judaism, this course will also provide an introduction to the scholarly methodologies that are necessary for the historical and social study of religion.

Attention will be paid to identifying and characterizing the phenomena that form the basis for our knowledge of modern Jewish religious practices, institutions and ideas. Critical analysis and interpretation of the evidence will play a central role in the class. Students will learn how to approach modern Judaism from a variety of methodological perspectives, in order to utilize them for a broad understanding of the variegated forms of recent Jewish religious life and thought.

In their research papers, the students will be challenged to demonstrate their abilities in the collection of data, in critical analysis of sources, in the evaluation of scholarly literature, and in the presentation of the research in an organized and coherent manner.

Course Requirements:



1. Short Paper (due March 8 1999)
25%
2. Test (April 5 1999)
30%
3. Major Research Paper (due April 16 1999)
45%

There will not be a Registrar's office scheduled final examination in this course.

Papers:

Two research papers will be required. The first will consist of about 2,000 words (about ten pages), and the second will be a more extensive study of about 3,600 words (fifteen pages). In these papers the student will examine topics, events and personalities in modern Jewish religious thought, observances, law and institutions. A list of suggested topics and bibliographical suggestions will be handed out.

Please consult the instructor for approval of additional topics and guidance.

Grading:

Letter grades will be assigned on the basis of the following scheme:

		A	100 - 90	A-	89 - 85

B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 50	D	49 - 45	B-	44 or less

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is a serious offense, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F on the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. The University Calendar states that "plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves references to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted.

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgment, but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.



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