

KBS/ANTI - Antisemitism in History (The “Dream Syllabus” - red text in brackets are my notes and comments that will not be published in the final version)

Available time: Lecture – 90 min., Seminar & discussion over required reading material – 45 min.

Description: This course will provide its student with the basic overview of history and phenomenology of anti-Jewish stereotypes from the birth of Christianity until the contemporary antisemitic expressions that can be encountered in the context of the Middle-Eastern conflict. We will utilize an interdisciplinary approach, bordering between anthropology, history, political science and religious science to explain the context of birth and development of the antisemitic motives, stereotypes, movements and incidents. The later lectures will focus on antisemitism in various parts of the world, with focus on both history of antisemitism in these areas and newly emerging challenges and threats. In addition to the overview and history itself, the student will be shown, how can he/she “read between the lines” for the purpose of analysis of the antisemitic movement’s ideologies, preferences and intentions. The student will then try to make an assessment of antisemitism in a selected country or region from publicly available resource by using the SWOT analytical tool.

Gained competences/Pedagogical aims:

- The student will be able to recognize most common antisemitic stereotypes in pre-Modern, Modern and post-Modern forms of antisemitism.
- He/She will be able to define antisemitism and apply the relevant terminology properly
- He/She will be able to describe the roots and sources of the most common antisemitic stereotypes
- He/She will be able to analyze the role of antisemitic stereotypes in the Israeli-Arab conflict
- He/She will be equipped with examples of positive steps (“good practice”) against antisemitism with which, he/she can identify.
- He/She will gain a practical experience with using the SWOT analytical tool in issues related to security and political extremism.

Grading:

Student’s final grade will consist of three parts:

- Test (multiple choice) on basic dates, movements and phenomena of antisemitism. *(test results has weight 40% of the grade)*
- Essay – Country report on antisemitism in the form of a SWOT analysis *(essay will be graded with 40% weight of the grade).*
- Active participation in the lectures and seminars. *Student should be aware that the quality of their preparedness to the lectures and their activity during the seminars will affect 20% of their final grade.*

Essay details:

- The student will choose one country, for which he/she will prepare a SWOT analysis of antisemitism. SWOT means Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. He/She will elaborate this SWOT analysis into a five pages essay (1,5 spaced). Additional details on SWOT and its methodology will be given during the first lecture.
- The essay will be delivered electronically (either in .DOC, .DOCX or .ODT document format) to the lecturer’s university mailbox (ztarant@kbs.zcu.cz) before the final lecture.
- All essays must adhere to the University of West Bohemia’s anti-plagiarism legislation (namely Dean’s Regulation - DFF-I-61-06). Failure to do so will lead to expulsion from the course. Serious offenders can be handed over to the Ethics Committee, which has an authority to expel

the student from the University. The student should note that essays might be randomly checked by using advanced anti-plagiarism software or other means chosen by the lecturer without previous notice.

Basic literature:

- BUDIL, I. et al.: *Encyklopedie dějin antisemitismu (Encyclopaedia of the History of Antisemitism, in Czech)*.
- LEVY, Richard S. (ed.), *Antisemitism: A Historical Encyclopedia of Prejudice and Persecution*, ABC-CLIO, Oxford 2005
- LAZARE, Bernard; WISTRICH, Robert S., *Anti-Semitism: Its History and Causes*, University of Nebraska Press, 1995
- KATZ, Steven T., *The Holocaust in Historical Context*, Oxford University Press, 1994.
- WISTRICH, R.: *A Lethal Obsession: Anti-Semitism from Antiquity to the Global Jihad*. Random House 2010.
- PERRY, M.: *Antisemitic Myths: A Historical and Contemporary Anthology*. Indiana University Press 2008

On-line resources:

Jewish Virtual Library (on-line encyclopaedia): <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org>

MEMRI: www.memri.org (Monitoring of Middle-Eastern, namely Arab and Persian media).

Kantor Center, University of Tel Aviv: <http://kantorcenter.tau.ac.il> (contains summary of legislation on hate-speech in various countries, reports on antisemitism and articles of interest).

First lecture – Introduction

Course Requirements, Terminological and Etymological Difficulties. Overview of Institutions and Resources on Antisemitism.

Reading: (will be sent beforehand to the students, who signed for the course):

- EUMC definition of antisemitism
- Other definitions of antisemitism (EU department of state, dictionary definitions - Oxford, Merriam Webster etc., Wikipedia entry etc. (discuss with the students, which definition would they choose and why)
- Entry “antisemitismus” from the Czech: *Encyklopedie dějin antisemitismu*)
- For analysis: Antisemite’s definition of “Semitism” Selected pages from Wilhelm
- Marr’s “Das Weg der Sieg von Judentum über der Germanentum” (purpose → target the “Palestinians-cannot-be-antisemites” notion by showing the original source)

Additional reading:

PORAT, D.: The Road to an Internationally Accepted Definition of Antisemitism. In: Small, Charles A.: *The Yale Papers – Antisemitism in Comparative Perspective*. ISGAP 2015.

To be shown in-class: Introductory movie on antisemitism by USHMM: “European antisemitism from its origins to the Holocaust”: <http://www.ushmm.org/confront-antisemitism/european-antisemitism-from-its-origins-to-the-holocaust>

Second lecture – Roots of Juedophobia.

Early anti-Jewish Sentiments in Late Antiquity. From the Early Mutual Christian-Jewish Quarrels to the Christian Anti-Judaism. The myth of deicide and its role in medieval and modern Christian thought. Impacts of 2nd Lateran council on anti-Jewish beliefs. Anti-Jewish Myths stemming from elaboration of deicide in the Middle Ages – Host Desecration and Ritual Murder. Their role in

modern and contemporary rhetoric. Contemporary attempts of the Catholic Church to mend the damages.

Reading:

- Old Testament - Issaiah's suffering servant: Iz 53 (Interesting fact: The most influential, Czech Ecumenical Translation of the Bible adds the word "blood" into Iz 53:7 to reinforce *testimonium of Matthew 27*).
- New Testament: Matthew 27
- English excerpts from John Chrysostomos: *Adversus Judaeos*. (The student will be asked to mark, passages, sentences and words that are similar to modern anti-Jewish rhetoric. The text is about 16 pages long)
- Richard of Devizes's description of the 1190 pogrom in York (it is only one paragraph)
- Excerpts from *Nostra Aetate* on Deicide (several paragraphs)

Additional reading:

- Selected chapter from: POLIAKOV, Léon, *The History of Anti-Semitism*, Routledge and K. Paul, London, 1974-1975.
- Selected chapter from: SCHÄFER, Peter, *Judeophobia: attitudes toward the Jews in the ancient World*, Harvard University Press, 1998.
- Entries on Host Desecration and Ritual Murder from *Encyclopedia dějin antisemitismu*

IN-CLASS: Visual analysis of *Der Stürmer - Ritualmordnummer* (May 1934). (Do any of the depictions remind the student, what he/she can see around the internet in relationship to the Middle-Eastern conflict?)

IN-CLASS: Possible activity - analysis of Mel Gibson's "The Passion"

Third lecture – "It's A Conspiracy!"

Early roots of Antisemitic Conspiracy Theories – Wandering Jew, Jew and the Devil, Usury, Well-Poisoning in the context of Black Plague catastrophe. The Protocols of the Elders of Zion - From a liberal critique of conservatism, to genocidal pamphlet

Reading:

- ARAVA-NOVOTNÁ, Lena, „Příspěvek ke genezi protižidovských mýtů a stereotypů ve středověkém křesťanském myšlení.“ In: Budil, I., Arava-Novotná, L., Tydlitátová, V., Tarant, Z. *Nová doba stará zloba: soudobý antisemitismus v historickém kontextu*. University of West Bohemia in Pilsen 2011 (thirty pages - genesis of anti-Jewish myths in the Medieval thought).
- BUDIL, I.: *Alphonse Toussenel, Karel Marx a Richard Wagner a ambivalence židovské konspirace v době nástupu modernity*. In: Tarant, Z.; Tydlitátová, V. et al.: "Spiknutí!" Úloha antisemitských konspiračních teorií ve veřejném a politickém diskurzu. Plzeň 2014 (thirty pages on the role of conspiracy theories in the works of Alphonse Toussenel, Karel Marx and Richard Wagner).
- Comparisons of Protocols with Maurice Joly's *Dialogues* as published in: COHN, N.: *Warrant for Genocide: The Myth of the Jewish World Conspiracy and the Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. Serif Publishing 2008
- Entries "Protokoly sionských mudrců" (Protocols), "Lichva" (Usury), "Otravování studní" (Well poisoning) in *Encyklopedie dějin antisemitismu*.

Highly recommended to French-speaking students: TAGUIEFF, Pierre-André, *L'imaginaire du complot mondial : Aspects d'un mythe moderne* Editions mille et une nuits, 2006

Suggested leisure reading: Humberto Ecco: *The Prague Cemetery* (available in Czech as well).

Fourth Lecture - “Conservatism of Fools”

The birth of modern forms of antisemitism: Racial Antisemitism: From *Limpieza de sangre* in Spain to racial theories in 19th century Britain, France and Germany. How does a prejudice become genocidal in the first place? Social antisemitism: From “Usury” to accusations of “Jewish Capitalism”. The Dreyfus affair in France as a case-study of “Jewish disloyalty” myth. Origins of Totalitarianism.

Reading:

- ARAVA-NOVOTNÁ, Lena: *From Specific Manifestations of Christian Anti-Judaism to the Present- Day (Difficult) Overcoming of the Past: The Case of Spain*. In: Tydlitátová, V.; Tarant, Z.: *Faces of Hatred – Contemporary Antisemitism in its Historical Context*, p. 83-104
- BUDIL, I.: *Robert Knox, Transcendental Anatomy and Racialization of Jews*. In: Tydlitátová, V.; Tarant, Z.: *Faces of Hatred – Contemporary Antisemitism in its Historical Context* (example of early racial antisemitism in the works of Robert Knox including the birth of the term “race war”).
- BUDIL, I.: *Edouard Drumont, Edward Augustus Freeman a ideologické zdroje Hitlerova antisemitismu*. In: Arava-Novotná et al.: *Nová doba, stará zloba – Soudobý antisemitismus v historickém kontextu* (example of anti-Jewish genocidal tendencies in the works of Edouard Drumont and Edward Augustus Freeman).
- Some additional short text on the birth of German racial thought is needed.

Additional reading:

BUDIL, I.: *Úsvit rasismu*. Triton 2013 (a large opus on the birth of racist thought)

Fifth lecture – The Holocaust, its Denial and Relativization.

Basic overview of the Holocaust denial practices from Rassinier to David Duke. Holocaust denial after the Duke vs. Liptstadt trial. New strategies - relativization, the “industry” of “holocaust industry”.

Reading:

- “Combating Holocaust Denial: Origins of Holocaust Denial”. USHMM article on the early, WWII phase of Holocaust denial: <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10007273>
- Timeline of events of the Holocaust denial. Article by USHMM: <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10008003>
- “Misuse of Holocaust Imagery Today: When it is Antisemitism”. Article by USHMM on Holocaust imagery in anti-Israel rhetoric: <http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10007948>

Additional reading:

- LIPTSTADT, D.: *Denying the holocaust* (Czech version available).
- EVANS, Richard J. *Telling Lies About Hitler: History, Holocaust, and the David Irving Trial*. New York: Basic Books, 2001.
- TARANT, Z.: *Why do We Call the Holocaust ‘The Holocaust’?* in: Zoufalá, Marcela /ed./: *Jewish Studies in the 21st Century: Prague – Europe – World*. Jüdische Kultur: Studien zur Geistesgeschichte, Religion und Literatur. Wiesbaden, Harrassowitz 2014, pp. 183-184
- TARANT, Z.: *Diaspora paměti* (The Diaspora of Memory), chapter 10 “Děti, co nepronáší proslovy” (“The Children That Do Not Make Speeches” - A Chapter on Norman Finkelstein, his background and the controversies around his work from my book about Holocaust memory).

Sixth lecture – The Russian Way

Antisemitism in Russia under the Tzarist Regime, pogroms in the early 20th century, Soviet Russia, antisemitism under Stalin, “The Doctors’ plot”, Euroasianist Ideology, its Czech pan-Slavic roots and role in the contemporary Antisemitism. Contemporary Russian conspiracy theories and their export to the West.

Reading:

- Wistrich, R.: *A Lethal obsession*, chapters on Russia (two to five).

Additional reading:

- RUCKER, Laurent, *Stalin, Izrael a Židé*, nakl. Rybka, Praha, 2001 (Translated from French “Laurent Rucker, Staline, Israël et les Juifs”. English version not available).
- ROSMAN, V.: *Russian Intellectual Antisemitism in the Post-Communist Era*. Nebraska Press 2013.
- TYDLITÁTOVÁ, V.: The Influence of Russian Anti-Semitism in the Czech Republic. In: Tydlitátová, V.; Tarant, Z.: *Faces of Hatred – Contemporary Antisemitism in its Historical Context*, p. 83-104
- RYCHLAK, R. et al.: *Disinformation: Former Spy Chief Reveals Secret Strategies for Undermining Freedom, Attacking Religion, and Promoting Terrorism*. WND Books 2013 (the book, written by former KGB officer, describes how Soviet secret services were distributing copies of Protocols and other antisemitic literature in the Muslim world in the early 1970s as a tool of anti-American propaganda in the context of the Cold War).

Leisure reading:

- Bernard Malamud: *The Fixer*. (Available in Czech).
- Elie Wiesel: *The Jews of Silence*

Seventh lecture – “Hey, there is a Jew Behind Me!”

Muslim Views on Jews from the Qur’anic Period to the Middle-Eastern Conflict. Introduction of Christian antisemitism to the Arab and Muslim world. 19th century blood-libels in the Muslim world. The role of antisemitic conspiracy theories in the salafist and islamist thought. Sayyid Qutb, Ibn Taymiyya.

Reading:

- Selections of Qur’anic verses on the Jews (student will be asked to identify positive and negative remarks, how are they worded, which words are being used for Jews, etc.)
- Pact of Umar (what is the position of the Jews according to the pact? Compare the document to Christian sources from the same period).
- Selected excerpts from Sayyid Qutb’s “Ma’álim fí-‘taríq” or Ibn Taymiyya’s works.
- Selected excerpts from Hamas charter (student will be asked to identify what antisemitic remarks can be traced back to Muslim tradition, which are taken from the European tradition and how the Charter combines the two together).
- TIBBI, B.: *From Sayyid Qutb to Hamas: The Middle-East Conflict and the Islamization of Antisemitism*. In: Asher Small, Ch.: *Global Antisemitism – A Crisis of Modernity, Volume IV, Islamism and the Arab World*. ISGAP 2013.
- MORRIS, B.: *1948 as Jihad*. In: Small, Charles A.: *The Yale Papers – Antisemitism in Comparative Perspective*. ISGAP 2015.

Additional reading:

- Wistrich, R.: *A lethal obsession*, chapters on Muslim world and global jihad.
- LEWIS, Bernard, *The Jews of Islam*, Princeton University Press, Princeton, 1984.
- *Encyklopedie dějin antisemitismu*, entries “Arab antisemitism” and “Iran”

- PLO Charter from 1964: http://www.palwatch.org/main.aspx?fi=640&doc_id=8210
- ASHER SMALL, Ch. (ed.): *Global Antisemitism – A Crisis of Modernity, Volume IV, Islamism and the Arab World*. ISGAP 2013.

Eighth lecture – On Lessons not Learned

Contemporary Antisemitism in Europe. Role of antisemitism for the European neo-Nazism, right-wing extremism and Islamism. Impacts of the Six Day war on relations between the European left and Israel. The rise of the “New Left”. The role of Islamist preachers in contemporary European antisemitism. Examples of contemporary situation: France, Germany.

Reading:

- **Looking for some good and short primary texts. Any advice? Something from France, maybe?**
- Chapters on France from: KEPPEL, G.: *Boží pomsta*. Atlantis: Brno 1996.
- WISTRICH, R.: *Lethal obsession*, chapter nine "Liberté, Egalité, Antisémitisme."
- JIKELI, G.: Antisemitic Attitudes among Muslims in Europe - A Survey Review. ISGAP Policy Papers Series, No. 1, May 2015.
- IN-CLASS: Analysis of the song “Europa, Jugend, Revolution” by the neo-Nazi band *Carpe Diem*. (The student will be asked to search for antisemitic remarks, presented without mentioning the word “Jew”, “Zionism” or “Israel”).
- IN-CLASS: Watch the PBS report on antisemitism in France: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3QljPbl0uGI>

Additional reading:

- **(Looking for some literature on France. Any advice?)**
- *Encyklopedie dějin antisemitismu*, entry “neonacismus”.
- TARANT, Z.: “Friends or Foes? Attitudes of the Czech Anti-Semitic Scene to Islam and Muslims.” [currently under peer-review].

Ninth lecture - “God Bless America!”

Antisemitism in the American culture. Ku-Klux Klan. Mormons. Post-WWII struggle against antisemitism in the US. Antisemitism as a tool of anti-American conspiracy theories. (Some explanation on the role of Freemason imagery in American national symbols will be needed as it is a common target of anti-American conspiracy theories). American neo-Nazism (Aryan Nations etc.). Antisemitism of “Black Muslims”. (Nation of Islam etc.). Antisemitism in 9/11 conspiracy theories.

Reading:

- PERRY, M.: *Antisemitic Myths: A Historical and Contemporary Anthology*. Indiana University Press 2008 (example: 27 “Neo-Nazi Antisemitism” and example 29: “African American Antisemitism”).
- Examples from William Luther Pierce: *Turner’s diaries* (it will be explained that this text inspired Oklahoma City Bombing in 1995. The student will be asked to guess from the example, what parts might have been inspiring. The reason is to show the student the thin line between words and actions).
- Portions of “The Fable of Ducks and Hens” by Lincoln Rockwell. (Also known as the “Antisemite’s Animal Farm”. The text presents the myth of global conspiracy by means of a lousy versed fable).

Additional reading:

- Dinnerstein, Leonard. *Antisemitism in America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1994.

- Chalmers, David J.: *Hooded Americanism: The History of the Ku Klux Klan*. Duke University Press 1987

Recommended viewing:

- *Gentleman's agreement* (1947): A Hollywood movie on latent antisemitism in the post-WWII America. (The producers of the movie were blacklisted at the time for “anti-American activity” for this movie).
- *Imaginary Witness - Hollywood and the Holocaust* (2007). A documentary showing the changing attitudes of the Hollywood to the Jews and the Holocaust during and after WWII.

Tenth lecture – Antisemitism in Anti-Israeli Rhetoric – Crossing the Line?

Legitimate criticism of Israel vs. antisemitic stereotypes in the anti-Israeli rhetoric. Academic antisemitism. The “New Antisemitism” & the roots of the BDS. (A BIG PROBLEM - How to talk about the BDS and not to “teach” the boycotting??? Any tips???)

Reading:

Sharansky, N.; Dermer, R. (2006): *The Case for Democracy – The Power of Freedom to Overcome Tyranny & Terror*. Perseus Books: New York. (Original source for Sharansky's 3D test)
 Selected chapter from: Nelson, C.; Brahm, Gabriel N.: *The Case Against Academic Boycotts*.

Recommended viewing: “Crossing the line 1 & 2” Movies on BDS on British and American campuses:

Crossing the line (Britain): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGtrvAv1Nr4&spfreload=10>

Crossing the line 2 (America): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNDCcsH_wgU (one of the “Crossing the line”s to be screened in-class)

Eleventh lecture – “Erratic Sanctuary”: The Czech Antisemitism of the 19th and 20th Century

Anti-Jewish attitudes of the 19th Century Czech National Revival Movement. “Jews as Germanizers”. Masaryk's polemic against the Hilsner blood-libel. Antisemitism in the 1st (1918-1938), 2nd (1938-1939) and 3rd (1945-1948) Czechoslovak Republic. Communist antisemitism (1948-1989), incitement and anti-Jewish measures of the State Security (Státní bezpečnost). From the “Czech Arms Deal” to antisemitic trials and state-sponsored anti-Zionism. Antisemitic accusations as a tool of Communist propaganda against the Prague Spring and Charta 77.

Reading:

- SOUKUPOVÁ, B.: Mýtus konspiračních teorií v moderním „českém“ antisemitismu a jeho funkce. In: Tarant, Z.; Tydlitátová, V.: *“Spiknutí!” Úloha antisemitských konspiračních teorií ve veřejném a politickém diskurzu*. Pilsen 2014. (Overview of the history of the role of conspiracy theories in the 20th century Czech antisemitism)
- Excerpts from: Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk: *Je třeba revidovati proces polenský* (English: “Why is it necessary to revise the Polná trial” – Masaryk's rationalist polemic with the ritual murder accusation in the wake of Hilsner blood-libel of 1899) (I am deliberately using Masaryk as a strong authority that speaks to the hearts of Czechs in order to give the student something to identify with).
- Excerpts from a Communist regime-sponsored antisemitic publication, translated from Russian to Czech: *Historie a Politika mezinárodního sionismu a judaismu*. Sekretariát pro věci církevní ministerstva kultury ČSR or selection of articles from the Communist “Rudé Právo” newspaper

or other Communist antisemitic literature. (The student will be asked to characterize the style of the antisemitic rhetoric). (the student will be asked to make a list of keywords that are being attributed to the Jews and to Israel)

Additional reading:

- FRANKL, Michal, „Emancipace od židů“: český antisemitismus na konci 19. století, nakl. Paseka, Praha, 2007.
- KOVTUN, Jiří, Tajuplná vražda: případ Leopolda Hilsnera, nakl. Sefer, Praha, 1994.

Truly Eternal Friends? – Contemporary Czech Antisemitism.

The Challenges of "Measuring", Researching and Combatting Antisemitism on a Case Study of the Contemporary Czech Republic. Antisemitism as a tool of anti-democratic opposition in the Czechoslovakia/Czech Republic. The Czech far-left and far-right. Miroslav Dolejší and the notion of "fourth resistance". Contemporary antisemitic movements in the country and their ideological roots. Antisemitism as a challenge to the Czech national security?

Reading:

- Excerpts from the Czech Penal Code, namely:
 - § 355 "Defamation of national, religious or ethnic group",
 - § 356 "Incitement to hatred against group of people or to restriction of its basic rights",
 - § 404 "Expression of sympathies to human rights oppressing movements",
 - § 405 "Denial, questioning, approval or justification of genocide"
- (Student will be asked to underline, what he sees as strong and weak spots of the legislation).
- TARANT, Z.: Aktuální trendy na scéně českého elektronického antisemitismu v roce 2014. In: Tarant, Z.; Tydlitátová, V. et al.: "Spiknutí!" Úloha antisemitských konspiračních teorií ve veřejném a politickém diskurzu. Plzeň 2014 (My report on current trends of antisemitic cyber-hate in the Czech Republic)
- Federace židovských obcí. Výroční zpráva o projevech antisemitismu v České republice za rok 2014. (Jewish Community's Report on Perceived and Recorded Antisemitic Incidents)

Additional reading:

- CHARVÁT, J. (2007): Současný politický extremismus a radikalismus. Praha: Portál
- CHMELÍK, Jan (2000): Symbolika extrémistických hnutí. Praha: Armex Trivis
- MAREŠ, Miroslav (2003): Pravicový extremismus a radikalismus v ČR. Brno: Barrister & Principal
- TYDLITÁTOVÁ, V.: *E-antisemitismus – Projevy antisemitismu na českém internetu po roce 1989*. Plzeň 2013
- TARANT, Z.; TYDLITÁTOVÁ, V. et al.: "Spiknutí!" Úloha antisemitských konspiračních teorií ve veřejném a politickém diskurzu. Plzeň 2014