JEWS in Central Europe: the Holocaust and its Aftermath

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The course presents the history of Central European Jews during the Holocaust and post-Holocaust period. Showing various aspects of the Holocaust, its history and consequences, but also the sociological and psychological aspects, will be the background to understand the postwar history of the Jews. Topics of the post-Holocaust history include migrations, political issues, Jewish cultural and religious life, the social life of the Jewish communities in Central Europe, the issue of postwar anti-semitism, Holocaust memory and the recent revival of Jewish life and culture. The contemporary history of the Jews in most Central European countries is included, but special attention is given to the Jews of Krakow - by visiting the local places important for Jewish history and meeting people involved in the contemporary Jewish life there.

Language of Instruction
English

Type of course
Undergraduate Study Abroad

Number of ECTS points
6

Prerequisites (if applicable)
Basic knowledge of the contemporary (20th century) history of Central Europe.

Intended Learning Outcomes
The student:
EK1: has basic knowledge about European cultural heritage and contemporary cultural life in Europe, as well as the functioning of the most important institutions in this field (K_W17+++)
EK2: has ordered and general knowledge about the contemporary history of international relations as well as the contemporary political history of Poland and Europe (K_W08+)
EK3: knows and understands the basic terminology used in the sciences, which are components of European Studies (K_W03++)
EK4: has the ability to read with comprehension and critically analyse texts pertinent to European studies (K_U02++)
EK5: has the ability to prepare and present presentations individually or in a group (K_U10+++)
EK6: has the ability to follow and critically interpret phenomena and problems in contemporary European societies with respect for European political culture (K_U16++)
EK7: is aware of his or her responsibility for preserving the cultural heritage of the region, country and Europe (K_K04+++).

Course communication
e-mail: edyta.gawron@uj.edu.pl

Notices and announcements
By email

COURSE ORGANIZATION

Spring Semester
Time and Place: will be posted by CES in the online calendar

Course type (seminar/lecture/workshop, etc.)
Lecture combined with seminars

Contact hours:
40 hours

Breakdown of ECTS credits (6 ETCS)
40 hours of lectures and seminars (contact hours with teachers);
25 hours – preparation of the mid-term presentation or essay;
10 hours – preparation for the study tours
30 hours – preparation of compulsory and additional readings for seminars;
45 hours – preparation for the final exam
Total:150 hours

Didactic methods used
Presentation, lecture, seminar, films, discussion, study tour.

Mode and criteria of assessment of learning outcomes
Active participation in the discussions during the seminars- EK2, EK3, EK4
Presenting an essay or Power Point presentation on the selected subject - EK5, EK6
Active participation in the study tours - EK1, EK7
Written exam - EK1, EK3, EK4

Assessment based on the following elements:

- **Exam (50%)** In class. It will test your basic knowledge of events, individuals, chronology. Knowledge of the most important material from the lectures and readings will be required.
- **Presentation in Class OR Take-Home Essay (40%)** – presentation or the essay – both based on the recommended reading and the literature chosen by the student. The aim is to provide to the group the main facts and ideas for discussion and show individual understanding of the material read. You will be given a list of topics in advance. You may write on one of the suggested topics, or chose your own (with the approval of Dr Edyta Gawron). The presentation should take 20-30 min.; the papers should be 2500-3000 words.
- **Participation (10%)** Regular presence and activity in the meetings/lectures. Active participation of the student at every seminar is expected, including reading all assigned literature

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

No.	Title of the session	Format (lecture, seminar, combination?)
1	Jewish population of Central Europe - introduction	lecture
2.	Jewish population of Central Europe before 1939	lecture and documentary
3.	Jewish life in Poland before WW2 – study trip to Kazimierz – the Jewish quarter	study tour (visit to the synagogues and the Jewish cemetery, seeing structure of the Jewish quarter)
4.	Prewar Germany - National Socialism and anti-semitism.	lecture
5.	The outbreak of WW2 and the ghettos in Central Europe. Everyday life in the ghetto.	lecture
6.	From the ghetto to work camps, concentration	seminar

	or death camps	
7.	Perpetrators, victims and bystanders in the countries of Central Europe.	seminar
8.	Extermination of European Jews in the ghettos and German Nazi work, concentration and death camps.	seminar / optional: study tour (the area of the former ghetto in Krakow and to Schindler's factory)
9.	The liberation time and 'long ways home'. Jewish post-Holocaust migrations in Central Europe.	lecture
10	Displaced Persons camps in Germany, Austria and Italy – temporary shelter for Central European Jews.	lecture
11	Struggle to survive – the lasting effects of the Holocaust and dealing with memories. Holocaust. Physical and mental healthcare.	seminar
12	Post-Holocaust status of the Jews in Central European countries (1945-1950)	lecture
13	Postwar anti-Semitism. The case of Krakow and Kielce pogroms.	seminar
14	Proclamation of the State of Israel and Central European Jews. Emigration or rebuilding Jewish life in Central Europe?	lecture
15	States' anti-Semitism (anti-Semitic law and policy – the Trial of Rudolf Slansky in Czechoslovakia, March 1968 in Poland)	lecture
16	Jewish religious and cultural life in postwar Central Europe: Krakow, Prague, Budapest and Vienna.	seminar
17.	Various aspects of contemporary Jewish life in Central Europe. Revival of Jewish culture in Poland.	Study visit (two institutions of Jewish life in Krakow – JCC Krakow and Galicia Jewish Museum) and discussion
18.	Central Europe and the memory of Jewish history and the Holocaust in the region.	seminar
19-20.	Extermination of European Jews in the German Nazi death camps. Visit to Oswiecim and the site of former Nazi German Concentration Camp Auschwitz-Birkenau.	Study trip, date to be decided (April2014)