This course focuses on the history of antisemitism, or hatred of Jews, from ancient times to the present. We will examine this tenacious hatred in the context of changing political, social, economic, religious, and cultural environments. Topics include the origins of anti-Judaism and anti-Jewish stereotypes in ancient and medieval times; the role of the Catholic Church in fostering modern antisemitism; the rise of political, cultural and racial antisemitism in the 19th and 20th Centuries; Nazi antisemitism; and antisemitism after the Holocaust in Europe, the Arab world, and the U.S. We will read historical studies as well as primary sources, and watch two films in class. You are also encouraged to follow current developments in the news.

**Required texts are available for purchase and on reserve at Morris Library. All other texts will be posted on Sakai.**

*Antisemitism: A History*, eds. Albert Lindemann and Richard Levy (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010). In the syllabus, readings listed as AS.


Course requirements:

You are expected to attend classes on time and to actively participate. You should bring readings to class and give yourself time to read and think about them before we meet. Written assignments include 4 short response papers, each 4-5 pages long. The response papers are due on Sakai before midnight of the due date. All students are expected to read the University's policy on academic honesty and integrity. The work you submit must be your own. If in doubt about citing sources, please check with me. The final will be a 10-15 minute in-class presentation in which you present one incident or trend in the history of anti-Semitism.

The grade for this course will be calculated as follows:

- Response Papers: 40% (10% each)
- Final Presentation: 40%
- Attendance and Participation: 20%

Reference Works and Websites on Antisemitism:

R. Michael and P. Rosen, eds. *Dictionary of Antisemitism From the Earliest Times to the Present*


United States Holocaust Memorial Museum: Initiative to Confront Antisemitism: [http://www.ushmm.org/confront-antisemitism](http://www.ushmm.org/confront-antisemitism)

Schedule of Topics and Readings:

**Part I: Ancient and Medieval Precursors**

*Week 1. What is Antisemitism?*

8/26. Introduction


*Week 2. Anti-Judaism in Ancient and Medieval Times*

9/2. AS Ch. 3: Philip Cunningham, "Jews and Christians from Christ to Constantine"

9/4. AS Ch. 4: Alex Novikoff, "The Middle Ages"
Week 3. Medieval Anti-Jewish Stereotypes

9/11. Trachtenberg, *The Devil and the Jews* part II
   Response paper 1 due

**Part II: Modern Antisemitism before the Holocaust**

Week 4. The Catholic Church

9/16. Kertzer, *The Popes Against the Jews*, Intro.-Ch. 2
   In-class film: *Sister Rose's Passion*

Week 5. Antisemitism in Germany and Austria before 1933

9/23. AS Ch. 8: Richard Levy, "Political Antisemitism in Germany and Austria, 1848-1914"
   Kertzer, *The Popes Against the Jews*, Ch. 10 (Ch. 9 recommended)
9/25. No class: Rosh Hashanah

Week 6. Antisemitism in Modern France / The Trial of Alfred Dreyfus

9/30. AS Ch. 9: Richard Golsan, "Antisemitism in Modern France"
   Response paper 2 due.
10/2. Albert Lindemann, *The Jew Accused* (on Sakai)

Week 7. Antisemitism in the English-speaking World / The Trial of Leo Frank

10/7. Albert Lindemann, *The Jew Accused* (on Sakai)

Week 8. Antisemitism in Russia / The Trial of Mendel Beilis

10/14. AS, Ch. 11: Heinz Dietrich-Lowe, "Antisemitism in Russia and the USSR" (pp. 166-186)
10/16. Beilis Trial documents (on Sakai)
   Guest Lecture: Robert Weinberg, author of Blood Libel in Late Imperial Russia
   Response paper 3 due

**Part III: The Holocaust and Its Aftermath**

Week 9. Nazi Antisemitism
10/21. AS, Ch. 12: Doris Bergen, "Antisemitism in the Nazi Era"
   Adolf Hitler, Mein Kampf excerpts (on Sakai)
10/23. David Biale, "Blood and the Discourse of Nazi Antisemitism" (on Sakai)
   In-class film: Jud Süß (1940)

Week 10. Postwar Antisemitism in Poland
10/28. Gross, Fear
10/30. Gross, Fear

Week 11. Postwar Antisemitism in Russia
11/6. AS, Ch. 11: Heinz Dietrich-Lowe, "Antisemitism in Russia and the USSR" (pp. 186-193)
   Response paper 4 due

Week 12. Holocaust Denial in Europe and North America
11/11. Deborah Lipstadt, Denying the Holocaust excerpts (on Sakai)
11/13. In-class film: Mr. Death

**Part IV: Contemporary Antisemitism**

Week 13. Arab and Muslim Antisemitism
11/18. AS, Ch. 13: Norman Stillman, "Anti-Judaism and Antisemitism in the Arab and Islamic World Prior to 1948"
11/20. AS, Ch. 15: Meir Litvak and Esther Webman, "Israel and Antisemitism"

**Week 14: "New" Antisemitism**

11/25. AS, Conclusion.

   ADL's Global Survey of Antisemitism: http://global100.adl.org/

11/27. No class. Thanksgiving Break

**Week 15: Conclusion**

12/2. In-class presentations

12/4. In-class presentations