

## LIST OF COURSES OFFERED IN THE JEWISH STUDIES SPECIALISATION

### **Shlomo Avineri: Israel – Nation-Building, Political Development. War and Peace**

This course aims at a comprehensive overview of the main issues which have determined Israel's political and ideological development.

The intellectual and political origins of Zionism and Israel will be traced in the context of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century European nationalism and the crisis and failure of liberalism in Central and Eastern Europe. The structure of the political institutions and political ideological formations in Jewish community in British, pre-1948 Palestine will be presented as the background out of which the political structure and culture of contemporary Israel has emerged. The political map of Israel will be discussed over the period 1948-2002: political parties, state/religion, the status of the Arab minority in Israel, the emergence of Sephardi power and the impact of the recent Russian immigration.

The international context of the Arab-Israel conflict will be related to these developments: from Soviet support for Israel in the late 1940's, through French-British-Israeli alliance in 1956, the growing importance of the American connection in the Cold War and the post-1989 changes. The promise of Oslo and the breakdown of the peace process following Camp David in 2000 and the impact on the Israeli political scene will lead us to the January 2003 elections.

Shlomo Avineri is Professor of Political Science and Director of the Institute for European Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Born in Poland in 1933, he has lived in Israel since 1939. He studied at the Hebrew University and the London School of Economics and has held visiting appointments at Yale, Cornell, the University of California, Wesleyan University, Oxford, the Australian National University, the Central European University in Budapest, Cardozo School of Law in New York and Northwestern University. He was also visiting scholar at the Wilson Center, the Brookings Institution and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (all in Washington D.C.), Collegium Budapest, as well as the Institute of World Economics and International Relations (IMEMO) in Moscow. He is a member of the International Institute of Philosophy.

His books, which have been translated into many languages, include: *The Social and Political Thought of Karl Marx*, *Karl Marx on Colonialism and Modernization*, *Hegel's Theory of the Modern State*, *Israel and the Palestinians*, *The Making of Modern Zionism*, *Moses Hess: Prophet of Communism and Zionism*, *Communitarianism and Individualism* (with Avner de-Shalit), *The Law of Religious Identity: Models for Post-Communism* (with András Sajó), *Integration and Identity* and *Politics and*

*Identities in Transformation* (both with Werner Weidenfeld). He recently participated in preparing a Hebrew edition of Theodor Herzl's *Diaries* and wrote an historical Introduction to the edition.

### **Zvi Gitelman: The Politics and Culture of Modern East European Jewry**

This course focuses on the interplay of ethnicity, politics and culture, with specific reference to the Jews of Eastern Europe since the latter part of the nineteenth century. Students should gain an appreciation of both the history and culture of East European Jewry as well as of the interplay of ethnicity and politics. For our purpose, "Eastern Europe" means, in the main, present day Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania, Poland and Romania. Reference will also be made to Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Zvi Gitelman is Professor of Political Science and Preston Tisch Professor of Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA where he also serves as Director of the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Author, editor or co-author of nine books and over 80 articles, Gitelman specializes in ethnicity and politics in the former Soviet Union and other formerly socialist states. His most recent book is *Bitter Legacy: Confronting the Holocaust in the Soviet Union*. Gitelman has been recently working with Professor Vladimir Shapiro and Dr. Valery Chervyakov of the Jewish Research Center, Institute of Sociology, Russian Academy of Sciences, on a study of Jewish ethnicity in Russia and Ukraine. He has also analyzed oral histories of Soviet Jewish veterans of World War II.

### **Moshe Idel: Eros and Kabbalah**

The course will survey the major attitudes to Eros in the main forms of Jewish literature. First I shall inspect the sources of the medieval Jewish forms of eros and sex: the biblical, the Talmudic and the various philosophical ones. Then the different approaches found in the various mystical schools, especially the theosophical-theurgical Kabbalah, in the ecstatic Kabbalah and in Polish Hasidism, will be surveyed. Likewise the theories regarding cosmic love will be addressed, as well as some developments of concepts of love and sex in the Kabbalah in Safed during the 1<sup>st</sup> century. In some major cases, the crucial texts will be studied in English translation and discussed in class.

The course will integrate the approaches of the major scholars dealing with Kabbalistic eroticism, and will strive to present a based on models, which organizes the infinite number of discussions of Kabbalah, and of Judaism in general, the main assumption being the Judaism is a culture of eros and the main forms of Jewish mysticism intensified this diagnosis. The course will be based on the assumption that the bibliography is read in advanced so that the discussions in the class will be more fruitful.

Moshe Idel is Professor of Jewish Thought at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He holds a PhD in Kabbalah and has served as visiting professor and researcher at many universities and institutions worldwide, including Yale, Harvard and Princeton Universities in the USA and Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris. His numerous publications include *Kabbalah: New Perspectives* and *Messianic Mystics* (both by Yale University Press), and *Hassidism: Between Ecstasy and Magic* (SUNY, Albany). In 1999, Prof. Idel received the prestigious Israel Prize for excellent achievement in the field of Jewish Philosophy.

### **Viktor Karády: Social History of Central European Jewry**

The course deals with long term processes of social, demographic, institutional and political transformations related to Jews and Jewish communities in East Central European societies (especially in the Habsburg Empire) since the Enlightenment. A theoretical introduction concerning the unique nature and multiple patterns of modern Jewish collective identity leads to an outline of the establishment of Jews in this part of the world since the Middle Ages. The main foci of the course are organized around the following topical areas: community structure, internal power relations and interstate community networks in traditional Jewry; professional and economic stratification and social mobility since the 19<sup>th</sup> century; Jews and the emerging nation states (East and West compared); demographic modernization; cultural heritage and 'educational capital' problems of acculturation and language switch; social assimilation, integration and status mobility (mixed marriages, conversion, 'nationalization' of surnames); pathologies of modern Jewish identity; political responses to the crisis of assimilation: Zionism, autonomism, Bund, socialism and communism.

Viktor Karády has been educated in Budapest and Paris, with degrees from the Sorbonne in sociology and demography. A member since its foundation of the European Sociological Center. Now he is a senior research director with the French National Center for Scientific Research and recurrent visiting professor at the CEU. His main research interests lie in the history of the French universities and social sciences, ethnic and denominational inequalities of modernisation (especially in Central Europe), Jews in European societies since the Enlightenment. His last books include *Gewalterfahrung und Utopie, Juden in der europäischen Moderne* (Frankfurt a. M., Fischer, 1999), *L'enseignement des élites en Europe Centrale (19e-20e siècles)*, coeditor (Cracow, Księgarnia Akademicka, 1999) and (in Hungarian) *Self-Identification and Choice of Destiny, Studies in the Historical Transformations of Jewish Identity in Hungary* (Budapest, Új Mandátum, 2001).

**András Kovács: Interpretations of Modern Antisemitism**

The course is to provide students with an overview of psychological, sociological, political and historical theories of modern antisemitism. After considering key concepts such as antijudaism, antisemitism, modern antisemitism it will give an introduction into the most influential scholarly explanations of the investigated subject. The course will concentrate on the theological explanations of the persistence of antisemitic prejudices, the psychoanalytically oriented personality theory, the projective theories of prejudice, the group conflict theories, and the political explanations of antisemitic movements and ideologies. Special attention will be given to the methods of empirical sociological investigation of the subject.

András Kovács studied philosophy and history and completed his PhD in sociology at Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest. He has taught at various universities in Germany and participated in various research projects in Germany, France, the US, and the Netherlands. In 1990 he became senior research fellow at the Institute of Sociology at the Eötvös Loránd University. Since 1997 he has taught several courses on sociology of nationalism and prejudice in the CEU Nationalism Studies Program and he is the academic director of the Jewish Studies Project at the CEU. His research interests include minority identities, prejudice, antisemitism, and sociology of post-Holocaust Jewry. In the last years Professor Kovács has carried out empirical research on antisemitism in post-Communist Hungary, on Jewish identity in Hungary and on national identity and European integration. He has published over 60 scholarly works, most recently a book on antisemitism in post-Communist Hungary.

**Michael L. Miller: Russia and Poland as Multi-National States:  
The Jews as Case-Study, 1772–1917**

This course examines the history of the Jews in Russia and Poland, placing particular emphasis on social, economic and religious transformations in the period framed by the Partitions of Poland – when the Russian Empire first acquired its Jews – and the Russian Revolution – when Russia's Jews finally received equal political and legal rights. Imperial Russia's policies towards the Jews reflected the semi-feudal structure of the state, the exigencies of a multi-national empire, and the enduring legacy of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. On this backdrop, the course seeks to understand the inordinate attention paid to the 'Jewish Question' by the imperial government as well as the myriad ideological and demographic responses by the empire's Jews. The course also introduces a comparative perspective, examining Jewish enlightenment (Haskalah), religious and educational movements, economic and gender stratification, urbanization and politicization – in comparison to other populations within the Russian Empire and other Jewish communities in Central and Western Europe.

**Michael L. Miller: The Emergence of Zionism**

This course will explore the wide range of responses to this crisis through an examination of selected Zionist thinkers and their writings. Beginning with the Zionist “precursors” of the mid-nineteenth century, the course will analyze seminal texts that reflect the basic diversity of the Zionist idea up until the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948. These texts provide not only dissenting critiques of the Jewish plight in the diaspora, but also shed light on the competing conceptualizations of the Jewish future. The Zionist thinkers envisioned Zion as a purely political entity, as a Jewish state grounded in socialist ideas, as a site for the regeneration of the Jewish people, as the cultural center for Diaspora Jewry, as the locus of messianic redemption.

**Michael L. Miller: Paths to Jewish Emancipation**

This course will examine the processes leading to the civic and political emancipation of the Jews in nineteenth-century Europe. It will focus on aspects of the legal, social and cultural history of the Jews from the sixteenth century onward in an effort to understand the different paths to emancipation in England, Western Europe, and Central Europe. It will also look at various trends – including religious reform, racial antisemitism, Jewish assimilation and Jewish nationalism - whose development was part and parcel of the struggle for emancipation.

Michael Miller is Assistant Professor in the Nationalism Studies Program at the CEU. He received his PhD in History from Columbia University, where he specialized in Jewish and Central European History. His research focuses on the impact of nationality conflicts on the religious, cultural and political development of Central European Jewry in the nineteenth century. He has contributed to Kotowski, Schoeps, Wallenborn, *Handbuch zur Geschichte der Juden in Europa* (Darmstadt: Primus Verlag, 2001) and *Rabbinische Prosopographie der Moderne* (Munich–New York: K.G. Saur, 2004).

**Marsha Rozenblit: The Struggle over Identity:  
The Dilemmas of Jews in Austria–Hungary and its Successor States**

This course will investigate the nature of Jewish identity in Central Europe from the late eighteenth century, when the Habsburg authorities first urged Jews to obtain modern, secular, German education, through the middle of the twentieth century. Creating a modern Jewish identity in this region was complicated by the nationality conflicts in the Habsburg Monarchy, by the problems of the new nation states in the interwar period, by the pervasive antisemitism of many of the national movements, and by the persistence of large numbers of Jews who resisted modernization altogether. The course

will focus on those Jews who adopted German, Czech, Magyar, and Polish culture in the late Habsburg Monarchy and in interwar Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary. It will explore the relationship of these Jews to the national movements and to the nations those movements created, and how the Jews balanced their cultural, national, and Jewish loyalties. It will also look at the creation of new Jewish ideologies like Zionism and Jewish nationalism as well as the persistence of traditional, religious Jewish culture.

Marsha Rozenblit is Director of the Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Maryland. As a social and cultural historian of the Jews of Central Europe, Professor Rozenblit has published *The Jews of Vienna, 1867-1914: Assimilation and Identity* (1984). Recently she has written *Reconstructing a National Identity: The Jews of Habsburg Austria During World War I* (Oxford, 2000), which explores how the Jews, a group profoundly loyal to the multinational Monarchy, coped with the collapse of that supranational state and the creation of nation-states. Professor Rozenblit has also written many articles on such subjects as Jewish religious reform in nineteenth-century Vienna, synagogue selection in nineteenth-century Baltimore, and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America during the Holocaust.

### **Yael Tamir: Can Liberal Nationalism be Implemented? The Israeli Test-Case**

Nationalism and liberalism are commonly viewed as antithetical ideologies, incapable of synthesis in today's world. At the end of the twentieth century, there was a widespread assumption that the age of nationalism was over, thus obviating the need to reconcile nationalism and liberalism. With the recognition that this assumption was wrong, it is now necessary to reevaluate nationalism and introduce national values to the liberal discourse. This course will examine the case of Israel – a twentieth-century attempt to create a liberal democracy while simultaneously promoting and safeguarding national values – in an effort to understand whether liberal nationalism can transcend theoretical discussion and actually be implemented.

Yael (Yuli) Tamir was born in Israel in 1954. She holds a PhD in Liberal Nationalism from Oxford University. Tamir is a Professor of Political Philosophy at Tel-Aviv University and a Research Fellow at the Hartman Institute of Jewish Studies. She is a member of the board of the Jerusalem Foundation and of the Israel Institute of Democracy. Prof. Tamir has authored a number of books and articles on various subjects, including liberalism, nationalism, and feminism. From 1980-1985 she was active in the Ratz party (now part of Meretz) and was one of the founders of the Peace Now movement. Since 1995, she has been active in the Labor Party. Yuli Tamir served as Minister of Immigrant Absorption from August 1999 until March 2001. Her major book, *Liberal Nationalism (Studies in Moral, Political, and Legal Philosophy)* was first published in 1995.