

## Syllabus

On Polish history in general, students will find it useful to read one or more of the following:

Norman Davies, *God's Playground: A History of Poland*, N.Y., 1981.

Joseph Rothschild, *East Central Europe between the Two World Wars*, 1974.

Daniel Stone, *The Polish-Lithuanian State, 1386-1795*, U. Washington, 2001.

Piotr Wandycz, *The Price of Freedom: A History of East Central Europe*, 2001.

The textbook for this course is a shortened version of:

Antony Polonsky, *The Jews in Poland and Russia*, 3 volumes, 2010-2012.

In addition to the textbook, required readings are in the Coursepack or online.

### WEEK 1: Jan. 5-7 **Overview; Origins and Early Developments**

A. Polonsky, *The Jews in Poland and Russia*, 3-39.

Mazur, Jerzy. "Late Medieval Jewish Settlement in Red Ruthenia: The Case of Krosno." *Studia Judaica* 13: 2010 nr 2(26), s. 237-252

Silver Bracteates; Royal Charters in Coursepack

### WEEK 2: Jan. 12-14 **Demographic, Social and Economic Developments**

G. Hundert, "The Role of the Jews in Commerce in Early Modern Poland-Lithuania," *Journal of European Economic History* 16 (1987), 245-275.

From the Leading Burghers in Lwów, The Mirror of the Polish Crown *and* "Agreement" with Kazimierz Municipality in Coursepack

### WEEK 3: Jan. 19-21 **Humanism and Reformation**

H. H. Ben-Sasson, "Jews and Christian Sectarians...in 16th-Century Moravia and Poland-Lithuania," *Viator* 4 (1973), 369-385. =

<http://brepols.metapress.com/content/u42377486u671774/fulltext.pdf>

J. Rosenthal, "Arian-Jewish Encounters in 16th-Century Poland," *American Academy for Jewish Research: Proceedings* 34 (1966), 77-95.

### WEEK 4: Jan. 26-28 **Rabbinic Thinking and Cultural Developments**

Hasidei Ashkenaz, Sixteenth-Century "Rationalism", Shulhan Arukh page, What is Pilpul?, Wealth and Poverty in the Eyes of the Polish Rabbinate - in Coursepack

Edward Fram, "Jews among Poles," in his *Ideals Face Reality: Jewish Law and Life in Poland 1550-1655*. Cincinnati, Hebrew Union College Press, 1997, pp. 15-37.

Elchanan Reiner, "The Attitude of Ashkenazi Society to the New Science in the Sixteenth Century," *Science in Context* 10 (no. 4, 1997), 589-603. = <http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayFulltext?type=1&pdfType=1&fid=2263788&jid=SIC&volumeId=10&issueId=04&aid=1455592>

**WEEK 5: Feb. 2-4 Communal Organization**  
**FIRST BOOK REVIEW DUE MONDAY 2 FEB.**

Communal Elections, The Kahal, Royal Decree of 1551, Council of the Lands, Lithuanian Council, The Councils, The Scots' Council, Rabbinic Income, in Coursepack

Adam Teller, "Rabbis without a Function? The Polish Rabbinate and the Council of Four Lands in the Sixteenth to Eighteenth Centuries," in *Jewish Religious Leadership: Image and Reality*, ed. Jack Wertheimer, New York, JTS, 2004, vol. 1, 371-400.

See also:

Michałowska, Anna. *The Jewish Community: Authority and Social Control in Poznań and Swarzędz, 1650-1793*. Wrocław: Wydawn. Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 2008.

Adam Teller, Jampol Community and Town Privilege (1711, 1753)  
<http://www.earlymodern.org/workshops/summer2004/presenters/teller/01/intro.php>

**WEEK 6: Feb. 9-11 Events of 1649-1649; Demography, Society, Economy**  
**CLASS TEST MONDAY FEB. 9**

*Jewish History*, Volume 17, Number 2 / May, 2003, pp. 105-255  
<http://www.springerlink.com/content/1572-8579/>

Jacob Goldberg, "Poles and Jews in the 17th and 18th Centuries: Rejection or Acceptance" *Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas*, n.f., 22(1974), 248-282.

See also: "A Decree by the Tribunal of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania Concerning a Robbery (1700)."  
<http://www.earlymodern.org/workshops/summer2004/presenters/teter/02/intro.php>

**WEEK 7: Feb. 16-18 Women and the Family**

Interrogation of a Servant in the Coursepack

J. Goldberg, "Jewish Marriage in 18th-Century Poland," in Hundert, *Jews*, 3-39.

G. Hundert, "Jewish Children and Childhood in Early Modern East Central Europe," in *The Jewish Family: Metaphor and Memory*, ed. D. Kraemer, New York, 1989, 81-94.

Chava Weissler, "The Traditional Piety of Ashkenazic Women," in *Jewish Spirituality from the Sixteenth-Century Revival to the Present*. Edited by Arthur Green. New York: Crossroad, 1987, pp. 245-275.

WEEK 8: Feb. 23-25 **Sabbetianism-Frankism; Cultural Trends; Hasidism**

Messengers from Poland to Galipoli, From *Shevet Mussar*, On Kabbalist-Shamans, Letter of Israel Baal Shem Tov, Excommunication, R. Nahman's Prayer, Hassidic Teachings in the Coursepack

Pawel Maciejko, "Frankism" in the YIVO Encyclopedia  
<http://www.yivoencyclopedia.org/article.aspx/Frankism>

Gershon Hundert, *New Perspectives on the Beginnings of Hasidism*, Occasional Papers in Jewish History and Thought, No. 17. Hunter College of the City University of New York, New York, 2002.

See also: Hillel Baal Shem, *Sefer Ha-Heshek* (ca.1739), "Selections." Translated by Moshe Rosman  
<http://www.earlymodern.org/workshops/summer2004/presenters/rosman/01/english.php>

WEEK 9: Mar. 9-11 **The Partition Period**  
**SECOND BOOK REVIEW DUE MONDAY MAR. 9**

A. Polonsky, *The Jews in Poland and Russia*, 40-47.

Jacob Goldberg, "The Changes in Attitude of Polish Society," in *From Shtetl to Socialism: Studies from Polin*. Edited by A. Polonsky. London, Washington: The Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 1993, 50-63.

Krystyna Zienkowska, "Citizens or Inhabitants? The Attempt to Reform the Status of the Polish Jews during the Four Years' Sejm," *Acta Poloniae Historica* 76 (1997), 31-52.

WEEK 10: Mar. 16-18 **In the Russian Pale/Haskalah**

A. Polonsky, *The Jews in Poland and Russia*, 40-170.

Nineteenth-Century Population, J. L. Gordon, Poems, P. Smolenskin in the Coursepack

Shaul Stampfer, "Gender Differentiation and Education," in *From Shtetl to Socialism: Studies from Polin*. Edited by A. Polonsky. London, Washington: The Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 1993, 187-211.

Tova Cohen, "Reality and Its Refraction in Descriptions of Women in Haskalah Fiction," in *New Perspectives on the Haskalah*, ed. Shmuel Feiner, David Sorkin. London, Portland, Oregon, The Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 2001, pp. 144-165.

WEEK 11: Mar. 23-25 **Congress Poland**  
**CLASS TEST MONDAY MAR. 23**

A. Polonsky, *The Jews in Poland and Russia*, 96-170.

Marcin Wodziński, "Good Maskilim and Bad Assimilationists, or, Toward a New Historiography of the Haskalah in Poland," *Jewish Social Studies* 10 (no. 3, 2004), 87-122.

[http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/jewish\\_social\\_studies/v010/10.3wodzinski.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/jewish_social_studies/v010/10.3wodzinski.html)

WEEK 12: March 30-April 1 **Between the Two World Wars**

**THIRD BOOK REVIEW DUE WEDNESDAY APR. 1**

A. Polonsky, *The Jews in Poland and Russia*, 171-252.

Ezra Mendelsohn, "Introduction: The Jews of Poland between Two World Wars – Myth and Reality," and idem, "Jewish Politics in Interwar Poland: An Overview," in *The Jews of Poland between the Two World Wars*. Edited by Y. Gutman *et al.* Hanover, NH and London: New England UP, 1989, pp. 1-19.

Samuel Kassow, "Community and Identity in the Interwar *Shtetl*," in *The Jews of Poland between the Two World Wars*. Ed. Y. Gutman *et al.* New England UP, 1989, pp. 198-220.

WEEK 13: April 8 **Postwar Developments**

A. Polonsky, *The Jews in Poland and Russia*, 380-465.

See also:

Marci Shore, "Children of the Revolution: Communism, Zionism, and the Berman Brothers," *Jewish Social Studies*, 10, 3(Spring 2004) 23-86.

[http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/jewish\\_social\\_studies/v010/10.3shore.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/jewish_social_studies/v010/10.3shore.html)

WEEK 14 April 13 **CLASS TEST**