

JEW, HERETICS, AND THE INQUISITION

Jewish Studies 563:314/History 510:314

PROVISIONAL SYLLABUS

Course Description:

A survey of the Medieval, Spanish, Portuguese, and Roman inquisitions that explores how forms of religious, ethnic, and sexual differences fueled centuries of prosecution in southern France, Iberia, Italy, and the Americas. The course allows students to study the experiences of Christian heretics, Jews, Muslims, Protestants, homosexuals, and others who came before inquisitorial tribunals, and it also examines the ways in which inquisitorial methods continued to impact societies, long after the abolition of "the Inquisition". Written assignments allow students to engage in the critical analysis of primary sources and grapple with important methodological challenges that face historians – for instance, what is one to make of a confession that was extracted under torture? The course also explores the historiography of the Inquisition and broader questions about forms of intolerance and modes of persecution.

Learning Goals:

- Analyze the degree to which forms of human difference shape a person's experiences of and perspectives on the world.
- Analyze issues of social justice across local and global contexts.

Required Texts: Available at the Rutgers University Bookstore (Ferren Mall, One Penn Plaza) and on reserve at Alexander Library.

1. Henry **Kamen**, *The Spanish Inquisition: A Historical Revision* (New Haven, 1998). ISBN: 9780300078800. \$23.00.
2. *The Spanish Inquisition, 1478-1614: An Anthology of Sources*, ed. and trans. Lu Ann **Homza** (Indianapolis, 2006). ISBN: 0872207943. \$9.95.
3. *Inquisitorial Inquiries: Brief Lives of Secret Jews and Other Heretics*, ed. and trans. Richard L. **Kagan** and Abigail Dyer (Baltimore, 2004). ISBN: 9780801879241. \$20.95.

Optional Text: Available at the Rutgers University Bookstore (Ferren Mall, One Penn Plaza) and on reserve at Alexander Library. Assigned excerpts will be posted on Sakai.

1. Robert **Chazan**, *The Jews of Medieval Western Christendom, 1000-1500* (Cambridge, 2007). ISBN: 0521846668. \$85.00.

Grading:

- Attendance and class participation: 10%
- Several short response papers (1 page each): 10%
- Two primary source analyses (4-5 pgs each): 20% each, 40% total
- Midterm: 20%
- Final: 20%

Schedule of Lectures and List of Key Readings

1. Introduction

Part I: Medieval Inquisitions

2. The First Inquisitors

- Edward Peters, "The Queen of Proofs and the Queen of Torments," in *Torture* (Philadelphia, 1985), 40-73 (Sakai).
- Bernard Gui, *The Inquisitor's Guide*, trans. Janet Shirley (2006), 29-34 (Sakai).

3. Heterodoxy and Dissent in Medieval Europe

- Malcolm Lambert, *Medieval Heresy*, 2nd ed. (1992), 105-146 (Sakai).
- Excerpts from the trial of Béatrice de Planissoles (Sakai).

4. The Trial of Joan of Arc

- Excerpts from the trial of Joan of Arc (ed. Daniel Hobbins, 2005), pages 50-56, 108-114, 157-162, 192-195, 201-203 (Sakai).

5. The Jews of Medieval Europe

- Robert Chazan, *The Jews of Medieval Western Christendom, 1000-1500* (Cambridge, 2007), 43-76 (Sakai).

6. Medieval Inquisitions and the Jews

- Bernard Gui, *The Inquisitor's Guide*, trans. Janet Shirley (2006), 139-147 (Sakai).
- Excerpts from the trial of Baruch (Sakai)
- Optional: Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi, "The Inquisition and the Jews of France at the Time of Bernard Gui," *Harvard Theological Review* 63 (1970): 317-76 (Sakai).

Part II: The Spanish and Portuguese Inquisitions

7. The *Conversos* 1391 and their Descendants

- Renée Levine Melammed, *A Question of Identity: Iberian Conversos in Historical Perspective* (Oxford, 2004), 3-21 (Sakai).
- Profiat Duran, "Be not like your fathers" (Sakai).

8. Establishment of the Spanish Inquisition

- Kamen, *Spanish Inquisition*, 137-213.
- Homza, *Anthology*, docs. 1 (1-8), 20 (221-31), and 21 (232-37).

9. *Converso* Identities. **PAPER #1 DUE.**

- David M. Gitlitz, "Sabbath Customs," in *Secrecy and Deceit: The Religion of the Crypto-Jews* (2002), 317-353 (Sakai).

10. The Expulsion of 1492

- Edict of Expulsion (Sakai).
- A Jewish Account of the Expulsion (Sakai)
- Benzion Netanyahu, "Expulsion," in *Origins of the Inquisition in Fifteenth-Century Spain*, 2nd ed. (2001), 1087-91 (Sakai).

11. The Portuguese Experience

- Kamen, *Spanish Inquisition*, 283-304.

12. Return to Judaism

- Excerpts from Benzion Netanyahu, *The Marranos of Spain: From the late 14th to the early 16th century, according to contemporary Hebrew Sources* (1966), 5-76 (Sakai).

13. Midterm Review

14. MIDTERM

15. Film “O Judeu”

16. Inquisition in the Americas

- Edward Peters, *Inquisition*, 97-104 (Sakai).
- Kagan, *Inquisitorial Inquiries*, doc. 6 (152-88).
- Optional: Kathryn Joyce McKnight, “Blasphemy as Resistance: An African Slave Woman before the Mexican Inquisition,” in *Women in the Inquisition*, ed. Mary Giles (Baltimore, 1999), 229-53 (Sakai).

17. The Prosecution and Expulsion of the *Moriscos*

- Kamen, 214-29.
- Homza, *Anthology*, doc. 22 (238-46).
- Kagan, *Inquisitorial Inquiries*, doc. 5 (119-51).

18. The Spanish Inquisition and the Protestant Reformation

- Kamen, *Spanish Inquisition*, 83-102, 255-82.
- Homza, *Anthology*, doc. 8 (80-92), doc. 19 (213-220).

Part III: The Roman Inquisition

19. The Inquisition and Science: The Trial of Galileo

- Edward Peters, *Inquisition*, 105-121 (Sakai).
- *The Galileo Affair: A Documentary History*, ed. and trans. Maurice A. Finocchiaro (Berkeley, 1989), 1-46, 287-93 (Sakai).

20. The Case of Edgardo Mortara

- Excerpts from David Kertzer, *The Kidnapping of Edgardo Mortara* (Sakai).
- Excerpt from David Kertzer, “The Montel Affair,” *French Historical Studies* 25 (2002) (Sakai)
- Selection of New York Times editorials (Sakai)

Part IV: “The Inquisition” – History and Myth

21. Reformation and Enlightenment: Voltaire and Goya. PAPER #2 DUE.

- Kamen, *Spanish Inquisition*, 305-320.
- Voltaire, *Candide*, chapters 5-10 (Sakai)

22. Nationalism and Romanticism: Poe, Dostoyevsky, and Verdi

- Fyodor Dostoyevsky, “The Grand Inquisitor” (Sakai)

- Edgar Allan Poe, “The Pit and the Pendulum” (Sakai)

23. Twentieth Century Transformations

- TBA

24. Crypto-Jews in Modern Times: Majorca, Belmonte, and the American Southwest

- Renée Levine Melammed, *A Question of Identity: Iberian Conversos in Historical Perspective* (Oxford, 2004), 135-163 (Sakai)
- Elie Wiesel, “Testament of a Jew in Saragossa,” *Legends of Our Time* (1968) (Sakai)

25. Conclusions and Review

FINAL EXAM: TBA

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Attendance and Participation: 10% of your grade.
 - Attendance will be taken at every class.
 - More than 3 unexcused absences will lower your grade by one letter (e.g., A to B). In order to excuse an absence: e-mail instructor in advance and/or bring documentation (note from doctor or dean) to next class.
 - You are responsible for all of the material that is covered in lecture, some of which will *not* correspond to the readings. If you arrive late, leave early, or miss a class, *it is your responsibility to get the notes from a classmate.*
 - In addition to being expected to attend class, you are strongly encouraged to participate in class: ask questions and share your reactions. It goes without saying that quality, and not quantity, is what counts.
 - *If the instructor notices that you text-message, pass notes, surf the internet, talk to your neighbor, or read other materials during class, your grade will suffer.*
- Reading:
 - The assigned reading is mandatory. *You may be tested on material that appears in the reading and was not mentioned in lecture.*
 - You are responsible for bringing assigned primary sources to class – whether this means printing material from Sakai or bringing a book.
 - You are very strongly encouraged to take good notes on class discussions of readings.
- Two papers (4-5 pages):
 - These will involve the careful analysis of primary sources.
 - *Late work will be penalized 1 full grade (i.e., B to C) for every day it is late.*
 - Spelling, grammar, and presentation all count. A paper that has not been carefully proofread or that is sloppy in any way will not receive an ‘A’.
 - Papers **MUST** adhere to the following format:
 - 12 pt. Times or Times New Roman font
 - Double spaced
 - 1 or 1.25 inch margins
 - No extra spaces between paragraphs
 - Single-spaced headings
 - Pages **MUST** be numbered
 - Paper must have a title

- No separate cover page
 - Double-sided printing is OK
 - In addition, papers must adhere to guidelines listed on “How to write a good history paper” (Sakai)
- Midterm and final:
 - These may include a map section, fill-in-the-blanks with key terms, short answers, passage identifications, and essays.
 - You will be tested on lecture material *as well as on all assigned readings*.
 - The final will be cumulative.
- Response Papers:
 - During the course of the semester you will be asked to write several short papers (1 page each) in which you respond to films viewed in class.
 - These papers are due at the start of the following class.
 - *No late response papers will be accepted.*
- Pop Quizzes:
 - The instructor may administer pop quizzes on assigned readings.
- Grading policy:
 - If you believe an error has been made in grading your work, please bring it to the instructor’s attention, and she will review the situation. Once it has been verified that no error has been made, **GRADES ARE NON-NEGOTIABLE.**
 - Be advised that ‘A’s are reserved for truly excellent work.
 - Work that is serious and solid, but not exceptional, earns a B or B+.
 - Letter grades are assigned as follows: A = 90 and above; B+ = 87-89; B = 80-86; C+ = 77-79; C = 70-76; D = 60-69; F = 59 and below

PLEASE NOTE:

- Class announcements (ex: changes in assignment, cancellation of class) will be sent to your Eden accounts. *Be sure to check your Eden accounts regularly.*
- You may not record lectures unless you have documented special learning needs *and* permission from the instructor.
- Spelling always counts.
- The History Department at Rutgers has established a set of guidelines setting forth the department’s policy on appropriate classroom etiquette. If you engage in any kind of rude and inappropriate behavior, the instructor will ask you to leave the classroom and you will be marked absent. *The second time you are asked you to leave, the instructor will contact your dean.*
- Any student who cheats on a quiz or exam or who fails to properly cite all sources consulted in preparing written assignments, *including material found on the internet*, will be subject to the severe penalties mandated by University regulations, which include suspension from the university and a permanent record on your transcript. For details see: <http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>

- There will be absolutely no make-up exams. *Check and mark your calendars to make sure you will not have a conflict.*