

Details of courses available on the PATHWAYS Jewish History & Culture

Who is Anne Frank? (Dr Aimee Bunting)

Having successfully completed this specific unit, students will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- whether Jews escaping from Nazi Germany in the 1930s were refugees or economic migrants and the contemporary relevance of this issue
- whether the Dutch during the Second World War were resisters or collaborators in relation to the Jewish catastrophe
- why the last stages of the Holocaust have been neglected
- why the publication history of 'The Diary' has been so controversial including issues of censorship and denial of its authenticity
- why the experience of children in the Holocaust has been neglected
- whether gender is a legitimate tool in understanding the experience of the Holocaust
- the relationship between historical and literary representations of the Holocaust
- why the Americanised version of Anne Frank has been dominant in post-war representations
- the issues involved in using Anne Frank as an icon and form of post-war national and personal identity
- to explore the issues raised with the Holocaust as part of the 'heritage industry'
- show how historiographical debates about the Holocaust have shaped popular representations of Anne Frank in film, literature, museums, exhibitions, educational programmes and documentaries and vice versa
- whether the Holocaust belongs in the study of Jewish history and culture

Jews in the City: the Urban Experience in Eastern Europe up to the Holocaust (Dr Natan Meir)

This course explores the place and role of the city in the modernization process among Jews in the Russian Empire. Examining the urban context will enable us to get at important issues such as economic change, social transformation, communal shifts, and changes in gender roles. Through primary sources, we will look at how Jews viewed the city -- home? alien territory? a blank slate to make their own? -- how non-Jews and the state understood the place of Jews in the city, and relations between Jews and non-Jews in the urban setting. This course will also be an opportunity for students to become familiar with the historiography of East European

Jewish history and tackle major issues in the study of modern Jewish history in eastern as well as central and western Europe.

German Jews in Great Britain (Prof Joachim Schlör)

The unit tries to build a bridge between the fields of German-Jewish history and the history of Jews in Britain. It will give an overview of the situation of Jews in Germany in the 19th and 20th centuries, focussing on the Weimar Republic and the years shortly before and after 1933. It explores the emigration policy of the regime in Germany and the British attitudes toward immigration. The unit will then take a closer look at the processes of immigration (organisation; arrival; distribution in the country) and at the different ways of integration and adaption in Britain. Special attention will be given to personal memoirs and other personal documents as a source for the research of this topic.

Early Jewish Magic (Dr Dan Levene)

In this course a variety of different types of Jewish sources for the study of Jewish magic in Late Antiquity ranging from legal rulings to folk tales, magical recipe books and amulets will be examined, and the usefulness of using 'magic' as a perspective through which to study the history of a people will be evaluated.

Objectives:

- knowledge and understanding of what magic is in general and Jewish magic in Late Antiquity specifically
- knowledge and understanding of the relationship between magic, religion and mysticism
- knowledge and understanding of the types of Jewish magical texts that have survived from Late Antiquity
- knowledge and understanding of what types of cultural products were produced in consequence of magical activities and their usefulness for the study of certain aspects of history.

Other units

- Modern Jewish Culture and the Big City (Prof Joachim Schlör)
- The Making of the Modern Jew: Ethnicity, Modernity and the Jews of Europe 1989-1914 (Dr Natan Meir)
- Metropolitan Cultures (Dr Andrea Reiter)

- The Making of Englishness: Race, Ethnicity and Immigration in British Society, 1841 to the Present (Professor Tony Kushner)
- Looking Beyond the Holocaust (Dr Mark Levene)
- Alternative History: Landscape and Memory: Perspectives on Jerusalem (Prof. Joachim Schlör and Dr Dan Levene)
- The Holocaust in American Film (Dr James Jordan)
- The Dead Sea Scrolls (Dr Sarah Pearce)