COURSE DESCRIPTION
A history of the Jewish community in Canada, from New France to the present. Emphasis on the place-of-origin characteristics of the various waves of Jewish immigrants (English, German, Eastern European of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Holocaust survivors, North African and more recently Russian) and their respective experiences of Canadianization in the various regions of Canada. Among the topics to be discussed are: Jewish-Christian relations; the development of community structures; the culture, religion and ideology of the community.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
1. One research paper (approx. 15 pages in length) on a topic chosen in consultation with the instructor. Students are required to submit a proposal, including topic, working hypothesis, and bibliography, which will be examined by the instructor and returned. The approved proposal must be appended to the submitted paper. Students are encouraged to talk to the instructor for help with their papers (45%).
2. One final examination based on lectures and assigned reading (45%).
3. Participation, includes leading occasional discussion of readings (10%).

REQUIRED BOOKS

SUPPLEMENTAL BOOKS

Other required readings will be made available as photocopies, or placed on reserve.

COURSE OUTLINE
Week 1 Approaches and Background
Week 2 Jews and Early Settlements
Week 3 Early Jewish Communities: Europe and America
Week 4 Early Jewish Communities: Society and Religion
Week 5 The Eastern European Wave: Background
Week 6 The Eastern European Wave: Society and Politics
Week 7 The Eastern European Wave: Religion and Culture
Week 8 The Holocaust and Canadian Jewry-I
Week 9 Holocaust and Canadian Jewry-II
Week 10 Post-war Canadian Jewry: Demography and Jewish-Gentile Relations
Week 11 Post-war Canadian Jewry: Religion, Society and Culture
Week 12 Shifting Realities, 1960s-1990s: Jewish-Gentile Relations
Week 13 Shifting Realities, 1960s-1990s: Feminism and Multiculturalism

ADDITIONAL BIBLIOGRAPHY
NOTE: This is a select bibliography of English, and to a lesser extent, French language materials. The primary purposes of the “suggested” section of the bibliography is to indicate the sources for the lectures, and to assist in research for the essay required in this
course. The bibliography of primary and secondary sources in Brown, *Jew or Juif*, pp. 325-342 provides a great deal of information on the relevant historical literature on the Canadian Jewish experience published before the mid-1980s. The information available online in UBCLIB, in the file “bibliographies,” contains references to much of the recent periodical literature under the relevant headings, e.g. Jews-Vancouver. For further bibliography, consult the instructor.

**FREQUENTLY CITED PERIODICALS OR REFERENCE TOOLS**

- Canadian Ethnic Studies (CES)
- Canadian Historical Review (CHR)
- Canadian Jewish Historical Society Journal (CJHSJ)
- Dictionary of Canadian Biography (DCB)

**REFERENCE WORKS, SURVEYS (including general regional studies), ANTHOLOGIES**


**Week 1: Approaches and Background to Jewish History (c. 1500-c. 1750)**

**Week 2: Jews and Early Settlements: Realities and Myths**

(Introduction to Problems in Historiography)

**REQUIRED READING:**

Davies, pp. 1-9.

Tulchinsky, Preface and introduction; pp. 8-21; 82-93.

**SUPPLEMENTAL READING FOR WEEKS 1 AND 2:**


Syllabi


Week 3: Early Jewish communities, 1760s-1880s: European and American contexts; Legal and Political Status; Jewish-Gentile Relations

REQUIRED READING:
Davies, pp. 11-38.
Tulchinsky, pp. 22-38; 61-81.

Week 4: Early Jewish communities, 1760s-1880s: Society and Religion

REQUIRED READING:
Tulchinsky, pp. 40-60.
Selections from sermons of de Sola

SUPPLEMENTAL READING FOR WEEKS 3 AND 4:


Rome, David. *The First Two Years: A Record of the Jewish Pioneers on Canada’s Pacific Coast.* Montreal, 1942.


**Week 5: The Eastern European Wave: 1880s-1930s: Background, Immigration Policies, Jewish-Gentile Relations**

REQUIRED READING:
Tulchinsky, pp. 96-155
Davies, pp. 113-226.
Tulchinsky, 231-254 (read Davies volume first)

**Week 6: The Eastern European Wave, 1880s-1930s: Society and Politics**

REQUIRED READING:
Tulchinsky, pp. 158-230.
Selections from Canadian Jewish Year Book and organizational histories.

**Week 7: The Eastern European Wave, 1880s-1930s: Religion and Culture**

REQUIRED READING:
Tulchinsky, pp. 255-280.
Selections of sermons and translations from Yiddish.

SUPPLEMENTAL READING FOR WEEKS 5-7:
Richard Menkis


Week 8: The Holocaust and Canadian Jewry, 1933-1945. Government Attitudes, Popular Attitudes, Communal Responses

REQUIRED READING:
Abella and Troper, *None is Too Many: Canada and the Jews of Europe, 1933-1948*.
Documents relating to immigration policy and communal responses

Week 9: Holocaust, Canadian Jewry and State of Israel: Politics, Religion and Culture

REQUIRED READING:
Selections from institutional histories

SUPPLEMENTAL READING FOR WEEKS 8 AND 9:
Graham, Gwethalyn. *Earth and High Heaven*. [a novel set in Anglo Montreal during the war]


REQUIRED READING:


**Week 11: Post-war Canadian Jewry, 1945-1960s: II- Religion, Society and Culture**

REQUIRED READING:

**Week 12: Shifting realities, 1960s-1990s -I: Jewish-Gentile Relations**

REQUIRED READING:
Davies, pp. 227-300.

**Week 13: Shifting realities, 1960s-1990s: II- Feminists and the Jewish Community; Multiculturalism and Reactions to it**

REQUIRED READING:

SUPPLEMENTAL READING FOR WEEKS 10-13:


Taras, David and David H. Goldberg. *The Domestic Battleground: Canada and the Arab-Israeli Conflict.* Montreal, 1989. A number of essays touching on issues such as the United Church and the conflict, lobbying, etc.


**ADDENDUM: FILMOGRAPHY**

**BACKGROUND**

*Image before my Eyes* (a documentary about Jewish life in Poland before the war)

*The Forward* (a documentary about the most important Yiddish newspaper of the twentieth century, based in New York)

**THE CANADIAN JEWISH EXPERIENCE ON FILM**

*A.M. Klein: The Poet as Landscape* (documentary on A.M. Klein)

*Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* (based on Richler novel)

*A Coat of Many Colours* (based on the exhibit)

*Bonjour/Shalom* (about encounter between Hasidim and non-Jewish French Quebecers in Montreal)

*Half the Kingdom* (NFB documentary on Jewish feminists, many of whom are Canadian or have lived in Canada)

*Joshua Then and Now* (based on Richler novel)
Richard Menkis

Lies My Father Told Me (set in Montreal, based on short story by Ted Allen)
Memorandum (Canadian survivor returns to Europe)
More than Gold (documentary on B.C. Jewry)
Sam and Me (East Indians and Jews in Toronto)
Sense of Spadina (documentary on immigrant neighbourhood in Toronto)
True Confections (about young Jewish woman in Winnipeg in early 1960s)

NFB has done documentaries on a number of noteworthy literary figures, including Richler and Layton.