Morton Weinfeld

McGILL UNIVERSITY
SOCIOLOGY 166-327A
SOCIOLOGY OF THE JEWS IN NORTH AMERICA
FALL 1992

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course will develop an understanding of contemporary North American Jewry using findings of sociology and other social sciences. Social, cultural, and political issues of concern to the Jewish community will be analyzed. The course will examine specific characteristics of Jewish life in Canada, and Quebec in particular, compared with the American Jewish experience.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
The course requirements are one research paper (50%) and two exams (50%). Do not be frightened by the length of the reading list, it is presented primarily for reference purposes for term papers. Required readings are indicated by an asterisk (*).

REQUIRED BOOKS

SUPPLEMENTAL BOOKS


**SUPPLEMENTAL PERIODICALS**

**JEWISH:**

*American Jewish Year Book (AJYB)*

*Canadian Jewish News*

*Commentary*

*Conservative Judaism*

*Contemporary Jewry*

*Jewish Journal of Sociology (JJS)*

*Jewish Social Studies (JSS)*

*Judaism*

*Midstream*

*Moment*

*Response*

*Tikkun*

*Viewpoints*
GENERAL:

*American Journal of Sociology (AJS)*

*American Sociological Review (ASR)*

*Canadian Journal of Sociology (CJS)*

*Canadian Review of Sociology and Anthropology (CRSA)*

*Social Forces*

SUPPLEMENTAL BIBLIOGRAPHIES


COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1 Introduction: Who are the Jews? Why Study Them?

Week 2 Immigration and Early History

Week 3 The Setting: Canada, United States and the City

Week 4 Jews and the Social Structure

Week 5 Jews and Religion

Week 6 Jewish Family Life and Social Reform

Week 7 Jewish Family Life and Social Reform

Week 8 Anti-Semitism

Week 9 The Organized Jewish Community and Jewish Education

Week 10 The Organized Jewish Community and Jewish Education

Week 11 Culture, Israel, Jewish Education

Week 12 Jews and Politics

Week 13 Jews and Politics
Week 1: Introduction: Who are the Jews? Why Study Them?
*Waxman, AJT, introduction, chapter 1.
Cohen, AMJI, chapters 1,2.
Raphael Patai, Tents of Jacob, chapters 3,5, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15.
Mark Zborowski and Elizabeth Herzog, Life is With People.
Cecil Roth, A History of the Jews.
Howard Sachar, The Course of Modern Jewish History.
Irving Howe, World of Our Fathers, chapter 1.
Solomon Grayzel, History of the Jews.
Max Margolis and Alexander Marx, A History of the Jewish People.
Ernest van den Haag, The Jewish Mystique, chapters 1-4.

Week 2: Immigration and Early History
*Breton, introduction, pp. 3-33.
*CJM, articles by Kage, Abella and Troper.
*Waxman, AJT, chapter 2.
Cohen, AMJI, chapter 3.
M. Sklare, ed., The Jews, pp. 3-42.
Daniel Elazar, Community and Polity, chapter 2.
M. Sklare, America’s Jews, chapter 1.
Irving Howe, World of Our Fathers, chapters 2, 6.
Joseph Kage, With Faith and Thanksgiving, chapters 1-3.
Louis Rosenberg, Canada’a Jews, passim.
Mordechai Richler, The Street.
I. Abella and H. Troper, None is Too Many, 1982.

Week 3: The Setting: Canada, United States and the City
*Lipset, AP, chapters 1, 2, 6.
Week 4: Jews and the Social Structure

*Breton, chapter 4 (by Reitz), pp. 135-195.


Waxman, AJT, chapters 5, 6.

M. Sklare, America’s Jews, chapter 2.


Mark Zborowski and Elizabeth Herzog, Life is With People, parts II, III, chapter 3.

John R. Seeley et al., Crestwood Heights, chapter 8.
Joseph Kage, The Dynamics of Economic Adjustment of Canadian Jews: An Historical Review.
Irving Howe, World of Our Fathers, chapter 7.
Cohen, AMJ, chapters 4, 5.

Week 5: Jews and Religion
*Schoenfeld, CJM.
Waxman, AJT, chapter 4.
Will Herberg, Protestant, Catholic, Jew, chapters I-III, V, VIII.
Daniel Elazar, Community and Polity, chapter 4.
M. Sklare, The Jewish Community in America, pp. 131-220.
M. Sklare and J. Greenblum, Jewish Identity on the Suburban Frontier, chapters 3-5.

Week 6, 7: Jewish Family Life and Social Reform
Steven Cohen, “Alternative Families in the Jewish Community,” 
AJC, 1989, mimeo.

CJM, articles by Davids, Joseph, Rose, Weinfeld.

Waxman, AJT, chapter 7.

Cohen, AMJI, chapter 6.

John R. Seeley et al., Crestwood Heights, chapters 7, 10.


M. Sklare, America’s Jews, chapter 3.


Irving Howe, World of Our Fathers, chapter 8.

Moshe Davis, “Mixed Marriage in Western Jewry: Historical Background to the Jewish Response,” JJS, December, 1968.


Werner Cahnman, ed., Intermarriage and Jewish Life.

R. Schlesinger, B. Schlesinger, Article, CJT, Lipsitz, ed.


Week 8: Anti-Semitism

*CJM, Ages.*


Gabriel Weimann and Conrad Winn, *Hate on Trial*, chapters 6, 7.


Gertrude Selznick and Steven Steinberg, *The Tenacity of Prejudice*, chapters 1, 10.

L. Dinnerstein, ed., *Anti-Semitism in the United States*.


Ben Halpern, *Jews and Blacks*.

Nat Hentoff, *Black Anti-Semitism and Jewish Racism*.


Arthur Morse, *While Six Million Died*.


Week 9, 10: The Organized Jewish Community and Jewish Education
*Breton, chapter 5, pp. 196-255.
*CJM, Waller (Power), Lasry.
Waxman, AJT, chapters 8, 9.
Daniel Elazar, Community and Polity, chapters 6, 8-10, appendix A.
M. Sklare, ed., The Jewish Community in America, pp. 69-110, 221-248.
M. Sklare, America's Jews, chapters 4, 5.
M. Aborowsky and Elizabeth Herzog, Life is with People, part III, chapters 1, 2.
Jack N. Porter and Peter Dreier, Jewish Radicalism, part 5.

Week 11: Culture, Israel, Jewish Education
*Breton, chapter 2, pp. 34-91.
*CJM, Orestein, interview with Wisse, Roiter, Butovsky, Waller (Zionism).
Waxman, AJT, chapter 10.
Irving Howe, World of Our Fathers, chapters 13-17.
Howard Sachar, The Course of Modern Jewish History, chapter 19.
Victor Sanua, “Patterns of Identification with the Jewish Community in the U.S.A.,” JJS, December, 1964.
Jack N. Porter and Peter Dreier, Jewish Radicalism, parts 4, 7.
Cohen, AMJI, Epilogue.
*Lipset, ed., AP, chapter 5.

Week 12, 13: Jews and Politics
*Breton, chapter 6, pp. 256-266.
*CJM, Stanislawski, Waller and Weinfeld.
Cohen, AMJI, chapter 7.
Jack N. Porter and Peter Dreier, *Jewish Radicalism*, parts 1, 9, Epilogue.