We are grateful to everyone who has engaged with and supported ASU Jewish Studies throughout the years, and look forward to your continued participation.

To ensure everyone in the community has the opportunity to participate in our events, despite the novel coronavirus pandemic, all ASU Jewish Studies public programs for the 2020-2021 academic year will be held online via Zoom.

all times MST (Arizona) | schedules subject to change see website for up-to-date information
pre-registration is required for all events via the websites provided in this calendar

October 2020

October 5 | online exhibit
We Remember: The Righteous
online exhibit | azjhs.org/exhibits
in-person exhibit opens January 2021
122 East Culver Street, Phoenix

Through the talent of Arizona Artist, Robert Sutz, patrons of the humanities will make an emotional connection to the past by gaining a greater knowledge of those who risked their lives to save countless others. Using local as well as world-wide Righteous Gentiles, we will learn about the Holocaust through the stories and actions of these “heroes” and be able to apply these lessons to their lives today. The exhibit highlights ordinary people that took extraordinary action and stood up against hate, discrimination, prejudice, implicit bias, stereotyping, racism, and complacency.

community partnership with Arizona Jewish Historical Society

October 14 | webinar
Jews and Judaism Today: Some Burning Issues
The Future of Gender in Jewish Organizations
Madeline Adelman, Arizona State University
7 p.m. | jewishstudies.asu.edu/adelman

Competing ideas about gender are not new, but today’s personal, policy, and political debates about gender—Is gender a relevant way to categorize people? Are men and women “naturally” different? Is the gender category made up of a mutually exclusive binary?—raise questions for the future of gender in Jewish organizations. Professor Adelman will unpack current debates over the meaning, manifestation, and management of gender, and reflect on the possibilities and pitfalls of single-gender Jewish community-based organizations, noting that some were originally designed to perpetuate, while others were launched to undermine, gender inequality.

receive event reminders and updates via email
jewishstudies.asu.edu/signup
Recent years have witnessed a dramatic rise in anti-Semitic incidents and the growth of anti-Semitic attitudes around the world. New research estimates more than a quarter of the world—1.09 billion people out of more than 4.1 billion people surveyed—harbors anti-Semitic attitudes. This workshop—organized by David Siroky and Lenka Bustikova of the School of Politics and Global Studies at Arizona State University—brings together leading scholars from around the globe to discuss the frontiers in the study of anti-Semitism and to debate critical factors that influence where and when ethnoreligious groups, and Jews in particular, are likely to be targeted and viewed with prejudice.

Many people think discovering Jewish ancestral families is impossible. Often, memories of our families before immigration are lost to time—even names may have been forgotten—further compounding difficulties of discovering information about Jewish families are the tragedies of the Shoah. It is not uncommon to hear a Jewish family’s conviction that the town their family lived in before WWII, and all the records from that town, were completely destroyed. While it is true that many records were destroyed during the war, it is incorrect to assume that no records exist and finding out about our Jewish ancestors is impossible. Learn what happened to those who remained in Europe, and how information was discovered. The research includes resources from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; Yad Vashem; and the Krakow, Poland archives.
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7:50 a.m. welcome

8 – 9 a.m.

The Jew In the Central European Imagination

Hana Kubatova | Charles University
Prague, Czech Republic
related work “The ‘Jew’ in the Czech and Slovak Imagination: Popular and Public Stereotypes in the Bohemian Lands and Slovakia, 1938–89” Hana Kubatova

discussant
Anna Cichopek-Gajraj | Arizona State University

9 – 10 a.m.

Middlemen Minorities and Pogroms in the Russian Empire

Ekaterina Zhuravskaya | Paris School of Economics
Paris, France

discussant
Eugene Finkel | Johns Hopkins University

10 – 11 a.m.

Anti-Semitism on Universities in the U.S.: A View from the Student Body

Jeffrey Kopstein | University of California, Irvine

discussant
Devorah Manekin | Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Israel

11 a.m. –

Contemporary Left Antisemitism

12 p.m.

David Hirsch | University of London
London, England
related work David Hirsch, 2017 Contemporary Left Antisemitism Routledge; ‘Left anti-Zionism’ in Charles Small Ed Antisemitism in Comparative Perspective, 2006, Yale, Yale University Press; ‘The Smart Way to Fight British Antisemitism’ Jerusalem Post, November 1, 2005

discussant
Daniel Stein-Kokin | independent scholar

12 – 1 p.m. break

1 – 2 p.m.

Anti-Semitism in Germany in the Time of Pandemic

Petra Guasti | Goethe University Frankfurt
Frankfurt, Germany

discussant
Sara Wallace Goodman | University of California, Irvine

2 – 3 p.m.

Explaining Ethnoreligious Minority Targeting: Variation in U.S. Anti-Semitic Events

Ayal Feinberg | Texas A&M University–Commerce

discussant
Kyriaki Topidi | European Centre for Minority Issues
Flensburg, Germany

3 – 4 p.m.

Evaluating Coverage of Anti-Semitism in U.S. State Department Human Rights Reporting

Thorin Wright | Arizona State University

discussant
Jose Kaire | Arizona State University

4 p.m.

concluding remarks

pre-registration required
jewishstudies.asu.edu/lowe
February 21 | community program
LimmudAZ Online
9 a.m.–3 p.m. | LimmudAZ.org

Just because we can’t gather in person doesn’t mean we can’t learn together! This year Limmud AZ is a full-day, online gathering of hundreds of Jews from all walks of life, all Jewish backgrounds, lifestyles and ages, offering a full schedule of workshops, discussions, arts, text-study sessions, and more!

community partnership with LimmudAZ

February 21 | scholar-in-residence
Albert and Liese Eckstein Scholar-in-Residence

American Jewry’s Contemporary Scorecard: Anti-Semitism and Tolerance in the United States
Jeffrey Gurock, Yeshiva University
4 p.m. | jewishstudies.asu.edu/eckstein

In recent days, American Jews have been confronted with a spate of anti-Semitic attacks—often ideological and sometimes violent. However, even as these difficulties exist, American Jews still live in a nation that is uncommonly tolerant of them. Through an examination of how one of America’s foremost establishments—the world of organized sports—has treated Jews, now and in the past the problems of today can be better understood.

made possible through an endowment established for ASU Jewish Studies by the late Dr. Albert and Mrs. Liese Eckstein, with additional contributions from the Eckstein family and Friends of Jewish Studies

February 28, 2021

Judaism and Climate Change: Science, Theology, and Ethics
annual conference

online via Zoom | open to all
10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.
in partnership with Valley Beit Midrash

pre-registration required
jewishstudies.asu.edu/science
**program**

10–10:15 a.m.  
**welcome**  
Hava Tirosh-Samuelson, Director of Jewish Studies  
*Arizona State University*

10:15–11:15 a.m.  
**The Dr. Michael Anbar Memorial Keynote Lecture in Judaism, Science and Medicine**  
chair: Evan Berry  
*Arizona State University*

keynote address  
The Environmental Crisis: What Do We Have to Teach? What Do We Have to Learn?  
Roger S. Gottlieb  
*Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

11:15–11:30 a.m.  
**break**

11:30 a.m.– 12:45 p.m.  
**Planetary Habitability: Earth and Beyond**  
chair: Forrest Clingerman  
*Northern Ohio University*

Science as a Complex System: What We Need to Know  
Ariel Anbar  
*Arizona State University*

Alone in the Universe: Why We and Our Planet Earth Are Exceptional  
Howard Smith  
*Harvard University*

Climate Science and Public Policy: The Challenge of Science as an Ongoing Process  
Peter Rez  
*Arizona State University*

12:45–1 p.m.  
**break**

1–2:15 p.m.  
**Climate Change and Environmental Health**  
chair: David Eisenman  
*UCLA*

Climate Change and the Future of Our Cities  
Bernice R. Rosenzweig  
*Sara Lawrence College*

One Health Movement: Human Health, Animal Health and Environmental Health  
Dr. Michael Kosoy  
*KB One Health LLC*

Earth, Climate, and Public Health: Judaism and the Sacred  
Rabbi and Dr. Nancy E. Epstein  
*Drexel University*

2:15–2:30 p.m.  
**break**

2:30-3:45 p.m.  
**Environmental Theology and Ethics**  
chair: Joel Gereboff  
*Arizona State University*

A Biblical Eco-Theology  
Rabbi Ellen Bernstein  
*Founder of Shomrei Adamah*

Voices from Tradition: Modern Jewish Spirituality and Theological Responses to Climate Change  
Professor and Rabbi Ariel Evan Maise  
*Stanford University*

The Environment in Halakhic Decision Making: Self Interest and Compassion  
Tanhum Yoreh  
*University of Toronto*

3:45–4 p.m.  
**break**

4–5:15 p.m.  
**Environmental Activism: Judaism, Ecology, and Social Change**  
chair: Hava Tirosh-Samuelson  
*Arizona State University*

panelists  
Rabbi Fred Scherlinder Dobb  
*Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation, Bethesda, Maryland*

Dr. Mirele Goldsmith  
*co-chairperson, Jewish Earth Alliance*

Rabbi Jenny Rosenn  
*Dayenu, Jewish Call for Climate Action*

Rabbi Sophia Motzkin Rubenstein  
*Temple Beth Israel, Eugene, Oregon*

Rabbi Shmuly Yanklowitz  
*Valley Beit Midrash, Phoenix, Arizona*

5:15–5:30 p.m.  
**closing discussion**
Jewish Studies Today | webinar series

Originating in the 1820s, the study of Judaism is a well-established academic discipline that transcends boundaries of the humanities of the social sciences (e.g., history, philosophy, religious studies, sociology, literature, political science, film and media, art and music, and more). Jewish studies scholars, who are not necessarily Jewish, investigate Jewish civilization from antiquity to the present and have transformed our understanding of Judaism and the Jews. These sessions will address the question “Why, how, and to whom is scholarship of Jewish Studies relevant today?”. Separate pre-registration required for each webinar via the links below.

April 6 | webinar
Jewish Studies Today
Antiquity
7 p.m.
jewishstudies.asu.edu/antiquity

Antiquity (roughly from 1200 BCE to 500 CE) is the period during which the canonic sources of Judaism—the Bible, the Mishnah, the Talmud, and the Midrashim—were generated. Scholars of antiquity study how these texts have emerged, how Jews responded to Persian, Hellenistic, and Roman cultures, and how Jewish societies in the land of Israel, Babylonia, Egypt and Persia related to the geopolitics of the ancient Middle East. This webinar explores how new scholarship on ancient archeology, literature, and social organization helps us to understand the treasures of the Jewish tradition.

moderator
Hava Tirosh-Samuelson
Director of Jewish Studies

panelists
Joel Gereboff
Associate Professor of Religious Studies
Timothy Langille
Lecturer – Religious Studies
Francoise Mirguet
Jess Schwartz Memorial Professor/Associate Professor of Hebrew

April 13 | webinar
Jewish Studies Today
Medieval/Early Modern
7 p.m.
jewishstudies.asu.edu/medieval

During the middle ages (500-1500) and the early-modern period (1500-1800) Judaism greatly evolved to generate the masterpieces of biblical exegesis, jurisprudence, philosophy, mysticism, poetry, and liturgy. In the orbits of Islam and in Christendom Jewish life thrived despite legal inferiority of the Jewish minority and occasional persecutions. The Middle Ages was a period of intense creativity, often due to the cross-fertilization between Jews and non-Jews. This webinar explores how new studies of the interplay between Jews and non-Jews. This webinar explores how new studies of the interplay between Jews and non-Jews transformed our understanding of Jewish history and the history of Judaism. Special attention will be paid to new scholarship that sheds light on the dynamic of continuity and change, intellectual diversity within Jewish society, and the expansion of the Jewish Diaspora during the early-modern period.

moderator
Joel Gereboff
Associate Professor of Religious Studies

panelists
Stanley Mirvis
Harold and Jean Grossman Chair in Jewish Studies/Assistant Professor of History
Hava Tirosh-Samuelson
Director of Jewish Studies

April 20 | webinar
Jewish Studies Today
Modern/Contemporary
7 p.m.
jewishstudies.asu.edu/modern

Since the French Revolution (1789) that granted Emancipation to the Jews of Western Europe, Judaism was profoundly transformed. Emancipation, acculturation, assimilation, urbanization, industrialization, mass migration, and secularization are the main forces that profoundly altered Jewish life in the modern period. Jews responded to these forces in numerous ways, including the reinterpretation of Judaism, thus resulting in religious pluralism and ideological diversity. Anti-Semitism, the backlash to Jewish integration into modern society, has resulted in the destruction of Jewish life in the Holocaust but also contributed to the rise of Zionism and the founding of the State of Israel. The webinar will reflect on new historical and sociological scholarship on the place of Jews in modern and contemporary societies with special attention to Post-Holocaust societies.

moderator
Anna Holian
Associate Professor of History

panelists
Volker Benkert
Assistant Professor of History
Anna Cichopek-Gajraj
Associate Professor of History
Michael Rubinoff
Lecturer - College of Integrative Sciences and Arts
April 12-17 | community program

Genocide Awareness Week
#NotOnOurWatch

Free and open to all.
Presentations will be held virtually via WebEx.
scottsdalecc.edu/genocide-awareness-week-2021

Not on Our Watch. The 9th Genocide Awareness Week is a series of lectures, exhibits and storytelling by distinguished survivors, scholars, politicians, activists, artists, humanitarians and members of law enforcement. This week-long event seeks to address how we, as a global society, confront violent actions and current and ongoing threats of genocide throughout the world, while also looking to the past for guidance and to honor those affected by genocide.

Genocide Awareness Week is hosted by Scottsdale Community College and sponsored in part by local and national organizations, including ASU Jewish Studies. Arizona State University will begin hosting Genocide Awareness Week in 2022.

highlights

April 12 | 6 p.m. A Conversation with Ambassador Samantha Power
April 13 | 6 p.m. Restorative Pathways: Building trust in Rwanda with Carl Wilkins Founder, World Outside My Shoes
April 14 | 6 p.m. U.S. Policy and Government Programs and Involvement Regarding Genocide and Human Rights with Ambassador Edward O’Donnell
April 15 | 10:30 a.m. Holocaust by Bullets: A Genocide in Broad Daylight
April 16 | 9 a.m. ADL Law Enforcement Workshop
April 17 | 9 a.m. ADL Educators Workshop: Echoes and Reflections Teacher Training

learn more about giving opportunities to support Jewish Studies programs, including Genocide Awareness Week at ASU in 2022

Lisa Kaplan Assistant Director of Jewish Studies
Lisa.Kaplan@asu.edu | (480) 965-8094
September 2020 – May 2021 | adult education program

The American Jewish Experience

Stanley Mirvis  
Harold and Jean Grossman Chair of Jewish Studies  
Assistant Professor of History, Arizona State University

• The Origins of Jews and Conversos in the Americas  
• Caribbean Jewry  
• Colonial North American Jewry  
• The “German” Migration  
• The East European Migration  
• American Judaism  
• Post War American Jewry

in-person attendance by invitation only

session recordings will publicly available online

jewishstudies.asu.edu/adultlearning