SOCI 227
SOCIOLOGY OF THE JEWS IN NORTH AMERICA

Winter 2018
Mondays and Wednesdays
4:05 to 5:25 PM.

Otto Maass Chemistry bldg., room 10

Professor Morton Weinfeld
Office Hours: Monday 2-3 and Tues. 2-3 PM ...but best to make an appointment rather than drop in. If your classes conflict then send an email and we will certainly find a time.)
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morton.weinfeld@mcgill.ca

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.

Basic Texts (on reserve in the library: also from the bookstore)

1. Morton Weinfeld, Like Everyone Else But Different. This book was first published in 2001. There is a revised and updated version to be published in spring 2018, and we will use uncorrected proofs for this course,

2. A collection of additional readings, all required, is available bound for purchase at the bookstore as a coursepack and on reserve in the library.

Supplementary Texts

1. Daniel J. Elazar, Community and Polity, Jewish Publication Society, 1976. (There is now a second edition.)


**Requirements**

The course requirements are one research paper worth 33% and two exams worth 33% each. The paper should be a **maximum length of 8 double spaced pages** of text (excluding references, tables, footnotes, etc.). The last class will be **Monday April 16, which will be a review class.** The research paper is **due on the last class, April 16.** This deadline is not really flexible. Only a documented medical problem is an excuse for submitting a late paper.

Late papers with no documentation will be penalized at an increasing rate. Joint papers (two people) are fine; then **the maximum length is 12 pages.** All papers must be handed in **hard copy.** No emailing of papers or attachments.

The papers can deal with any topic related to the reading list. So they must be of social scientific nature, ( will explain in class ). And they can deal with Canada or the US or both.
Students should submit a one page outline of a topic and six social scientific refs on or before Wed., Feb 7, and these will be returned.

The first examination will be a mid term. This exam will cover the first five sections of the course outline. The mid term will be in class and will be on Wed. Feb 21. It will consist of short answer questions and one essay. The second examination will be multiple choice format. The second exam will not be cumulative, and will cover only sections 6-10 of the course outline, and will take place during the formal examination period.

The class before the mid term, and the last class of the term, will both be review sessions, worth attending….

If you do the readings, attend class and take notes, and come to the review classes before the mid-term and on April 16, you should be ok!!!!!! (almost all grades fall in the A, A- B+ and B range….

All the readings with an * are required. They are taken from the core text by Weinfeld and the coursepack selection of readings. Do not be frightened by the length of the reading list. The other items can be used as references for term papers.

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"McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/ for more information).(approved by Senate on 29 January 2003)
The FRENCH TRANSLATION of the Academic Integrity statement may also be used on your course outline:
"L'université McGill attache une haute importance à l'honnêteté académique. Il incombe par conséquent à tous les étudiants de comprendre ce que l'on entend par tricherie, plagiat et autres infractions académiques, ainsi que les conséquences que peuvent avoir de telles actions, selon le Code de conduite de l'étudiant et des procédures disciplinaires (pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/)."

2. “In accord with McGill University’s Charter of Students’ Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.” (approved by Senate on 21 January 2009 - see also the section in this document on Assignments and evaluation.)
The FRENCH TRANSLATION about this right may also be used on your course outlines:
"Conformément à la Charte des droits de l’étudiant de l’Université McGill, chaque
'étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être noté (sauf dans le cas des cours dont l’un des objets est la maîtrise d’une langue)."


Periodicals of Interest

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jewish</th>
<th>General</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contemporary Jewry</td>
<td>American Journal of Sociology (AJS)</td>
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<td>Jewish Journal of Sociology (JJS)</td>
<td>American Sociological Review (ASR)</td>
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<td>Jewish Social Studies (JSS)</td>
<td>Canadian Review of Sociology &amp; Anthropology (CRSA)</td>
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<td>Commentary</td>
<td>Social Forces</td>
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<td>Midstream</td>
<td>Canadian Journal of Sociology (CJS)</td>
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<td>Judaism</td>
<td>Canadian Ethnic Studies</td>
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<td>Conservative Judaism</td>
<td>Racial and Ethnic Studies</td>
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<td>Moment</td>
<td>Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion</td>
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<td>Response</td>
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<td>American Jewish Yearbook (AJYB)</td>
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<td>Canadian Jewish News</td>
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<td>Viewpoints</td>
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<td>Canadian Jewish Studies</td>
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<td>Journal of Psychology and Judaism</td>
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<td>Tikkun</td>
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<td>The Forward (also online)</td>
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Several resources are available for research on North American Jewry:

There are several acceptable websites for respectable Jewish think tanks or research institutes which are worth consulting, though these are not substitutes for but in addition to academic journals. These include The World Jewish Congress, the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Congress, the Anti-Defamation League of Bnai Brith, CLAL, Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs, the Canada Israel Committee, Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University. Some of the papers they publish, if done by academics and scholars, are acceptable as academic references, especially if the subject is very current.

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency is a Jewish news service. See www.jta.org

The North American Jewish Data Bank is an organization through which you can get access to many reports, studies, and data sets.
There is also a search engine for journal articles in Jewish studies, many of which are social scientific in nature: Rambi

The Google search engine can be used to find many others.

There are also websites devoted to Jewish magazine articles and newspapers, many related to Israel.

The Israeli newspapers Haaretz and Jerusalem Post have English language websites.

There are also literally thousands of Jewish websites, on matters ranging from Talmud study to dating to Jewish study.

**Material taken from serious think tank websites, or serious Jewish intellectual magazines like Commentary or Tikkun, and written by academics or recognized scholars, can be considered as academic and authoritative. But opinions and analyses expressed in articles in the popular Jewish press, or from magazines or newspapers, are not scholarly. But they can be used as examples or data in a paper.**

Also consult all social scientific article data bases, using relevant keywords.

Other websites for Jewish newspapers and opinion articles:

- [www.forward.com](http://www.forward.com)
- [www.jidaily.com](http://www.jidaily.com)
- [www.tabletmag.org](http://www.tabletmag.org)
- [http://www.thedailybeast.com/openzion.html](http://www.thedailybeast.com/openzion.html)
SCHEDULE OF LECTURES AND READINGS

I. Introduction: Who are the Jews? Why study them? (2 lectures)


*Weinfeld, , Like Everyone, Introduction, Chapter One, ch. Two

Byrm et al. Preface, vii-x

CJM, Introduction


Waxman, (AJT), Intro., chap. 1
Cohen, (AMJI), chaps. 1, 2.

Raphael Patai, Tents of Jacob, Chaps. 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 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, chap. 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, Chaps. 1-4.

S.M. Lipset, "The American Jewish Community in a Comparative Perspective" in Lipset, Revolution, Chap. 4.

II. Immigration and Early History (2 lectures)

*readings, article by Ben Halpern, "America is Different"; Waxman, “The Socio-historical background…..”

*Weinfeld, Like Everyone ch. 3

Breton, Introduction, 3-33

Brym et al., article by Tulchinsky

Louis Rosenberg

CJM, articles by Kage, Abella & Troper

Waxman, (AJT), chap. 2


Cohen, (AMJI, chap. 3).

M. Sklare, ed., The Jews, pp. 3-42.

Daniel Elazar, Community and Polity, Chap. 2.

M. Sklare, America's Jews, Chap. 1.

Irving Howe, World of Our Fathers, Chaps. 2, 6.

Joseph Kage, With Faith and Thanksgiving, Chaps. 1, 2, 3.

Louis Rosenberg, Canada's Jews, passim.


Mordecai Richler, The Street.

Harold Waller The Governance of the Jewish Community in Montreal, Chap. 1.

I. Abella and H. Troper, None is Too Many: 1982.

III. The Setting: Canada and the United States (2 lectures)


Lipset (AP) ch. 1,2,6.

Breton, ch. 3, pp. 92-135

CJM, articles by Arnold, & Medjuck & Lazar

Waxman, (AJT), chap. 3.


Seymour Martin Lipset, Revolution and Counter-Revolution, Chap. 2.


Daniel Elazar, Community and Polity, Chaps. 1, 3.

Louis Wirth, The Ghetto, Chaps. 12, 13, 14.


IV. Jews and the Social Structure (2 or 3 lectures)

* Weinfeld, Like Everyone, ch. 4

* readings, article by Etan Diamond, "Sanctifying Suburban Space"

R. Brym, "The Rise and Decline of Canadian Jewry?"


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

CJM, Torczyner.

M. Sklare, (AJ), pp. 49-121.

Waxman, (AJT), chaps. 5, 6.


Mark Zborowski and Elizabeth Herzog, *Life is With People*, Part II, Part III, Chap. 3.


Sidney Goldstein "The Demographics of American Jewry": Hebrew University 1987, mimeo.


Joseph Kage, *The Dynamics of Economic Adjustment of Canadian - A Historical Review.*

Irving Howe, *World of Our Fathers,* Chap. 7.


Cohen, *AMJI,* Chap. 4, 5.

V. **Jews and Religion (2 lectures)**

*Weinfeld, Like Everyone.. ch. 10


Brym et al. article by Shaffir, p. 126-141

CJM, Schoenfeld

M. Sklare, *AJ* pp. 245-362

Waxman, *AJT,* chap. 4.

Will Herberg, *Protestant, Catholic, Jew,* Ch. I-III, V, VIII.


Daniel Elazar, *Community and Polity,* Ch. 4

M. Sklare, *The Jewish Community in America,* pp.131-220.

Stuart Rosenberg, *The Jewish Community in Canada,* Vol. II, In the Midst of Freedom, Ch. 3.

M. Sklare and J. Greenblum, *Jewish Identity on the Suburban Frontier,* Ch. 3-5.


**Mid Term on Sections 1-5 inclusive.**

VI. Jewish Family Life, Social Relations and Intermarriage (2-3 Lectures)

*Weinfeld, Like everyone.. ch. 5.*

*In readings, article by Sylvia Barack Fishman, “Negotiating Egalitarianism and Judaism”; and Saxe et al., “Intermarriage: The Impact and Lessons of Taglit-Birthright Israel”*

Brym et al. article by Brym, Gillespie and Gillis, pp. 238-248 and all of Part Six

Steven Cohen, Alternate Families in the Jewish Community AJC 1989, mimeo

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


Waxman, (AJT), chap. 7.

Cohen, (AMJI), Ch. 6.

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


Calvin, Goldscheider, "Ideological Factors in Jewish Fertility Differentials," *JJS*, (June, 1965).

Calvin, Goldscheider, "Socio-economic Status and Jewish Fertility," *JJS*, (December 1965).


Moshe Davis, "Mixed Marriage in Western Jewry: Historical Background to the Jewish Response," *JJS*, (December 1968).


Werner Cahnman, ed., *Interrmarriage and Jewish Life*.

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

Sergio della Pergola, Recent Trends in Jewish Marriage, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 1989, mimeo


VII. Anti-Semitism (2 lectures)

*Weinfeld, Like Everyone .. ch. 11


Brym et al. Part Two
Harold Quinley and Charles Y. Glock, Anti-Semitism in America, NY: Free Press, 1979, ch. 1, 10

CJM, Ages


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

Cohen, (AMJI), Chap. 8.

David Riesman, "The Militant Fight Against Anti-semitism" (also in Commentary, 1951, No. 11), and "A Philosophy for Minority Living" in David Riesman - Individualism Reconsidered, (also, in Commentary, 1948, No. 6).


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


Ben Halpern, Jews and Blacks.

Nat Hentoff, Black Anti-Semitism and Jewish Racism.


Peter C.Newman, The Canadian Establishment, Chaps. 11, 12, 13.


Arthur Morse, While Six Million Died.


John Sigal and Morton Weinfeld Trauma and Rebirth, Praeger, 1989.


VIII. The Organized Jewish Community and Jewish Education (3-4 lectures).

*Weinfeld, Like Everyone, ch. 6, ch. 8

*In readings, article by Anctil, "A Community in Transition: The Jews of Montreal"

Brym et al, articles by Weinfeld and Zelkowitz, and Waller

H. Troper and M. Weinfeld, Old Wounds, 1988

Breton, ch. 5, pp. 196-255


CJM, Waller (Power), Lasry.

Waxman, (AJT), chaps. 8, 9.

Daniel Elazar, Community and Polity, Chaps. 6, 8, 9, 10, (Appendix A)

M. Sklare, ed., The Jewish Community in America, pp. 69-110, 221-248.

M. Sklare, America's Jews, Chaps. 4, 5.


Daniel Elzear and Harold Waller (M.C.) - passim, Lipset ed, (AP) chapters 10, 11, 12, 13.


M. Zborowsky and E. Herzog, Life is with People, Part III, Chaps. 1, 2.

Jack N. Porter and Peter Dreier, Jewish Radicalism, Part 5.

IX. Culture, Israel, Holocaust, Jewish Identity (2 lectures)

*Weinfeld, Like Everyone Else, ch. 7

*readings, article by Peter Novick, “We are not equipped to answer”, from The Holocaust in American Life, and article “Jewish culture and Canadian Culture” (transcribed discussion) of Butovsky, Roiter, Weinfeld, and Wisse; and article by Steven Cohen and Arnold Eisen, “Conclusion” from The Jew Within.

Brym et al, readings by Lasry, by Markus and Schwartz, by Levitt and Shaffir 395-432, and Leo Davids 153-166


Breton, ch. 2, pp. 34-91.

CJM, Orenstein, interview with Wisse, Roiter, Butovsky, Waller (Zionism).

Waxman, (AJT), chap. 10.

Irving Howe, World of Our Fathers, Chaps. 13-17.

Howard Sachar, The Course of Modern Jewish History, Chap. 19


Stuart Rosenberg, The Jewish Community in Canada, Vol. II. In the Midst of Freedom, Chaps. 8, 10.


Jack N. Porter and Peter Dreier, Jewish Radicalism, part 4, 7.

Cohen, (AMJI), Epilogue.

Steven M. Cohen, Ties and Tensions; An Update. AJC. 1989.

Lipset ed. A.P. Ch. 5

X. Jews and Politics (2-3 lectures), and Conclusion

*Weinfeld, Like Everyone Else, ch. 9,

*In readings, article from Weinfeld (Forthcoming in Canadian Ethnic Studies) “Canadian Jews, Dual/Divided Loyalties, and the Tebbit “Cricket” Test”; and article by Cohen et al. “American Jews and the 2008 Presidential Election: As Democratic and Liberal as Ever?”


Breton, ch. 6, pp/ 256-266.

Cohen, (AMJI), Chap. 7

CJM, Stanislawski, Waller & Weinfeld.


Irving Howe, World of our Fathers, Chaps. 9-11.

Bernard Rosenberg and Irving Howe, "Are American Jews turning to the Right?" in Irving Howe and Lewis Coser, eds. The New Conservatives.


Jack N. Porter and Peter Dreier, Jewish Radicalism, (Parts I, Epilogue).


Irving Louis Horowitz, Israeli Ecstasies and Jewish Agonies, Chaps. 6, 7, 8, or Midstream, (Nov. 1972; or JSS, Oct. 1962).


Lipset, "The Jews, The Left and Israel," in Revolution and Counter-Revolution, Ch. 10.

Lipset ed. (AP) ch. 7,8,9.