



Israel Studies International MA Program

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev
The Ben-Gurion Research Institute for the Study of Israel and Zionism

Jews in Morocco, Moroccans in Israel

Fall Semester 2022-23
Thursday, 14:30-18:00
Sede Boqer Campus

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Office hours: office 217, building 23; Thursday, 18:00-19:00
(please email me in advance if you wish to schedule a meeting)

Course Description

The Jews of Morocco constituted the largest Jewish community of any Muslim country before the founding of the state of Israel in 1948. The majority of Moroccan Jews made Israel their new home, where they became one of the largest and most prominent ethnic groups in the country. This course surveys the history of Moroccan Jewry over the past 150 years, bringing their "past" in Morocco into conversation with their post-migration "present" in Israel. Among the topics addressed are intergroup relations, economic, social, and cultural issues, nationalism and colonialism, migration, and community and identity construction. Drawing on a range of sources, we will explore representations of Moroccan Jews in Israeli academic and popular discourse. The course will situate the history of Moroccan Jews in the broader context of Jewish-Muslim, Ashkenazi-Mizrahi, and Arab-Israeli relations.

Course Assignments and Evaluation

This course is designed to facilitate class discussions. Course assignments and final grades are all based on that requirement.

Class Participation (10%): Although class attendance is not mandatory, participation in class will constitute ten percent of your final grade, and you will be

expected to address issues discussed in class in your final essay.

Presentation (20%): Each student is expected to choose topic for presentation, based on the reading list below, or on another topic of particular interest to you. Students are encouraged to use office hours to discuss their choices with me.

By March 10, each student is expected to schedule a day to present his/her topic in class. Students are also expected to discuss with me the reading material they will pre-circulate prior to their presentation in class. Class presentations should run about 15 minutes. PowerPoints are welcomed.

Final home-exam (70%): the exam will be based on class discussion, including students' presentations, and the assigned reading.

Course Layout, Schedule and Assigned Readings

Section 1: Jewish Histories in Morocco

1. Jews and Muslims in Morocco: A Historical Introduction (27/10)

Gottreich, Emily Benichou. *Jewish Morocco: A History from Pre-Islamic to Postcolonial Times*. Bloomsbury Publishing, 2020, 1-100

Gilson Miller, Susan. "Dhimma Reconsidered: Jews, Taxes, and Authority in Nineteenth-Century Tangier," In: Rahma Bourqia and Susan Gilson Miller (ed.), *In the Shadow of the Sultan: Culture, power and Politics in Morocco*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1999, 103-126.

2. Jews and Europeans in Morocco: A Historical Introduction (3/11)

Schroeter Daniel J. "From Dhimmis to Colonized Subjects: Moroccan Jews and the Sharifian and French Colonial State," In: Mendelsohn E (ed.), *Jews and the State: Dangerous Alliances and the Perils of Privilege*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 2003, 104-123

Eric Calderwood "Moroccan Jews and the Spanish Colonial Imaginary, 1903–1951," *The Journal of North African Studies* 24 (2018): 1-25.

Laskier, Michael M. "Prelude to Colonialism: Moroccan Muslims and Jews through Western Lenses, 1860-1912." *European Judaism*, vol. 52, no. 2 (2019): 111

***Presentations start here

3. **Jewish Space in Morocco** (10/11)

Gilson Miller, Susan. "Apportioning Sacred Space in a Moroccan City: The Case of Tangier, 1860-1912". *City & Society*. Vol. 13 No.1 (2001): 57-83.

Moreno, Aviad. "Remapping 'tradition': Community Formation and Spatiocultural Imagination Among Jews In Colonial Northern Morocco." *Jewish Culture and History* 22.4 (2021): 378-400

4. **Education and Social Mobility** (17/11)

Marglin, Jessica. "Modernizing Moroccan Jews: The AIU Alumni Association in Tangier, 1893—1913." *The Jewish Quarterly Review* 101.4 (2011): 574-603.

Boum, Aomar. "Schooling in the Bled: Jewish Education and the Alliance Israélite Universelle in Southern Rural Morocco, 1830-1962." *Journal of Jewish identities* 3.1 (2010): 1-24.

5. **Between National Movements** (24/11)

Ben-Layashi, Samir, and Bruce Maddy-Weitzman. "Myth, History and Realpolitik: Morocco and its Jewish Community." *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies* 9.1 (2010): 89-106

Laskier, Michael M. *North African Jewry in the Twentieth Century: The Jews of Morocco, Tunisia, and Algeria*. New York, USA: New York University Press, 1997, 84-114.

Section 2: Why Did the Jews Leave?

6. **Migration Prior to 1948** (1/12)

Gilson Miller, Susan. "Kippur on the Amazon: Jewish Emigration from Northern Morocco in the late Nineteenth Century" in: Harvey E. Goldberg (ed.), *Sephardi and Middle Eastern Jewries: history and Culture in the Modern Era*. Bloomington Indianapolis, Indiana University Press, 1996, 190-209.

Ben Ya'akov, Michal. "'Aliyah' in the Lives of North African Jewish Widows: Realization of a Dream or Solution to a Problem?." *Nashim: A Journal of Jewish Women's Studies & Gender Issues* 8 (2004): 5-24.

Ben Ya'akov, Michal. "Traveling between Place and Faith." In: *Jews and Muslims in Morocco Their Intersecting Worlds*. Joseph Chetrit; Jane S. Gerber and Drora Arussy (eds.) Lexington Books, 2021, 315-336.

7. Post-1948 Migration (8/12)

Baida, Jamaâ. "The Emigration of Morocco Jews, 1948-1956" in *Jewish Culture and Society in North Africa*, edited by Emily Benichou Gottreich, and J. Schroeter Daniel. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1998, 326- 330.

Moreno, Aviad. "Beyond the Nation-State: A Network Analysis Of Jewish Emigration From Northern Morocco To Israel," *International Journal of Middle East Studies* 52, no. 1 (2020): 1-21.

Bin-Nun, Yigal. "The Disputes Regarding the Jewish emigration from Morocco 1956-1961." *Jews and Muslims in the Islamic World* (2013): 51-99.

Section 3: Morccans in Israel

8. Israeli Policies (15/12)

Khazzoom, Aziza. "Residential Segregation and Economic Isolation: The Moroccan Paradox," in A. Khazzoom, *Shifting Ethnic Boundaries and Inequality in Israel; Or, How the Polish Peddler Became a German Intellectual* (California, 2008), 162-182.

Picard, Avi. "Building the Country or Rescuing the People: Ben-Gurion's Attitude towards Mass Jewish Immigration to Israel in the Mid-1950s." *Middle Eastern Studies* 54.3 (2018): 382-399.

9. The "Moroccan Problem," Or the problem with streotypes (22/12)

Levy, André. "Happy Mimouna: On a Mechanism for Marginalizing Moroccan Israelis," *Israel Studies*, vol. 23, no. 2, (2018): 1-24.

Tsur, Yaron. "Carnival fears: Moroccan immigrants and the ethnic problem in the young state of Israel." *Journal of Israeli History* 18.1 (1997): 73-103

10. Social Protests and Cultural Responses (29/12)

Frankel, O. "What's in a Name? The Black Panthers in Israel," *The Sixties*, 1.1 (2008): 9-26.

Ouaknine-Yekutieli, Orit and Nizri, Yigal, S. "'My Heart is in the Maghrib': Aspects of Cultural Revival of the Moroccan Diaspora in Israel," *Hespéris Tamuda* 51(3)(2016): 165-194.

Sibony, Jonas. "Moroccan Arabic and Jewish-Arabic in Hebrew as Spoken by Israelis of Moroccan Origin: The Case of the TV Show Zaguri Imperya," *Yod. Revue des études hébraïques et juives* 23 (2021): 131-148.

11. Israel and the New Moroccan Diaspora (5/1)

Rosen-Lapidot, Efrat, and Harvey E. Goldberg. "The Triple Loci of Jewish-Maghribi Ethnicity: Voluntary Associations in Israel and in France." *The Journal of North African Studies* 18.1 (2013): 112-130.

Moreno, Aviad. "The Ingathering of the Jewish (Moroccan) diaspora: Zionism and Global Hometown Awareness among Spanish-Moroccan Jews in Israel." *European Judaism* 52.2 (2019): 143-155.

12. Morocco and the New Jewish Diapora (13/1)

Sekkat, Hanane. "Jewish Tourism in Morocco: Hilloulot as a Case Study." *European Judaism*, vol. 52, no. 2, autumn 2019, pp. 156+. *Gale Academic OneFile*, link.gale.com/apps/doc/A606751330/AONE?u=bengurion&sid=bookmark-AONE&xid=7b1eff5b. Accessed 20 July 2022.

Bahmad, Jamal. "Jerusalem Blues: On the Uses of Affect and Silence in Kamal Hachkar's *Tinghir-Jérusalem: Les échos du Mellah* (2012)." *Jewish-Muslim Interactions: Performing Cultures Between North Africa and France* 11 (2020): 223.

13. Course Summary (19/1)

Tessler, Mark. "The Protection of Minorities in The Middle East: The Jews in Tunisia and Morocco and The Arabs in Israel," *Religious Minorities in Non-Secular Middle Eastern and North African States*. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham, 2020, 97-130.