

MEDIEVAL MUSLIMS, CHRISTINAS AND JEWS in CONVERSATION:

Semester No 5	Code HU-314	Credit Hours 3-0
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COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To evaluate the many identities of the peninsula known as Christian Hispania, Jewish Sefarad, and Islamic al-Andalus. To trace the origins and trajectory of conflict between these communities (the Muslim conquest of Spain, Christian Reconquista, prohibitions blocking intermixing of peoples, and expulsions).
2. To understand conflicts within communities as well, such as the tensions between Christian Arian Visigoths and native Catholic Iberians or the fundamentalist North African Almohad Dynasty that rejected the Spanish Umayyad Caliphate's preference for religious tolerance.
3. To delve into an appreciation of collaboration and coexistence among these communities.
4. To explore the history of how peoples attempted to create and manage viable diverse communities.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Understand the outlines of the political, cultural, and religious history of medieval Spain
2. Grasp the complexity of relations between Muslims, Christians, and Jews in medieval Spain
3. Appreciate the ways this history reflects broader trends and shapes the present
4. Hone the skills of thinking critically, analyzing historical sources, and engaging in productive conversations
5. Hone the skills involved in writing a research paper

PRESCRIBED TEXT:

1. Jews, Christians and Muslims in Medieval and Early Modern Times: A Festschrift in Honor of Mark R. Cohen. Edited by Marina Rustow, Arnold Franklin, Roxani Margariti, Uriel Simonsohn . 2014.
2. Olivia Remie Constable, ed., *Medieval Iberia: Readings from Christian, Muslim, and Jewish Sources*, Second Edition (Philadelphia, 2011). ISBN: 0812221680

PREREQUISITE: NIL

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course explores the intertwined histories of Muslims, Christians, and Jews in medieval Spain. It examines the emergence of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam in Antiquity and the early Middle Ages, initial encounters and shifting relationships between Jews, Christians, and Muslims in Spain, cultural crossinfluence and religious conversion between these groups, and the expulsions of Jews and Moriscos from Spain in the late fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The course also explores modern legacies of this history and addresses broader questions about the fruits and challenges of cultural pluralism and the causes and consequences of cultural intolerance. How members of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim communities thought of and interacted with members of the other two cultures during the Middle Ages. Cultural grids and expectations each imposed on the other; the rhetoric of otherness—humans or devils, purity or impurity, and animal imagery; and models of religious community and power in dealing with the other when confronted with cultural differences. Participants will have the extraordinary opportunity to **travel to Spain** before final final exams to visit the places they will have studied. Details about the trip will be available from the office of internationalization.



ASSESSMENT SYSTEM:

Quizzes	15%
Assignments	20%
Mid Term/ Term Paper	25%
ESE	40%

Weekly breakdown of course contents is as follows:

WEEK	TOPICS	QUIZZES	ASSIGNMENTS
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✚ Introduction to course objectives, contents and policies.✚ Cultural Toleration in Context• A Brief History of the Iberian Peninsula, 711-1492✚ Jewish-Arabic Relations• A Historical Perspective		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In Iberia• Think about your paper topic and read:• Simon Barton, <i>A History of Spain</i>, "Origins," 113• Optional: Jean Dangler, "Edging toward Iberia," in <i>Diacritics</i> 36 (2006): 12-26		

2-4	<p>🚩 Arabic Immigration to Iberia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Norms of Muslim al-Andalus • Cities of al-Andalus • Religious Codes and Policy 🚩 <p>The Visigoths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian Catlos, "The Beginning of Islam," in <i>Kingdoms of Faith</i>, 9-18 (Canvas) • Primary source: The Pact of Umar (Constable, doc. 7) <p>🚩 Optional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gordon D. Newby, "The Jews of Arabia at the Birth of Islam," in <i>A History of Jewish-Muslim Relations</i>, 29-51 • Mark R. Cohen, "Islamic Policy toward Jews from the Prophet Muhammad to the Pact of Umar," in <i>A History of Jewish-Muslim Relations</i>, 58-71 • For quiz due next week read the following: • Simon Barton, <i>A History of Spain</i>, "The Umayyad Emirate," 27-31 (Canvas) 🚩 <p>Primary sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treaty of Tudmir (Constable, doc. 8) • The Martyrs of Córdoba (Constable, doc. 12B) <p>🚩 Optional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessica Coope, "Religious and Cultural Conversion to Islam in Ninth-Century Umayyad Córdoba," <i>Journal of World History</i> 4 (1993): 47-68 • Janina Safran, "Society in Transition," in <i>Defining Boundaries in al-Andalus</i>, 81-124 		01
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5-6	<p>🚩 Muslims and Christians in the Umayyad Emirate of Córdoba</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For background: Simon Barton, <i>A History of Spain</i>, “The Other Spains,” 31-36 (Canvas) Primary sources: Christian resistance in the north (Constable, doc. 9) <p>🚩 Thurs, March 3. Rumbings of the “Reconquista”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simon Barton, <i>A History of Spain</i>, “The Caliphate of Córdoba,” 37-43 Ahmed Renima et al., “The Islamic Golden Age” <p>🚩 Primary sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the Campaigns and Diplomacy of ‘Abd alRahman III (Constable, doc. 14) Declaration of an Andalusī Caliphate (Constable, doc. 15) <p>🚩 Jews and Judaism in Late Antiquity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Riches, “The Birth of Christianity,” in <i>Early Christianity</i>, 28-39 <p>🚩 COMMUNITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How Mediterranean Was Goitein’s Mediterranean Society? Norman A. Stillman Aṣ ḥ ābunā al-tujjār—Our Associates, the Merchants: Non-Jewish Business Partners of the Cairo Geniza’s India Traders Roxani Eleni Margariti Pilgrimage and Charity in the Geniza Society Miriam Frenkel Poor Relief in Ottoman Jewish Communities Yaron Ayalon “What Sort of Sermon is This?”: Leadership, Resistance and Gender in a Communal Conflict Oded Zinger 	01	01
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why Did Medieval Northern French Jewry (Ṣ arfat) Disappear? Ivan G. Marcus 		
7-8	<p>🚩 The Emergence of Christianity</p>	01	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For background: Knut Schäferdiek, "Christian Mission and Expansion," in <i>Early Christianity</i>, 65-77 • Primary sources: Canons from the Council of Elvira, the Nicene Creed, Jews in Roman Law • Optional: Solomon Grayzel, "The Jews and Roman Law," <i>The Jewish Quarterly Review</i> 59 (1968): 93-117 <p>🚩 CONVERSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are Geonic Responsa a Reliable Source for the Study of Jewish Conversion to Islam? A Comparative Analysis of Legal Sources Uriel Simonsohn • What's in a Name? 'Abd Allāh b. Ishāq ibn alShanā'a al-Muslimānī al-Isrā'īlī and Conversion to Islam in Medieval Cordoba David J. Wasserstein • Jews among the Grandees of Ottoman Egypt Jane Hathaway • Remembrance and Oblivion of Religious Persecutions: On Sanctifying the Name of God (Qiddush ha-Shem) in Christian and Islamic Countries during the Middle Ages Menahem Ben-Sasson 		
9	Mid-Term		
10- 12	<p>🚩 Law and Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Muḥammadan Stipulations: Dhimmī Versions of the Pact of 'Umar Phillip I. Ackerman-Lieberman • Jews in Sharī'a Courts: A Family Dispute from the Cairo Geniza Jessica M. Marglin • Perception of Piracy in Islamic Sharī'a Hassan S. Khalilieh • Jew and Serf in Medieval France Revisited William Chester Jordan 	01	01

- Cleanliness and Convivencia: Jewish Bathing Culture in Medieval Spain Olivia Remie Constable

🚩 **The Conversos and the Spanish Inquisition**

- For Background: Renee Levine Melammed, *A Question of Identity: Iberian Conversos in Historical Perspective*, "The Expulsion and its Consequences," 1-19 🚩

Primary sources:

- Edict of expulsion of the Jews (Constable, doc. 85A)
- Jewish account of the expulsion (Constable, doc. 85B)
- Christian conquest of Granada (Constable, doc. 84A-C)

🚩 **Optional:** Edward Peters, "Jewish History and Gentile Memory: The Expulsion of 1492," *Jewish History* 9 (1995): 9-34

🚩 **The expulsion of the Jews in 1492** (Segovia Abraham Senneor house; Granada Royal Chapel

🚩 Helen Rawlings, "The Inquisition and the Morisco," in *The Spanish Inquisition*, 72-89 (🚩

Primary sources:

- The Christian Conquest of Granada

	<p>(Constable, doc. 84)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Expulsion of Muslims from Castile and Leon (Constable, doc. 88) 🚩 <p>Optional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mercedes García Arenal, "The Muslims of Valencia and their Children," in <i>Forced Conversion in Christianity, Judaism and Islam</i>, 354-81 • Mercedes García-Arenal, "The Converted Muslims of Spain: Morisco Cultural Resistance," in <i>Routledge Handbook of Islam in the West</i>, 38-52 • Isabelle Poutrin, "The Jewish Precedent in the Spanish Politics of Conversion of Muslims and Moriscos," <i>Journal of Levantine Studies</i> 6 (2016): 71-87 		
13-14	<p>Developing Dynamic Cultures: Islamic Al-Andalus & Jewish Sefarad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Architecture • Commerce and the Economy • Language and Education • Daily Life 	01	01

15-16	<p>✚ Letter Writing and Diplomatics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendship and Hierarchy: Rhetorical Stances in Geniza Mercantile Letters Jessica L. Goldberg • More than Words on a Page: Letters as Substitutes for an Absent Writer Arnold E. Franklin • The Diplomatics of Leadership: Administrative Documents in Hebrew Script from the Geniza Marina Rustow • Financial Troubles: A Mamluk Petition Petra M. Sijpesteijn • V. Hebrew and Judaeo-Arabic Literature • “’Az milifnei vereishit”: The Suffering Messiah in the Seventh Century Martha Himmelfarb • A Panegyric Qaṣ ṭida by Judah Halevi, Its Antecedent by Solomon Ibn Gabirol, and Its Afterlife Raymond P. Scheindlin • Hebrew Vestiges in Sa‘adya’s Tafsīr Sasson Somekh • Epilogue Natalie Zemon Davis <p>✚ The Moriscos</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For background: Matthew Carr, Chapter, in <i>Blood and Faith: The Purging of Muslim Spain, 1492-1614</i>, pages ✚ Primary sources: • Al-Hajari’s rendition of the 1609 edict expelling the Moriscos from Valencia (Canvas) 	01	01
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morisco Appeal to the Ottoman Sultan (Constable, doc. 89) <p>✚ Optional: Bernard Vincent, “The Geography of the Morisco Expulsion,” in <i>The Expulsion of the Moriscos</i>, 19-36</p>		
17	Revision		
18	END SEMESTER EXAMINATION		