

THE JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF AMERICA

GRADUATE AND RABBINICAL SCHOOLS

Spring 1985

Prof. David G. Roskies

Jew. Lit. 7519y From Qumran to the Kibbutz:  
Models of Jewish Community

Objectives: To study the real and ideal models of the Jewish community as they evolved from ancient times until the present.

Assignment: A major research paper on the community of the student's choice which will bring to bear the methods and materials covered in the course. In addition, each student will deliver a 15-minute lecture distilled from his/her research.

Jan. 17 The Ideal Community: Models of Utopia

Roskies

1. Gen. 1-3; Ezek. 40-47
2. B. Sanhedrin 17b-18a
3. The Letter of Eldad the Danite

Jan. 24 The Hellenistic Model and the Essenes

Shaye Cohen

1. Josephus, The Jewish War 2.8.2-13
2. Doron Mendels, "Hellenistic Utopia and the Essenes," Harvard Theological Review 72 (1979):207-222. (R)
3. Chaim Rabin, Qumran Studies, pp. 1-52 (BM 175 Q6 R3)

Jan. 31 The Making of the Medieval Community

Ivan Marcus

1. Ivan G. Marcus, "Jewish Minority Experience in Medieval Spain," Response 40 (Spring 1981): 59-71.
2. Idem, Piety and Society: The Jewish Pietists of Medieval Germany (Leiden, 1981), pp. 87-106.
3. Idem, "From Politics to Martyrdom," Prooftexts 2:1(1982): 40-52.

Feb. 7 A Tale of Two Ghettos

Roskies

1. Jane S. Gerber, Jewish Society in Fez 1450-1700 (Leiden, 1980), pp. 19, 40-77, 82, 107-112, 184-94 (DS 135 M85 F45 647)
2. Cecil Roth, Venice (Phila, 1930), chaps. 4-5. (DS 135 I85 V4 R6)
3. Louis Wirth, The Ghetto (Chicago, 1928), pp. 1-39 (R).

Feb. 14 The Folk Community

Roskies

- \*1. Jacob Katz, Tradition and Crisis: Jewish Society at the End of the Middle Ages (Schocken pb 1971), chaps. 9-13, 16-17.
- \*2. Diane K. Roskies & David G. Roskies, The Shtetl Book: An Introduction to East European Jewish Life and Lore (Ktav pb, 1979), pp. 4-30, 59-61, 125-33, 136-39, 181-208, 271-311.

- Feb. 21 Women and the Immigrant Jewish Community Paula Hyman
1. Michelle Zimbalist Rosaldo, "Women, Culture, & Society: A Theoretical Overview," in Women, Culture and Society, ed. Michelle Zimbalist Rosaldo & Louise Lamphere (Stanford, 1974), pp. 17-43 (R).
  2. Paula Hyman, "Immigrant Women and Consumer Protest: The New York City Kosher Meat Boycott of 1902," American Jewish History 70:1 (1980): 91-105.
  3. Jacob Katz, Tradition and Crisis, chaps. 14-15, 23-24.
- Feb. 28 Modern Jewish Quests for Community: The French, German and American Models Jack Wertheimer
1. Jack Wertheimer, "The Duisberg Affair: A Test Case in the Struggle for 'Conquest of the Communities,'" AJS Review 6 (1981): 185-206.
  2. Daniel J. Elazar, "The Development of the American Synagogue," Modern Judaism 4:3 (1984):255-73 (R). *xeroxed*
  3. Arthur A. Goren, New York Jews and the Quest for Community: The Kehillah Experiment, 1908-1922 (New York, 1970), chaps. 1-5, 10-11 (R).
  - ④ Yehudah Reinharz & Paul Mendes-Flohr, eds., The Jew in the Modern World: A Documentary History, section IX, documents no. 21, 23, 24, 27, 28.
- Mar. 14 The Landsmanshaft and the Jewish Center Hannah Kliger
- ① I.E. Rontch, "The Present State of the Landsmanschaften," The Jewish Social Service Quarterly 15:4 (1939): 360-78 (R).
  2. Helena Znaniecki Lopata, "The Function of Voluntary Associations in an Ethnic Community: 'Polonia,'" in Ernest Burgess & Donald Bogue, eds., Contributions to Urban Sociology (Chicago, 1964), pp. 117-37.
  3. Milton Doroshkin, Yiddish in America: Social and Cultural Foundations (New Jersey, 1969), chap. 8 (R).
  - ④ Jack Kugelmass, "Even Solomon Would Have Trouble: Storytelling in the South Bronx," Prooftexts 5:1 (1985).
- Mar. 28 The Countercommunity: Jewish Life in the Nazi Ghettos Roskies
1. Lucy S. Dawidowicz, The War Against the Jews 1933-1945 (New York, 1975), chaps. 11-13 (R).
  - \*② Idem, A Holocaust Reader (New York: Behrman House pb, 1967), pp. 179-225.
- Apr. 4 The Commune in Mass Society Roskies
- readings to be announced
- Apr. 18, 25 Student Presentations

Titles marked with an asterisk should be purchased and those marked with a call number or with an (R) have been placed on reserve. The rest of the readings will be distributed in xeroxed form.

### Bibliography

1. The basic overview on the subject of this course is Salo Baron's 3-volume study The Jewish Community: Its History and Structure to the American Revolution (1948). DS 124 B29. The bibliography and index in vol. 3 are particularly important.
2. A handy reference for independent research is Dennis E. Poplin, Communities: A Survey of Theories and Methods of Research (New York, 1979). HM 131 P67 1979. See, especially, "Research on Community Life," pp. 275-89.