

DOCTORAL SUBJECT SUB-UNIT

Subject name	Field of study (branch) code	Faculty	Department
Research on Eastern European Jewish History and Culture: Historiographical Paradigms and Theoretical Approaches	History and Archaeology H 005	Faculty of History	Department of Theory of History and History of Culture

Mode of study	Number of credits ECTS	Mode of study	Number of credits ECTS
lectures		consultations	2
individual	4	seminars	1,5

Total 7,5

Subject annotation
<p>Research on Jewish history in Eastern Europe is relatively recent, having begun in the 19th century, largely by self-taught cultural and intellectual scholars influenced by Jewish modernization and emancipation, who focused their efforts on writing large-scale global histories of the Jews and to a lesser extent on the study of specific issues or the collection and publication of primary sources. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, the first historiographical approaches and theoretical reflections began to emerge, requiring authors to decide how to present, systematize and interpret the history and culture of a diasporic people who had been without a state for several centuries, and who had been living in an atmosphere of anti-Judaism and anti-Semitism. These deliberations were influenced not only by the attitudes of the societies that welcomed the Jews but also by the active political and cultural movements of the Jews themselves (Zionism, Yiddishism, Bundism, etc.). The beginnings of modern professional analytical Jewish Studies can be traced back to the founding of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (1925) and the JIVO (<i>Jidišer vissenšaftlecher institut</i>), which started operating in Vilnius at the same time. The institutionalized study of Jewish history, especially in Central and Eastern Europe, took on a new quality, the range of problems discussed expanded, and the number of discussions about the relationship to Jewish history, its didactic significance for Jews themselves, and the contexts in which history should and could be presented increased. The first one to undertake a radical critique of the devaluation of the Jewish Middle Ages (before 1789) as a means to promote and justify emancipation was Salo Baron (<i>Ghetto and Emancipation // The Menorah Journal</i>, 1928), who stimulated the emergence of a critical approach to the existing paradigms in Jewish history. The Holocaust, and the historical reflection on its loss, trauma, and experience, became another radical turning point in the historiography of Jewish history. Not only did the Holocaust lead to the emergence of a distinct field of research, Holocaust studies, the intensification of research on the interwar situation in Europe and Jewish studies in general, but it also provided additional impetus for rethinking the history of earlier periods, which led to the establishment of the martyrological paradigm of Jewish history, which had been dominant for several decades. Emotionality and nostalgia have led to the emergence of new historiographical paradigms and, in the case of some phenomena, even myths. At the beginning of the 21st century, there was not only an intensification of research into the socio-cultural history of Jewish communities in different eras but also a Rethinking of post-Holocaust historiographical experiences.</p> <p>Objectives of the subject: 1) To identify the dominant historiographical paradigms of Jewish history in Eastern and Central Europe and their dynamics through the analysis of recent historiography; 2) To identify and discuss the genesis of the historiographical paradigms and the contexts and approaches to</p>

the presentation of Jewish history; 3) To compare the trends in Jewish studies in Lithuania with those prevailing in Central and Eastern Europe and, more broadly, in the global Jewish historiography; 4) To identify the historiographical contexts and approaches in which the history and culture of Lithuanian Jews from different periods are presented or studied, and what segments of it are highlighted in the works of Lithuanian and foreign scholars. 5) To identify the tactics used in the research of integrated and disintegrated Jewish history, the advantages and disadvantages of the approaches used in solving specific research problems; 6) To analyze and identify the most appropriate theoretical approaches to solving current research problems.

Key literature

1. Antony Polonsky, *The Jews in Poland and Russia*, vol. 1 (1350-1881), vol. 2 (1881-1914), vol. 3 (1914- 2008) Oxford: Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 2010 (t. 1 ir 2) , vol. 3 (2012)
2. Shaul Stampfer, *Families, Rabbis and Education: Traditional Jewish Society in Nineteenth-Century Eastern Europe*, Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 2010.
3. Ezra Mendelsohn, *The Jews of East Central Europe between the World Wars*, Indiana University: Bloomington 1983.
4. Salo Wittmayer Baron, *A Social and Religious History of the Jews*, vol. 16, Columbia University Press: New York 1976.
5. *Anti-Jewish Violence: Rethinking the Pogrom in East European History* by Jonathan Dekel-Chen, David Gaunt, Natan M. Meir, and Israel Bartal, Indiana University Press, 2010;
6. Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern, *The Golden Age Shtetl: A New History of Jewish Life in East Europe*, Princeton university press: 2014
7. Israel Bartal, *The Jews of Eastern Europe, 1772-1881*, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2005;
8. Moshe Rosman, *How Jewish is Jewish History?* Oxford: Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 2008;
9. *Rethinking European Jewish History* , eds. Jeremy Cohen & Moshe Rosman, Oxford: Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 2008;
10. Katz, Jacob, ed. *Toward Modernity: The European Jewish Model*. New Brunswick, N.J. Oxford, 1987;
11. Yosef Hayim Yerushalmi, *Zakhor: Jewish History and Jewish Memory*, 1996
12. Abram Leon, *The Jewish Question: A Marxist Interpretation*, 2020

Supervising lecturers' names and surnames	Academic degree	Major works in the field (branch) published in the recent 5 years
Jurgita Verbickienė	Dr., Professor	<p>The History of Jews in Lithuania. From the middle ages to the 1990s. eds. Darius Staliūnas, Vladas Sirutavičius, Jurgita Šiaučiūnaitė-Verbickienė. Brill/ Ferdinand Schoningh, 2020.</p> <p>Šiaučiūnaitė-Verbickienė J. (2018) Sources of the Eighteenth Century General Jewish Censuses of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and Their Applicability to Historical Demography Research. In: DellaPergola S., Rebhun U. (eds) <i>Jewish Population and Identity. Studies of Jews in Society</i>, vol 1. Springer, Cham, pp. 233-247 Print ISBN978-3-319-77445-9; DOI https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-77446-6_13; Online ISBN978-3-319-77446-6</p>

Šiaučiūnaitė-Verbickienė, Jurgita. Translations and self-representation: literature as a tool for a mutual Jewish-Lithuanian acquaintance // Jewish culture and history. Abingdon : Taylor & Francis (Routledge). ISSN 1462-169X. eISSN 2167-9428. 2017, Vol. 18, Iss. 2, p. 190-208. DOI: 10.1080/1462169X.2017.1328011.

Jurgita Šiaučiūnaitė-Verbickienė, “A Town After a Fire: Losses and Behaviour of Jewish Communities” in Social a Jurgita Šiaučiūnaitė-Verbickienė, “A Town After a Fire: Losses and Behaviour of Jewish Communities” in Social and Cultural Relations in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. Microhistories ed. By [Richard Butterwick](#), [Wioletta Pawlikowska](#), Routledge, 2019 (ISBN 9780367206666), p. 62-73

Jurgita Šiaučiūnaitė-Verbickienė, „The Creation and Administration of a Multi-Ethnic state: the case of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania“ in *Memories in Multi-Ethnic Societies. Cohesion in Multi-Ethnic Societies in Europe from c. 1000 to present*, I, ed. By P. Wiszewski, EARLY EUROPEAN RESEARCH, vol.15, Brepols publishers, 2020, p. 211-236

Approved by the Doctoral Committee of History and Archaeology
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Chair of the Doctoral Committee Prof. habil. dr. Tamara Bairašauskaitė