

Brief Course Outline

Course Title: **JEWISH HUMOUR: FROM BIBLE TO BORAT**

Course Number and Section:

JEWISH

2145F 550

Instructor Name(s): Dr. Tesler-Mabé

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Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

Course Description:

In this course we will test Rabbi Telushkin's hypothesis and attempt to discover what we can learn about Jewish culture via Jewish humour.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, students should be able to:
(1) Understand the history of Jewish influences in Western cultural comedy, and vice versa
(2) Describe the relationships of the Jewish textual traditions and comedy;
(3) analyse and discover the modes of interaction of antisemitism and assimilation in comedy;
(4) Discuss the ways in which Yiddishkeit (including Yiddish authors) founded the tropes of Jewish comedy;
(5) Contextualize the generational sociological attitudes (e.g., Great Generation, Boomers, Gen X , Millennials) of Western culture with Jewish life in the West in regard to Jewish comedy;
(6) Be able to analyse spoken and acted comedies for content.

Textbooks and Course Materials:

Rabbi Joseph Telushkin, Jewish Humor: What the Best Jewish Jokes Say About the Jews. (Any edition).

Methods Of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Class Attendance and Participation		10%
In-class Quizzes		15%

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Term Paper/Project Proposal	October 10	10%
Term Project	November 21	35%
Final Take Home Exam		30%

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.

Monday, September 16, 2024