

MOSSE/WEINSTEIN



CENTER FOR
JEWISH STUDIES

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GREENFIELD SUMMER INSTITUTE

“Jews in America”

THE GEORGE L. MOSSE/LAURENCE A. WEINSTEIN CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES

SIXTH ANNUAL GREENFIELD SUMMER INSTITUTE

“Jews in America”

JULY 10–15, 2005

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

MADISON, WISCONSIN

Whether you're an alum who wants to relive your college days, a friend of Jewish Studies who wants to share the excitement of Jewish learning, or just someone interested in studying Jewish ideas, history and culture, the George L. Mosse/Laurence A. Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies invites you to participate in an unforgettable week of summer fun and learning.

The Institute will offer five morning lectures focusing on commemorating the 350th anniversary of the arrival of Jews in America. The Center's faculty, all of them experts on subjects of history, literature and the arts, will provide new insights into and learned perspectives on the Jewish experience in the United States. Events and social activities round out the week, providing memorable opportunities to soak up the sights and sounds that make Madison in the summer a visitor's paradise.

We invite you to join us. Space is limited, so please register early. Registration deadline: June 10, 2005.

THE PROGRAM

SUNDAY, JULY 10

- 5–6 pm Registration
University Club, 803 State Street
Free Sunday parking located between the Red Gym and Memorial Union
- 6–9 pm Opening Dinner and Get-Acquainted and
Schmooze Time (no charge)
University Club
Hosted by the Center's Director, Steve Nadler

MONDAY, JULY 11

Unless noted otherwise, all events take place at the Pyle Center, 702 Langdon Street

- 9–10:30 am “Which Jews Came to the United States?
The European Background to Jewish
Emigration, 1492-2005”
*David Sorkin, Frances & Laurence Weinstein
Professor of European Jewish History*

Jews began coming to the New World with Columbus and they have been coming ever since. This lecture will survey the causes of emigration, the character of the immigrants and the nature of Jewish life in the New World, and especially America, from 1492 to the present. It will try to locate the immigration in relationship to the history of European Jewry, arguing that although Jewish life in the United States may appear to be exceptional, it in fact exemplified European patterns.

- 10:30 am BREAK
- 10:45–noon “New Yorkish: How Jews Shaped New York
(and vice versa)”
*Tony Michels, Mosse Professor of
American Jewish History*

This lecture will explore the idea of New York as a “Jewish city,” discussing the ways in which Jews shaped the culture, politics, and society of New York in the 20th century, and, in turn, of how New York cast a particular form of culture and identity on Jews, referred to by some Yiddish writers as “New Yorkish.”

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

- 1–2:30 pm “Dixieland Jews”
*Bobbie Malone, Director, Office of School Services,
Wisconsin Historical Society*

What brought Jews to the South before the snowbirds discovered Florida? What kind of culture did they shape for themselves and for their communities? What kind of tensions underlay their existence in a land bifurcated by race and heavily evangelical Protestant? These are some of the topics that this lecture will explore.

- 3 pm Small group meetings and/or Tours of State
Historical Society
- Evening FREE TIME

TUESDAY, JULY 12

- 9–10:30 am “Why American Jews Became Liberals”
*Tony Michels, Mosse Professor of
American Jewish History*

This lecture will discuss why most American Jews became liberals in the mid-20th century, how they merged Jewish identity with liberal politics, and how the more recent disenchantment with liberalism in the late 20th century emerged.

- 10:30 am BREAK
- 10:45–noon “Jewish Life at the UW Through Interactive
Historical Research (1896–1940)”
*Jonathan Pollack, PhD, UW, 2000
Lecturer in History at Madison Area Technical College*

In this presentation, participants will examine documents from the early years of the Jewish presence at the UW-Madison. As small groups discuss and report on the nature, purpose, and impact of their documents, together we will come to understand the Jewish experience on campus from a first-hand perspective.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

- 1:30–3 pm Roundtable: “Jewish Experiences at UW Since 1940”
Moderator: Jonathan Pollack
- Are you a Wisconsin alum? If so, bring your recollections to this interactive session. Building on the morning session's insights, we will follow the story of the Jewish experience at UW from your earliest memories toward the more recent past.
- 3:30–6 pm Tour of Jewish Sites in Madison
Guide: Jonathan Pollack
- 7–9 pm Yid Vicious Concert: Klezmer music at its finest!
Memorial Union Terrace

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

- 9–10:30 am “Arrival, Survival and Revival:
Jewish Literature in America”
*Dena Mandel, Lecturer,
Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies*

This lecture will address the state of contemporary American Jewish Literature given Irving Howe's proclamation that the era of American Jewish Literature ended with the assimilation of American Jews and the dwindling of any ongoing Jewish immigration to America. The lecture will examine why the “Howe Doctrine's” dire predictions of the demise of an identifiable American Jewish genre of literature failed to materialize. The participants will review the various strains of Jewish literature that not only survived the era of massive immigration but the reification of Jewish interests evident in contemporary American literature.

- 10:30 am BREAK

10:45–noon “Exiled in Madison: The Austrian-American Poet Felix Pollak”
Klaus Berghahn, Weinstein-Bascom Professor of German and Jewish History

Felix Pollak: Refugee. / He was born in Vienna. / He died in Auschwitz. / He is living in New York. These four statements characterize the exile experience of the poet Felix Pollak (1909–87). He barely escaped from Vienna after the Anschluss in 1938, arriving in Paris on his way to London and from there to New York with only ten dollars in his pocket. After these turbulent years, he finally settled down in Madison to work as a rare books librarian at Memorial Library, but the trauma of his survival and the loss of his family in the Holocaust overshadowed the rest of his life. Although many of his poems deal with the Holocaust, his exile existence, and his longing for Vienna, he did not consider himself a poet of the Holocaust; he wanted to be considered, aesthete that he was, simply as a poet. His poetry in both German and English became widely known, and he used both languages with ease and elegance.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30–2:30 pm “Becoming an American Composer: The Music of Aaron Copland and Leonard Bernstein”
Jeanne Swack, Professor in the School of Music

This lecture will provide an introduction to the music of two first-generation American composers, Aaron Copland and Leonard Bernstein. Copland, at first a musical radical, developed a distinctive “American” sound and became essentially our “national” composer. Bernstein, as well-known as a brilliant conductor as he was a composer, composed an eclectic body of works, some of which drew on his Jewish roots.

3–4 pm “Oh, What a Time We Had...”
Les Thimmig, Professor in the School of Music

Zeyde and Bubbe went to the Catskills. Mom and Dad followed with the kids, thinking it would never end. But it did.... Les was there every summer throughout the '60s, the decade that saw the Borscht Belt prosper in full bloom. And yet, it also was the decade of the beginning of its demise. Les will focus on this summertime culture of New York Jews, and will discuss some of the factors that caused it to all but disappear.

4–5 pm Time for small groups to gather

7 pm An evening at the Concerts on the Square

Enjoy Madison's historic state Capitol as you listen to a concert of pop music by the Madison Chamber Orchestra. Get a spot early for optimum musical enjoyment.

THURSDAY, JULY 14

9–10:30 am “Yiddish Language in America”
Mark Loudon, Professor of German, Co-director of Max Kade Institute

In this lecture we will explore the ways in which Yiddish, beyond giving us words like “bagel,” “kosher,” “kibbitz,” and “glitch,” has enriched American English over the last century. We will also consider how English has affected the Yiddish spoken in America. Both

Yiddish and English have long traditions of borrowing words and expressions from other languages, owing to the multi-cultural settings in which speakers of these languages have found themselves. Examples will be presented from both written and audio sources, including radio broadcasts, and popular and folk music.

10:30 am BREAK

10:45–noon “Yiddish in Milwaukee: The Milvoker Vokhenblat”
Mark Loudon, Professor of German, Co-director of Max Kade Institute

One of the best ways to learn about everyday community life is to read local newspapers. In this lecture we will look at aspects of the history of Jewish life in Milwaukee as presented in the pages of the long-running Yiddish-language newspaper, the *Milvoker Vokhenblat*. We will look at news articles, editorials, and advertisements for insights into the ways that newcomers became acculturated and how established community members preserved their heritage.

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

1:30–2:30 pm “Yiddish Theatre: Perhif Players in Milwaukee”
Paul Melrood

This lecture will include information about Yiddish Theatre in the U.S. during the Golden Years — of the '30s, '40s, '50s, and '60s.

3 pm Screening of *Yidl in the Middle*

Growing up “different” in America, filmmaker Marlene Booth probes her Iowa-Jewish roots. A compelling film, sure to provoke discussion.

7 pm “Jews and American Popular Music”
A Concert by Ben Sidran
Play Circle — Memorial Union

FRIDAY, JULY 15

9–10:30 am “The Other Side of the Lower East Side: Radical Jewish Culture, 1995–2005”
Sara Guyer, Assistant Professor, Department of English

Over the past 10 years a new Jewish avant-garde has emerged on New York's Lower East Side. John Zorn's record label “Tzadik” is one of the key sites of this movement. This lecture will give an overview of what Zorn calls “Radical Jewish Culture” and assess its implications for contemporary Jewish identity.

10:30 am BREAK

10:45–noon “Articulating Modernism: Clement Greenberg, Harold Rosenberg and Post-War Jewish Artists Remake American Visual Culture.”
Doug Rosenberg, Professor, Dance Program

Many of the most important voices in post-war American art were Jewish immigrants or sons and daughters of displaced European Jewish families. This lecture examines their contribution to the creation of modern art and art theory in a historical perspective.

Noon–2 pm Farewell luncheon (no charge)
On Wisconsin Room — Red Gym
716 Langdon Street

REGISTRATION & INFORMATION



Fees

The fee for the Greenfield Summer Institute is \$150. This covers classes and selected meals.

Optional Events

- An evening of klezmer music by Yid Vicious on Memorial Union Terrace
- Afternoon lectures and films
- A tour of Jewish sites in Madison
- Concert on the Square
- Ben Sidran concert

Parking

Parking is available close to the Pyle Center classrooms and will cost \$9/day for the duration of the program. Application forms will be sent to you upon request.

Lodging

The Institute has reserved rooms at several nearby hotels/motels. Once you have registered, information will be sent to you. For more information about Madison, please contact:

The Greater Madison Convention and Visitors Bureau

615 East Washington Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
(800) 373-6376
fax (608) 258-4950
E-mail: gmcvb@visitmadison.com

The Greenfield Summer Institute, "Jews in America" is co-sponsored by the George L. Mosse/Laurence A. Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies and the Department of Hebrew and Semitic Studies. It is funded through the generosity of Larry and Roslyn Greenfield and the Ettinger Family Foundation.

For more information, contact the Center at (608) 265-4763, Monday-Thursday, from 8am to 5pm CST.

JEWISH STUDIES GREENFIELD SUMMER INSTITUTE

JULY 10-15, 2005

NAME	<input type="text"/>	ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>
CITY	<input type="text"/>	STATE	<input type="text"/> ZIP
TELEPHONE	<input type="text"/>	EMAIL	<input type="text"/>

- Please register me for the Greenfield Summer Institute, \$150.
- I also need information on a parking permit.
- I plan to attend the opening dinner.
- I plan to attend the Yid Vicious concert.
- I am interested in the Tuesday afternoon tours.
- I plan to attend the farewell luncheon.
- Enclosed is my check, made payable to: *UW-Madison/CJS*

Return before June 10 to:

The George L. Mosse/Laurence A. Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies

308 Ingraham Hall
1155 Observatory Drive
Madison, Wisconsin 53706-1319
Telephone: (608) 265-4763
Fax: (608) 265-8110

Once your registration has been received, information about the lectures, housing, and parking will be sent to you.