

COURSE DETAIL

AFTER NAZISM - THE PHILOSOPHY OF IDENTITY AND THE JEWISH CONFLICT WITH THE WEST

Country

Israel

Host Institution

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Program(s)

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Philosophy

UCEAP Course Number

105

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

AFTER NAZISM - THE PHILOSOPHY OF IDENTITY AND THE JEWISH CONFLICT WITH THE WEST

UCEAP Transcript Title

AFTER NAZISM

UCEAP Quarter Units

4.50

UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

After the Holocaust it perhaps appeared that an age old conflict between Judaism and Western Civilization had finally come to an end. Indeed, since 1945 Jewish life in Israel and in the Diaspora has relied on the "values and interests" that the Jewish People seems to share with the principles of Liberal Democracy that defeated Nazism in WWII. Despite this alliance (which has its roots in the humanism of the Enlightenment), the relationship between Jewish identity and the Western values of Liberal Democracy still seems complicated. Our hypothesis in this course is that modern Anti-Semitism, anti-Semitic anti-Zionism and even assimilation are products of an identity based conflict that has yet to be resolved and whose sources we shall try to trace by analyzing some key differences between Jewish and Western philosophies of identity. The course focuses on the connection between Heidegger's Being and Time (1927) and his membership in the Nazi party. The course examines the relative impact of Heidegger's Nazism on Deconstruction considering the relative impact of Heidegger and Wittgenstein on the post-modern philosophy of Derrida and Foucault. The course concludes by drawing upon this analysis to offer a fresh portrayal of the meaning of identity in the writings of Jewish thinkers such as the Ba'al Hatanya, Nefesh Hachayim, Rav Kook and Buber.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

48135

Host Institution Course Title

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Host Institution Campus

Host Institution Faculty

Rothberg International School, Division of Undergraduate Studies

Host Institution Degree**Host Institution Department**

Philosophy

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