

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM @ UD

### From the Director

This semester has seen the Jewish Studies Program continue to grow in numbers of students and attract innovative scholars to campus who have enriched the intellectual life of the university. On November 7, we hosted Professor David Engel of New York University for a fascinating lecture about the 1926 Paris Trial of Sholem Shwartzbard. On December 1, the award-winning author and journalist Adam Hochschild spoke to more than sixty students in the Comparative Genocide course (HIST/JWST250) about his book *King Leopold's Ghost*, a history of Belgian imperial rule in the Congo from 1880 to 1920, which resulted in the deaths of nearly ten million people under conditions of slave labor.

We have several new courses planned for Spring 2017. We will offer our one-unit Spring Lecture Series course (JWST201), on the theme "Crossing Boundaries in Jewish History." This lecture series will explore the idea of both symbolic and literal boundaries in Jewish life, featuring speakers on religious conver-



sion, emigration, technological innovations, state-building in modern Israel, and the creation of global trade networks among Jews.

Along with our usual offering

of spring semester courses in Hebrew language, Biblical Literature, and the Holocaust, we will offer three new Jewish Studies courses in Spring 2017: Dr. Roger Horowitz will teach "Jews and Food" (HIST/JWST327); Dr. Leslie Reidel will teach Jews in American Pop Culture" (THEA/JWST212); and I will teach "Jewish Life before the Holocaust," a history of Jews in Europe from the French Revolution to the Second World War (HIST339).

We also have several exciting speakers planned for the

spring, including Dr. Raz Segal of Stockton University, who will speak about his new book *Genocide in the Carpathians*; and the writer and artist Alan Kaufman, whose papers are housed in UD's Special Collections and constitute a valuable collection of modern Jewish art and literature.

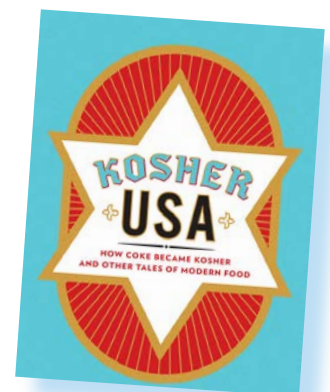
Please read on to learn more about the recent accomplishments of our students and faculty, as well as our upcoming courses and featured Special Collections materials.

—Polly Zavadviker

### A Conversation With Roger Horowitz

For the Spring 2017 semester, the Jewish Studies Program is very excited to have Roger Horowitz teaching a brand new course, HIST/JWST327: Jews & Food: How food, kosher law, and cuisines from around the world have sustained the Jewish people for more than 3,000 years. He released a new book in April 2016, entitled *Kosher USA: How Coke Became Kosher and Other Tales of Modern Food* (Columbia University Press). This

book examines kosher food in the modern industrial food system. Topics covered in this book include the attempts of major brands to become kosher, the debates among rabbis regarding incorporation of modern science in Jewish Law, and the reception of these kosher products by non-Jewish consumers. The class for the spring has already proven to be an in-demand course, as very few open seats remain.



Inside, Roger Horowitz shares insight into his book and new course.

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*Continued from front page*

**Q: What inspired you to write a book about the history of kosher food in the United States?**

It began with a question from my Uncle Stuart, my mother's brother, who read my last book, *Putting Meat on the American Table*, and asked what had happened to kosher meat, since I didn't discuss it. This question came after a party that was the last time I saw him, and came through my mother, not to me directly; he died shortly after so I never had a chance to talk with him about it. And I really didn't know the answer, either. Stu's question really had a statement inside of it – how could a book about meat in America ignore kosher food, and why did I, as a Jew who had grown up in a kosher household, not inquire into it? But these assertions really lead to a much bigger question – how could a practice rooted in the ancient world and followed by a religious group that was

a tiny part of the world's population survive in the modern world? Or did it survive? So his question tugged at me both as a historian, and as a Jew – what had happened to these customs? How did religion fit with modernity, and in the quotidian practice of everyday eating? I ended up having to expand Uncle Stu's question to look at all kosher food, not just meat, as well as enlarge the information I looked into to include religious law, as well as the area that I knew best, the business and technology of the modern food system.

**Q: What mass produced kosher food is considered the most successful? The least successful?**

In the book I stress that the first true "crossover" kosher product, one that had wide appeal outside of Jewish consumers, was Manischewitz wine. I didn't plan to write about it at all. But everyone I talked to celebrated how

dry kosher wine now was an alternative to Manischewitz. That made me curious about what had happened to Manischewitz. So I looked into it and discovered that Manischewitz had been the first cross-over branded Jewish product, as early as 1950 over 80% of Manischewitz wine customers weren't Jewish. This is a half-century before modern kosher-certified processed food attracted non-Jewish consumers. The least successful is kosher beef. In the 1920s 25 percent of the cattle slaughtered for food in this country were killed in accordance with Jewish religious requirements. Today kosher killed cattle comprise but 1 percent of the beef slaughtered and eaten in this country. Kosher beef is very hard to obtain outside of large Jewish communities – just try to buy it in Newark! I'm not sure anyone sells it.

**Q: What will your approach be to teaching this course?**

I want students to think about how food becomes Jewish – that is, how it is that certain foods and practices, in different places and times, become part of Jewish identity. Part of that is looking at kosher requirements, of course – but that is only the beginning. As a people who have moved all over the globe, sometimes in search of opportunity, and too often involuntarily to escape oppression, Jewish food comprises an enormous variety of products and cuisines reflecting all the places where Jews have lived. The class will look at all that complexity, maybe leaving more questions than answers, but that is one of the characteristics of Judaism.

**Q: What do you hope students will gain from your course?**

A greater appreciation for Jewish history, as well as the enormous diversity of Jewish food practices. And if I can arrange it, to make some kosher Jewish dishes themselves.

*HIST/JWST327: Jews & Food is held Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:00 – 6:15 pm in Gore 114. The course will feature a guest lecture from author Ted Merwin on his award winning book Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli on Wednesday, April 26th from 5:00 – 6:15 pm in Memorial 127. This guest lecture is free and open to the public.*

## Jewish Studies at UD Special Collections

### The Numbers: Fifty Years of Silence

**B** 11226 and 7115 are the numbers tattooed on the arms of Holocaust survivors Eva and Eugene Kellner, parents of Tatana Kellner, a visual artist whose prints, photographs, and installations often evoke memory and loss. Tatana Kellner preserved the stories of her parents' internment in concentration camps and survival in two poignant volumes that are part of the extensive artists' books collection in Special Collections at Morris Library. The artist made flesh-colored paper molds of her parents' arms, each with a tattoo. The arms protrude through die-cut and silk-screened pages that share her parents' memories printed

over contemporary and historical photographs of concentration camps, contrasting these memory texts and internment images with family photographs. The oversize volumes are housed in wooden crate-like cases; the family breaks fifty years of silence through these artist books.

Tatana Kellner emigrated with her family from Eastern Europe to Toledo, Ohio in 1969 and studied painting at the University of Toledo before receiving her MFA in printmaking and photo-etching at Rochester Institute of Technology. Her work is deeply rooted in social issues, printmaking, and layered meaning. Kellner is a founding member (1974) and artistic director of the Women's Studio Workshop

in Rosendale, New York, which helps artists create and publish limited editions of artists' books.

More information about Tatana Kellner is available at [www.tatanakellner.com](http://www.tatanakellner.com)

These two books are available in Special Collections at the University of Delaware Library.

Kellner, T., & Kellner, E. (1992). 71125, fifty years of silence: Eva Kellner's story. Rosendale, N.Y.: Women's Studio Workshop. Number 25 of 40 copies.

Kellner, T., & Kellner, E. (1992). B 11226, fifty years of silence: Eugene Kellner's story. Rosendale, N.Y.: Women's Studio Workshop. Number 37 of 50 copies.



Jane Klinger inspecting moving image film by Claude Lanzmann; outtakes from his film Shoah. (Photograph courtesy of USHMM)

Below, we asked Jane E. Klinger, Chief Conservator of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and current University of Delaware Ph.D. student in the department of Art Conservation, to provide feedback on Tatana Kellner's books.

The artist's two books comprising *The Numbers: Fifty Years of Silence* express the stories of the Tatana Kellner's parents as Holocaust survivors. They serve as memorial books which recount both the experiences and their impact in words and images. The molds of her parents' arms with their tattooed numbers are ever-present physical reminders, in spite of the decades of silence. In the artworks is an interplay between materiality and memory, history and individual experience. Memory is made material in the books; and, the individual experience is made an agent of history. Holocaust memorial books, also known as Yizkor Books, chronicle the lives of Jewish communities destroyed during the Holocaust. Here, the books are used to chronicle the lives of two survivors who forever carry that painful history.



## Student Spotlight: Ori Zaff

Ori Zaff is a junior honors student, with majors in Cognitive Science and Psychology and minors in Jewish Studies and Interactive Media. He is active on campus with Israel U, and has been a Chemistry TA and research



assistant at the Child's Play Learning and Development Lab in the past. Additionally, he was a research assistant at the Shoah Learning Lab at Columbia University. Ori has worked with such organizations as CAMERA: Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America and AIPAC: The American Israel Public Affairs Committee and has produced videos with the Video Activism program in Jerusalem through Onwards Israel. He will be studying abroad in Copenhagen during the spring semester.

Below, Ori explains why he chose the University of Delaware and the Jewish Studies minor:

"One of the major factors in my decision to come to UD was the flourishing and rapidly expanding Jewish community. I selected the Jewish Studies minor in the hopes of taking advantage of the resources this university offered to learn more about my culture's history. I've been able to apply my knowledge at Israel leadership conferences and activism events, as well as in conversation at the Seder table. In my position as president of Israel U, the knowledge I gained made me feel more capable in my leadership."



**HIST339: JEWISH LIFE BEFORE THE HOLOCAUST**  
MWF 12:20–1:10 • Gore 308 • Polly Zavadivker

## Spring 2017 Highlights

### New Courses

We are excited to announce that three new courses will be offered for the Spring 2017 semester. All of these courses count toward the Jewish Studies minor.

• **THEA/JWST212: JEWS AND AMERICAN POP CULTURE**

• **HIST/JWST327: JEWS AND FOOD**

• **HIST339: JEWISH LIFE BEFORE THE HOLOCAUST**

### Featured Course

**JWST201: ISSUES AND IDEAS IN JEWISH STUDIES**

1 credit, W 12:20–1:10

The theme for this semester is Crossing Boundaries in Jewish History. Join us for a different speaker each week to learn more about Jewish communities throughout history. Learn more about such topics as:

- Railways in Israel: Past, Present, and Future
- Philadelphia's Colonial Jewish Merchants on the Frontier
- Jewish identity in German Romanticism
- Crossing Borders in the Hebrew Bible

This lecture series is free and open to the public.

## David Engel Lecture

On November 7, the Jewish Studies Program, along with the European Studies Program, Department of History, and the Delaware Valley Learning Institute at the Siegel JCC, welcomed Dr. David Engel from New York University to campus to deliver a lecture entitled, "The Assassination of Symon Petliura and the Trial of Scholem Schwarzbard, 1926-1927."

Dr. Engel is Greenberg Professor of Holocaust Studies, Professor and Chair of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, and Professor of History at NYU and a senior fellow of the Goldstein Goren Diaspora Research Center at Tel Aviv University. He has authored six books focusing on the history of twentieth century east European Jewry, the Holocaust, and modern Jewish historiography.

His lecture covered the complicated and multifaceted case from May 1926, when a Jewish émigré watchmaker from the Ukraine named Scholem Schwarzbard shot and killed the former president of the Ukrainian National Republic Symon Petliura in Paris. After seventeen months, Schwarzbard was exonerated of the charges, despite his confession.

Dr. Engel's research and lecture examined the assassination and trial, in which the murders of many thousands of Jews in Ukraine in 1919 became a central issue. This trial captured the attention of France, as well as the world, as the relations between Jews and Ukrainians, the two largest stateless national minorities, were led in new directions. Through the



examination of archival documents, as well as articles from the contemporary French, German, Ukrainian, Russian, Hebrew, Yiddish and American presses, Dr. Engel highlighted the different points of view on the case, while keeping them in their historical perspective.

## Spring 2017 Courses

### Hebrew Language

#### HEBR/JWST106: HEBREW II ELEMENTARY/INTERMEDIATE

MWF 1:25–2:15, T 2:00–3:15 • Eynat Gutman • [eynat@udel.edu](mailto:eynat@udel.edu)

This course is a continuation of Elementary Hebrew. Focus on increasing mastery of the basic skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing through texts, conversations and songs.

#### HEBR/JWST205: HEBREW CONVERSATION

MWF 2:30–3:20 • Eynat Gutman • [eynat@udel.edu](mailto:eynat@udel.edu)

Practical use of Hebrew by means of discussions and oral reports on a variety of topics including family, school and work life. Emphasis on improvement of conversational skills for social situations, as well as grammatical competence and reading comprehension through multicultural themes including the revival of the Hebrew language and various issues related to Hebrew culture.

### Literature & Culture

#### JWST201: ISSUES & IDEAS IN JEWISH STUDIES: CROSSING BOUNDARIES IN JEWISH HISTORY

W 12:20–1:10 • Hillary Neben • [hneben@udel.edu](mailto:hneben@udel.edu)

A forum for scholars to share their thoughts and research on the culture, literature and history of the Jewish people. Lecture topics range from historical reviews to contemporary issues.

#### ENGL/JWST202: BIBLICAL & CLASSICAL LITERATURE

MWF 9:05–9:55 • George Miller • [miller@udel.edu](mailto:miller@udel.edu)

*(Satisfies breadth requirement A • Satisfies University Multicultural Requirement)*

This course provides the opportunity to study Greek, Roman, and Biblical literatures, set in their mythical, historical and cultural contexts, introducing appropriate critical concepts.

#### THEA/JWST212: JEWS & AMERICAN POP CULTURE

TR 9:30–10:45 • Leslie Reidel • [lreidel@udel.edu](mailto:lreidel@udel.edu)

As the Jewish population of America grew rapidly during the early decades of the 20th century, Jews brought with them a rich and diverse tapestry of dramatic and theatrical modes. This course will examine the development of this extraordinary creative and commercial phenomenon.

#### LLCU/JWST335: ISRAELI LITERATURE

MWF 11:15 - 12:05 • Eynat Gutman • [eynat@udel.edu](mailto:eynat@udel.edu) • Satisfies University Multicultural Requirement

Through analysis of leading Israeli authors' literary works, this course explores major themes pertaining to Israeli society's contemporary character. Surveyed topics include Zionism and post-Zionism; Globalization; Jewish and Non-Jewish citizens of Israel; the Israeli military's influence on civilian life; personal trauma; terrorism and its effects on national life.

### Religion & Philosophy

#### PHIL204\*: WORLD RELIGIONS

MWF 10:10–11:00 • Alan Fox • [afox@udel.edu](mailto:afox@udel.edu)

This course examines the varieties of religious beliefs and practices from diverse cultures, including representative Asian and Western traditions, studied mainly in terms of their historical development and importance.

### History & Politics

#### HIST/JWST254: THE JEWISH HOLOCAUST 1933–1945

MWF 11:15–12:05 • Polly Zavadviker • [pollyz@udel.edu](mailto:pollyz@udel.edu)

Focuses on the infamous "Final Solution," with particular emphasis on the roots of Anti-Semitism, National Socialist policies and plans, ghetto and camp life, the Einsatzgruppen, resistance, the politics of rescue and the art and literature of the Holocaust.

#### HIST/JWST327: JEWS & FOOD

MW 5:00–6:15 • Roger Horowitz • [rh@udel.edu](mailto:rh@udel.edu)

This class explores the many foods associated with Jews, and the kosher laws governing what is acceptable for Jews. It will range widely over time and space, following the movement of Jews and changes in their foods from the ancient Middle East to modern America, including falafel, bagels, meat, and wine.

#### HIST339\*: JEWISH LIFE BEFORE THE HOLOCAUST

MWF 12:20–1:10 • Polly Zavadviker • [pollyz@udel.edu](mailto:pollyz@udel.edu)

This class explores the history of Jews in west and east Europe from the French Revolution to the rise of fascism. We will explore the diversity of Jewish life throughout Europe; and the question of how a period that began with the integration of Jews into European society in the late 18th century ended in genocide in the middle of the 20th century.

\*Classes not cross-listed, but counting toward Jewish Studies Minor

### THE JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM @ UD FALL 2016

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