

## **Antisemitism and Islamophobia: Origins and Contemporary Manifestations**

EUS3930/JST3930/SYA4930

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Office hours: T | 3 – 4 PM, W | 2 – 3 PM, R | 11 AM – 12 PM

### **Description**

This interdisciplinary course delves into the origins of antisemitism and Islamophobia, examining their intersections with religious, cultural, and political factors throughout history. Students will critically analyze case studies, scholarly literature, and primary sources to understand the complexities of these phenomena and their impact on individuals, communities, and societies. Topics covered include the role of ideology, media, and state policies in shaping attitudes towards Jewish and Muslim communities, as well as the implications for social cohesion, identity formation, and human rights. By the end of the course, students will gain a nuanced understanding of the historical legacies and contemporary dynamics of antisemitism and Islamophobia, equipping them with the analytical tools and critical perspectives necessary to engage with these issues in an informed and empathetic manner.

### **Class meeting times**

T | Period 5 – 6 (11:45 AM - 1:40 PM) and R | Period 6 (12:50 PM - 1:40 PM)

### **Content warning**

This class deals with difficult perspectives. Please be aware that students are required to read and engage with primary sources that are potentially offensive. All students are expected to help to create an atmosphere of mutual respect and sensitivity, so that our classroom can provide an open space for the critical and civil exchange of ideas.

## Course objectives

- creating an understanding for antisemitism and Islamophobia
- discovering historic trajectories
- engaging with primary sources

## Assessment

Students will be evaluated based on their attendance (10%), active engagement (10%), a class presentation (35%) and reflection papers (45%). This course does not include exams.

- *Attendance:* Students are permitted up to two unexcused absences throughout the semester; beyond this limit, unexcused absences will affect their attendance grade. Excused absences, which must be pre-approved by the instructor, do not impact the grade. However, it is important to consult with the instructor beforehand. Further details on the University of Florida's attendance policy can be found in the current Undergraduate Catalogue (<http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationattendance.html>). Students with two or fewer unexcused absences will receive 10 points for this item. Those who accumulate three unexcused absences will get 5 points for this component, while students with more than three unexcused absences will receive 0 points.
- *Active engagement:* Active participation in class discussions is vital for the success of our seminar. Students are expected to engage by sharing their opinions, asking questions, and contributing to discussions based on the assigned readings. To earn 10 points, students should participate in class discussions at least once a week. However, if a student misses participation in one week, they can still earn 7 points. Missing participation in two weeks will result in 5 points, but if a student does not participate for more than two weeks, they will receive 0 points for this component.
- *Class presentation:* Students are required to prepare a presentation and facilitate a follow-up discussion. Each week a different person will prepare a presentation with a discussion prompt related to that week's topic and readings. The presentation should take about 15-20 minutes. Presenters are encouraged to prepare a handout and/or slideshow. Presenters are encouraged to make use of the recommended readings for their presentations. Following the presentation, the presenting student(s) will facilitate a class discussion. Students can get up to 30 points for their presentation and 5 for the facilitation of the discussion. We are going to distribute the weeks among the students in the first class after add/drop week.
- *Reflection papers:* This class is divided into five sections. Students must submit three reflection papers throughout this class, choosing freely three out of the five sections to

discuss. The reflection papers should consist of 500 to 750 words excluding bibliography and submitted via Canvas (not as attachment). The papers should be related to at least one of the sections' readings. Ideally, the paper summarizes the authors' key points and offers a critical and/or personal reflection on them. Students may discuss a different topic, if it is approved by the instructor at least a week prior to the submission date. The submission deadline will be a week after the last class in the section. Students can get up to 15 points per submission. Submitting late work will be penalized 1 point per 12 hours. Essays not meeting the word count will be penalized 1 point per 50 words. Please note that a student cannot write their reflection paper on the same topic they did their class presentation on.

In addition, students will be able to earn additional points ('extra credits') throughout the semester by completing optional course-related assignments. The specifics of these opportunities will be clarified and communicated as the semester unfolds.

**Assessment for students who are taking this course in the EU studies minor as enhanced EU coursework:**

Students who are taking this course in the EU Studies minor as enhanced EU coursework will be evaluated based on their attendance (10%), active engagement (15%), a class presentation (30%), and a research paper (45%). All the previously mentioned criteria apply. However, instead of submitting three reflection papers, student in this category must write a 2,000-3,000-word (excluding references) research paper on an EU-related topic within the larger framework of this course. Please note that EU here stands for the European Union as an institution, rather than member states without context to the EU. Students need to contact the instructor in advance about their research paper. The deadline for submission is the last class in the semester.

**Grading scale**

A: 92-100 points

A-: 88-91

B+: 84-87

B: 80-83

B-: 77-79

C+: 74-76

C: 70-74

C-: 70-73

D+: 64-66

D: 60-63

F: 0-59

More information on grades and grading policies:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

### **Religious Observances Policy**

This course aims to be an inclusive learning community that supports students of all religious traditions. Please, let me know if your religious observances will conflict with class attendance. I will accommodate your religious observances. More information on the UF Religious Observances Policy: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/#religiousholidaystext>

### **Chosen Name and Gender Pronouns**

This course aims to be an inclusive learning community that supports students of all gender expressions and identities. Please tell me if you want to be addressed by a different name or use different pronouns than those listed elsewhere.

### **Readings**

There is no textbook for this course as the instructor wants to ensure that the high cost of instructional materials is not a burden to any student. All required readings are available online, the links are provided in the syllabus. Some of the readings are accessible only with a UF login. English translation will be provided at least a week ahead for non-English language primary sources. Students are encouraged to read the recommended readings to get a deeper understanding of the phenomena we are studying.

### **Changes to the syllabus**

Please note that the instructor reserves the right to make changes during the semester to the schedule, assigned readings or other aspects of the syllabus, if deemed necessary. No changes will be made to the grading scale.

## **READING LIST**

### **SECTION I: Introduction to antisemitism and Islamophobia**

## **Week 1: Introduction to prejudices and discrimination (Aug 22)**

### **Required readings**

#### *Primary sources*

- Perra, A. (2019). Brexit and the Politics of Islamophobia. Global Security Review. <https://globalsecurityreview.com/brexit-politics-islamophobia/>

#### *Secondary sources*

- Brownstein, M. (2019). "Implicit Bias". In Zalta, E. N. (ed.), The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy. <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2019/entries/implicit-bias/> Chapters 1, 2.
- Tajfel, H. (1970). Experiments in Intergroup Discrimination. Scientific American, 223(5), 96–103. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/24927662>

### **Recommended readings**

- Baer, M. D. (2013). An Enemy Old and New: The Dönme, Anti-Semitism, and Conspiracy Theories in the Ottoman Empire and Turkish Republic. The Jewish Quarterly Review, 103(4), 523–555. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43298763>
- Koenig, A. M., & Eagly, A. H. (2019). Typical Roles and Intergroup Relations Shape Stereotypes: How Understanding Social Structure Clarifies the Origins of Stereotype Content. Social Psychology Quarterly, 82(2), 205–230. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/48588787>
- Muirhead, R., and Rosenblum, N.L. (2019). A lot of people are saying: The new conspiracism and the assault on democracy. Princeton University Press. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctv941trn>
- Ortmann, S., & Heathershaw, J. (2012). Conspiracy Theories in the Post-Soviet Space. Russian Review, 71(4), 551–564. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/23263929>
- van Buuren, J. (2013). Holland's Own Kennedy Affair. Conspiracy Theories on the Murder of Pim Fortuyn. Historical Social Research / Historische Sozialforschung, 38(1 (143)), 257–285. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/23644500>

## **Week 2: Antisemitism: Origins in Ancient and Medieval Europe (Aug 27, 29)**

### **Required readings**

#### *Primary sources*

- Epistle to Diognetus. Chapters 1, 3, 4. <https://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/diognetus-lightfoot.html>

- Martin Luther. On the Jews and Their Lies. Excerpts. <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/martin-luther-quot-the-jews-and-their-lies-quot>

#### *Secondary sources*

- Leavy, S. A. (2006). "For Fear of the Jews": Origins of Anti-Judaism in Early Christianity. *American Imago*, 63(1), 57–79. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/26305293>
- Reinharz, J., Shavit, Y., & Engel, M. (2010). Antisemitism as an Incurable European Disease. In *Glorious, Accursed Europe* (pp. 86–99). Brandeis University Press. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctv1k03sqb.8>

#### **Recommended readings**

- Nirenberg, D. (2013). *Anti-Judaism: The Western Tradition*. W. W. Norton & Company.
- Teter, M. (2020). *Blood libel: On the trail of an antisemitic myth*. Harvard University Press.

### **Week 3: Antisemitism: The racialization of the 'Jew' in Modern Europe (Sep 3, 5)**

#### **Required readings**

##### *Primary sources*

- Hitler, A. (1942). Speech on the 19th anniversary of the 'Beer Hall Putsch. Jewish Virtual Library. <http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/adolf-hitler-speech-on-the-19th-anniversary-of-the-ldquo-beer-hall-putsch-rdquo-november-1942>
- Wagner, R. *Judaism in Music*. Chapters 1, 2, 3, 12. <https://archive.org/details/judaisminmusicda00wagn/>

##### *Secondary sources*

- Rose, P. L. (1990). The Genealogy of Modern Antisemitism: National Character, Race, and Revolution. In *German Question/Jewish Question: Revolutionary Antisemitism in Germany from Kant to Wagner* (pp. 3–22). Princeton University Press. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt7zth13.6>
- Woolf, J. R. (2012). The Devil's Hoofs: The Medieval Roots of The Protocols of the Elders of Zion. In R. Landes & S. T. Katz (Eds.), *The Paranoid Apocalypse: A Hundred-Year Retrospective on The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* (pp. 49–55). NYU Press. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt16gzpw0.6>

#### **Recommended readings**

- Cohn, N. (1966). *Warrant for genocide: The myth of the Jewish world-conspiracy and the protocols of the elders of Zion*. Harper & Row.

- Curtis, M. (2019). Antisemitism and European Football. *Antisemitism Studies*, 3(2), 273–290. <https://doi.org/10.2979/antistud.3.2.04>
- Hagemester, M. (2008). The Protocols of the Elders of Zion: Between History and Fiction. *New German Critique*, 103, 83–95. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/27669221>
- Hanebrink, P. (2018) *A Spectre Haunting Europe: The Myth of Judeo-Bolshevism*. Belknap Press of Harvard University Press.
- Mack, M. (2003). *German Idealism and the Jew: The Inner Anti-Semitism of Philosophy and German Jewish Responses*. The University of Chicago Press.
- Wistrich, R. S. (1995). Radical Antisemitism in France and Germany (1840-1880). *Modern Judaism*, 15(2), 109–135. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1396411>

#### **Week 4: Islamophobia: Origins in Medieval Europe (Sep 10, 12)**

##### **Required readings**

###### *Primary sources*

- Martin Luther. On War Against the Turk. Chapters “Islam – the faith of the Muslims,” “Islam denies Christ,” “Islam rules with arms,” “Islam despises women and marriage.” <http://www.lutherdansk.dk/On%20war%20against%20Islamic%20reign%20of%20terror/On%20war%20against%20Islamic%20reign%20of%20terror1.htm>

###### *Secondary sources*

- Green, T. H. (2015). The Historical Foundations of Islamophobia. In *The Fear of Islam: An Introduction to Islamophobia in the West* (pp. 35–66). 1517 Media. <https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctt12878h3.8>
- Skenderovic, D., & Späti, C. (2019). From Orientalism to Islamophobia: Reflections, Confirmations, and Reservations. *ReOrient*, 4(2), 130–143. <https://doi.org/10.13169/reorient.4.2.0130>

##### **Recommended readings**

- Karlsson, I. (2006). The Turk as a Threat and Europe’s “Other.” *International Issues & Slovak Foreign Policy Affairs*, 15(1), 62–72. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26590546>
- Lampert-Weissig, L. (2010). *The Dark Continent of Europe*. In *Medieval Literature and Postcolonial Studies* (pp. 108–150). Edinburgh University Press. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.3366/j.ctt1g0b3z0.10>
- Said, E. W. (1978). *Orientalism*. Vintage Books.

#### **Week 5: Islamophobia: The racialization of the ‘Muslim’ in Modern Europe (Sep 17, 19)**

## Required materials

### Primary sources

- Le-Pen, M. (2012). Talk to Al Jazeera. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iai4tZKuB7E>

### Secondary sources

- Cheng, J. E. (2015). Islamophobia, Muslimophobia or racism? Parliamentary discourses on Islam and Muslims in debates on the minaret ban in Switzerland. *Discourse & Society*, 26(5), 562–586. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26376401>
- Miera, F., & Pala, V. S. (2009). The construction of Islam as a public issue in western European countries through the prism of the Muhammad cartoons controversy: A comparison between France and Germany. *Ethnicities*, 9(3), 383–408. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/23889954>
- Vidra, Zs. (2017) *Dominant Islamophobic Narratives: Hungary*. Leeds, UK: Center for Ethnicity and Racism Studies. <https://cik.leeds.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/36/2017/07/2017.07.26-WS1-Hungary-Final.pdf>

## Recommended readings

- Abdelkader, E. (2017). A Comparative Analysis of European Islamophobia: France, UK, Germany, Netherlands and Sweden. *UCLA Journal of Islamic and Near Eastern Law*, 16(1). <https://escholarship.org/content/qt870099f4/qt870099f4.pdf>
- Kalmar, I. (2018) 'Islamophobia in the East the European Union: An Introduction', *Patterns of Prejudice* 52(5): 389–405. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/0031322X.2018.1512467>
- O'Donnell, S. J. (2018) 'Islamophobic Conspiracism and Neoliberal Subjectivity: The Inassimilable Society', *Patterns of Prejudice* 52(1):1–23. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/0031322X.2017.1414473>

## Section II: Antisemitism and Islamophobia in relation to each other

### **Week 6: Jews, Muslims in European secularism (Sep 24, 26)**

#### Required readings

#### Secondary sources

- Katz, E. B. (2015). Secular French Nationhood and Its Discontents: Jews as Muslims and Religion as Race in Occupied France. In A. Joskowitz & E. B. Katz (Eds.), *Secularism in Question: Jews and Judaism in Modern Times* (pp. 168–186). University of Pennsylvania Press. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt15vt8v2.11>



- Yurdakul, G. (2019). Jews, Muslims and the Ritual Male Circumcision Debate: Religious Diversity and Social Inclusion in Germany. In J.-J. Bock & S. Macdonald (Eds.), *Refugees Welcome?: Difference and Diversity in a Changing Germany* (1st ed., pp. 82–100). Berghahn Books. <https://doi.org/10.2307/j.ctv12pns28.8>

### Recommended readings

- Langer, A. (2019) “A barbaric, bloody act’ – The anti-circumcision polemics of the Enlightenment and its internalization by nineteenth-century German Jews.” *Body Politics* 7(11), pp. 55-74. <http://bodypolitics.de/de/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/ch04-langer.pdf>
- Langer, A. (2022). “The Protestant Spirit of the Berlin Neutrality Law: An Old-New Kulturkampf Against Religious Minorities in the Public Sphere.” *German Studies Review* 45(2), pp. 283–305. Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Nachmani, A. (2017). In the same boat: European opposition, Muslim migrants, impact on Jews. In *Haunted presents: Europeans, Muslim immigrants and the onus of European-Jewish histories* (pp. 115–165). Manchester University Press. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctv18b5pqh.9>
- Schirin Amir-Moazami. (2016). Investigating the Secular Body: The Politics of the Male Circumcision Debate in Germany. *ReOrient*, 1(2), 147–170. <https://doi.org/10.13169/reorient.1.2.0147>

## Week 7: Antisemitism and Islamophobia: Similarities and Differences (Oct 1, 3)

### Required readings

#### *Secondary sources*

- Hafez, F. (2019). From “Jewification” to “Islamization”: Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia in Austrian Politics Then and Now. *ReOrient*, 4(2), 197–220. <https://doi.org/10.13169/reorient.4.2.0197>
- Nasar Meer, & Tariq Modood. (2012). For “Jewish” Read “Muslim”? Islamophobia as a Form of Racialisation of Ethno-Religious Groups in Britain Today. *Islamophobia Studies Journal*, 1(1), 34–53. <https://doi.org/10.13169/islastudj.1.1.0034>
- Zia-Ebrahimi, R. (2018). When the Elders of Zion relocated to Eurabia: Conspiratorial racialization in antisemitism and Islamophobia. *Patterns of Prejudice*, 52(4), 314-337. [https://kclpure.kcl.ac.uk/portal/files/80805599/When\\_the\\_Elders\\_of\\_ZIA\\_EBRA\\_HIMI\\_Accepted1September2017\\_GREEN\\_AAM.pdf](https://kclpure.kcl.ac.uk/portal/files/80805599/When_the_Elders_of_ZIA_EBRA_HIMI_Accepted1September2017_GREEN_AAM.pdf)

### Recommended readings

- Bunzl, M. (2005). Between Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia: Some Thoughts on the New Europe. *American Ethnologist*, 32(4), 499–508. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/3805338>
- Dobkowski, M. (2015). Islamophobia and Anti-Semitism: Shared Prejudice or Singular Social Pathologies. *CrossCurrents*, 65(3), 321–333. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26605701>
- Katz, E. B. (2015). Shifting Hierarchies of Exclusion: Colonialism, Anti-Semitism, and Islamophobia in European History. *CrossCurrents*, 65(3), 357–370. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26605704>
- Schiffer, S., & Wagner, C. (2011). Anti-Semitism and Islamophobia - New Enemies, Old Patterns. *Race & Class*, 52(3), 77–84.

### Section III: Modern antisemitic and Islamophobic conspiracy myths

#### **Week 8: Code words, tropes, and dog-whistling as political strategies (Oct 8, 10)**

##### **Required readings**

##### *Secondary sources*

- Åkerlund, M. (2021). Dog whistling far-right code words: the case of 'culture enricher' on the Swedish web, *Information, Communication & Society*. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1369118X.2021.1889639>
- Anderson, L., & Barnes, M. (2022). "Hate Speech". In Zalta, E. N. (ed.), *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/spr2022/entries/hate-speech/> Chapters 1, 2, 3.
- Bracke, S., & Hernández Aguilar, L. M. (2021). Thinking Europe's "Muslim Question": On Trojan Horses and the Problematization of Muslims. *Critical Research on Religion*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/20503032211044430>

##### **Recommended readings**

- Haney López, I. (2014). *Dog whistle politics: How coded racial appeals have reinvented racism and wrecked the middle class*. Oxford University Press.
- Khoo, J. (2017). Code Words in Political Discourse. *Philosophical Topics*, 45(2), 33–64. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/26529437>
- O'Donnell, P. (2020). When Code Words aren't Coded. *Social Theory and Practice*, 46(4), 813–845. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/45302467>
- Wodak, R. (2015) *The Politics of Fear. What Right-Wing Discourses Mean*. SAGE.

#### **Week 9: The George Soros and QAnon conspiracy myths (Oct 15, 17)**

##### **Required readings**

### *Primary sources*

- Barker, T. (2020). Germany is losing the fight against QAnon. Foreign Policy. <https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/09/02/germany-is-losing-the-fight-against-qanon/>
- Orbán, V. (2018) 'Orbán Viktor's ceremonial speech on the 170th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution of 1848', Miniszterelnök.hu, 15 March 2018, [www.miniszterelnok.hu/orban-viktors-ceremonial-speech-on-the-170th-anniversary-of-the-hungarian-revolution-of-1848/](http://www.miniszterelnok.hu/orban-viktors-ceremonial-speech-on-the-170th-anniversary-of-the-hungarian-revolution-of-1848/)

### *Secondary sources*

- Labbe, C., Padovese, V., Richter, M. and Harling, A.-S. (2020). QAnon's deep state conspiracies spread to Europe. NewsGuard Technologies. <https://www.newsguardtech.com/special-reports/special-report-qanon/>
- Rathje, J. (2021). "Money Rules the World, but Who Rules the Money?" Antisemitism in post-Holocaust Conspiracy Ideologies. In A. Lange, K. Mayerhofer, D. Porat & L. Schiffman (Ed.), Volume 5 Confronting Antisemitism in Modern Media, the Legal and Political Worlds (pp. 45-68). De Gruyter. <https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110671964-005>

### **Recommended readings**

- Langer, A. (2021). The eternal George Soros: Rise of an antisemitic and Islamophobic conspiracy theory. In A. Önnersfors and A. Krouwel (eds), Europe: Continent of conspiracies: Conspiracy theories in and about Europe (pp. 163-183). Routledge. <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/edit/10.4324/9781003048640-9/eternal-george-soros-armin-langer>

## **Week 10: The Great Replacement/White Genocide myth (Oct 22, 24)**

### **Required readings**

#### *Primary sources*

- Bibliothèque de Renaud Camus (2021). Twitter thread. <https://twitter.com/LibrairieRCamus/status/1394631797070249987>
- Debomy, F. (2019). Alain Finkielkraut, Renaud Camus and the weight of words. Verso. <https://www.versobooks.com/blogs/4278-alain-finkielkraut-renaud-camus-and-the-weight-of-words>

#### *Secondary sources*

- Ekman, M. (2022). The great replacement: Strategic mainstreaming of far-right conspiracy claims. Convergence. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13548565221091983>

- Obaidi, M. & Kunst, J. & Ozer, Simon & Kimel, Sasha. (2021). The “Great Replacement” conspiracy: How the perceived ousting of Whites can evoke violent extremism and Islamophobia. *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*.  
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/13684302211028293>
- Nyysönen, H. (2019). Viktor Orbán’s Anti-Brussels Rhetoric in Hungary: Barely Able to Keep Europe Christian? In C. Rountree & F. Tilli (Eds.), *National Rhetorics in the Syrian Immigration Crisis: Victims, Frauds, and Floods* (pp. 97–124). Michigan State University Press. <https://doi.org/10.14321/j.ctvj7wpx.8>

### Recommended readings

- Dyck, K. (2019). “They’ll Take Away Our Birthrights”: How White-Power Musicians Instill Fear of White Extinction. In T. D. Boyce & W. M. Chunnu (Eds.), *Historicizing Fear: Ignorance, Vilification, and Othering* (pp. 73–87). University Press of Colorado.  
<http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctvwh8d12.7>

## Section IV: Antisemitic and Islamophobic speech and violence

### **Week 11: Islamophobic parties and movements (Oct 29, 31)**

#### Required readings

##### *Primary sources*

- Bachman, L., interview with R. Kassam (2016). Interview with PEGIDA Founder Lutz Bachmann. *Middle East Forum*. <https://www.meforum.org/5942/interview-lutz-bachmann>
- Connolly, K. (2015). Pegida: what does the German far-right movement actually stand for? *The Guardian*.  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/shortcuts/2015/jan/06/pegida-what-does-german-far-right-movement-actually-stand-for>

##### *Secondary sources*

- Forlenza, R., and Turner, B. S. (2018). Das Abendland: The politics of Europe’s religious borders. *Critical Research on Religion*, 1–18.  
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2050303218774891>
- Gür-Şeker, D. (2018). Pegida as Angstneurotiker: A Linguistic Analysis of Concepts of Fear in Right-wing Populist Discourses in German Online Media. In *A Poetics of Neurosis: Narratives of Normalcy and Disorder in Cultural and Literary Texts*, ed. E. Furlanetto, D. Meinel (pp. 115–136). Transcript. <https://www.transcript-open.de/doi/10.14361/9783839441329-007>

- Kallis, A. (2015). Islamophobia in Europe: The radical right and the mainstream. *Insight Turkey* 17. 27-37. <https://www.insightturkey.com/file/159/islamophobia-in-europe-the-radical-right-and-the-mainstream-fall-2015-vol-17-no4>

### Recommended readings

- Cervi, L. (2020). Exclusionary Populism and Islamophobia: A Comparative Analysis of Italy and Spain. *Religions*, 11(10), 516. MDPI AG. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3390/rel11100516>
- Khan, S. (2020). "Institutionalised Islamophobia: The Rise of European Nationalism against Freedom of Religion for Muslims". In *The Asian Yearbook of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law*. Brill | Nijhoff. [https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004431768\\_015](https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004431768_015)

## Week 12: Antisemitic and Islamophobic conspiracy myths on the internet (Nov 5, 7)

### Required readings

#### *Primary sources*

- ISD (2019). The battle for Bavaria: Online information campaigns in the 2018 Bavarian state election. Institute for Strategic Dialogue. <https://www.isdglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/The-Battle-for-Bavaria.pdf>
- Woolley, S. C., Pakzad, R., & Monaco, N. (2019). Incubating Hate: Islamophobia and Gab. German Marshall Fund of the United States. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep21229>

#### *Secondary sources*

- Awan, I. (2016) 'Islamophobia on Social Media: A Qualitative Analysis of the Facebook's Walls of Hate', *International Journal of Cyber Criminology* 10(1): 1–20. <https://zenodo.org/record/58517>
- Gerstenfeld, M. (2020). Anti-Jewish Coronavirus Conspiracy Theories in Historical Context. In E. Karsh (Ed.), *The COVID-19 Crisis: Impact and Implications* (pp. 41–45). Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/resrep26356.12>

### Recommended readings

- Langer, A. (2024). "Antisemitic Myths on the Web Amidst Global Crises of The Early 2020s: From the Coronavirus Pandemic to the Russian Invasion of Ukraine and the Israel-Hamas Conflict" in *Antisemitism on the Rise: New Ideological Dynamics*, ed. Florian Hartleb, pp. 69-77. European Institute for Counter Terrorism and Conflict Prevention.
- MDI (2020). QAnon and the growing conspiracy theory trend on social media. Media Diversity Institute. <https://www.media-diversity.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/QAnonFinalReport.pdf>

- Tangherlini, T.R., et al. (2020). An automated pipeline for the discovery of conspiracy and conspiracy theory narrative frameworks: Bridgegate, Pizzagate and storytelling on the web. *PLOS ONE*, 15(6), pp. 1–39.

<https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0233879>

## Week 13: Antisemitic and Islamophobic conspiracy myths and terrorism (Nov 12, 14)

### Required readings

#### Secondary sources

- Ackerman, G. and Peterson, H. (2020). Terrorism and COVID-19: Actual and potential impacts. *Perspectives on Terrorism*, 14(3), pp. 59–73.  
<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/binaries/content/assets/customsites/perspectives-on-terrorism/2020/issue-3/ackerman-and-peterson.pdf>
- Conway, M., Scrivens, R. and Macnair, L. (2019). Right-wing extremists' persistent online presence: History and contemporary trends. International Centre for Counter-Terrorism.  
<https://icct.nl/app/uploads/2019/11/Right-Wing-Extremists-Persistent-Online-Presence.pdf>
- Crawford, B. and Keen, F. (2020) 'The Hanau Terrorist Attack: How Race Hate and Conspiracy Theories Are Fueling Global Far-Right Violence', *CTC Sentinel* 13(3): 1–8.  
<https://ctc.westpoint.edu/hanau-terrorist-attack-race-hate-conspiracy-theories-fueling-global-far-right-violence/>

### Recommended readings

- Basit, A. (2021). Conspiracy Theories and Violent Extremism: Similarities, Differences and the Implications. *Counter Terrorist Trends and Analyses*, 13(3), 1–9.  
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/27040260>
- FBI (2019). Anti-government, identity based, and fringe political conspiracy theories very likely motivate some domestic extremists to commit criminal, sometimes violent activity. Phoenix, AZ: Federal Bureau of Investigation Phoenix Field Office.  
[https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Anti-Government, Identity Based, and Fringe Political Conspiracy Theories Very Likely Motivate Some Domestic Extremists to Commit Criminal, Sometimes Violent Activity](https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Anti-Government,_Identity_Based,_and_Fringe_Political_Conspiracy_Theories_Very_Likely_Motivate_Some_Domestic_Extremists_to_Commit_Criminal,_Sometimes_Violent_Activity)
- Langer, A. (2024). "Populist conspiracy myths in far-right terrorist manifestos: A transnational perspective." In *ELAD – SILDA: Studies in Linguistics and Discourse Analysis* (9). Linguistics Research Center at the University of Lyon Jean Moulin 

## Section V: Countering antisemitism and Islamophobia

## **Week 14: Jewish and Muslim responses to antisemitism and Islamophobia (Nov 19, 21)**

### **Required materials**

#### *Primary sources*

- AJ+ (2015). German Muslim-Jewish Organization Rallies in Defense of the Headscarf. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dyrdCXJ4br4>
- Brady, K. (2017). Rent-a-Jew project hopes to ward off anti-Semitism in Germany. <https://www.dw.com/en/rent-a-jew-project-hopes-to-ward-off-anti-semitism-in-germany/a-36710940>

#### *Secondary sources*

- Khamis, S. (2021). Modern Muslims' Online Struggle: Countering Islamophobia One Tweet at a Time. *Insight Turkey*, 23(2), 51–64. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/27028539>
- Pervaz, B., & Asad, T. (2022). Muslims' Coherent Strategy Against the Rise of Islamophobia in France. *Islamophobia Studies Journal*, 7(1), 56–65. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/48676236>
- Rabinovici, D. (2021). The Jewish Response to Antisemitism in Austria Prior to the Anschluss. In A. Lange, K. Mayerhofer, D. Porat & L. Schiffman (Ed.), Volume 3 *Comprehending Antisemitism through the Ages: A Historical Perspective* (pp. 245-256). Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter. <https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/9783110671995-013/html>

### **Recommended readings**

- Langer, A. (2021). Telling Holocaust Jokes on German Public Television: The German-Israeli Comedian Shahak Shapira and His Satirical Show on Jews, Antisemites and the Rest. *VIEW Journal of European Television History and Culture*, 10(20), 7–17. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.18146/view.263>
- Law, I., Easat-Daas, A., Merali, A., & Sayyid, S. (2019). *Countering Islamophobia in Europe*. Springer. <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-16260-3#toc>
- Stremmelaar, A. (2017). Reading Anne Frank: Confronting Antisemitism in Turkish Communities. In R. Ensel & E. Gans (Eds.), *The Holocaust, Israel and the "Jew": Histories of Antisemitism in Postwar Dutch Society* (pp. 445–474). Amsterdam University Press. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt1jd94jj.19>

## **Week 15: Synthesis and Course Wrap-Up (Dec 3)**

No required readings.