

COLLABORATIVE VOLUME ABOUT KEY CONCEPTS AND PROBLEMS IN THE STUDY OF ANTISEMITISM

We have received a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities and Research Council of Canada to fund a multiyear project with the following aims: 1. to produce a volume of fresh contributions by scholars engaged in researching and teaching about antisemitism and cognate topics; 2. to employ this volume as part of an intensive summer seminar designed and conducted by our team for the benefit of a group of graduate students and faculty who plan to teach courses about antisemitism.

While appreciating the usefulness of historical narratives in teaching about antisemitism, we do not seek to produce another volume that takes the reader on a chronological journey surveying forms of hostility toward Jews and/or Judaism from antiquity until the present. Rather, we seek to produce a non-exhaustive, modular volume that examines key terminological, conceptual, and methodological questions in the study of antisemitism. We welcome contributions of **20 double-spaced pages** that highlight problems that arise in or critique concepts and approaches applied in the study of antisemitism.

Our current thinking is to divide the volume into two separate sections: I. **Concepts and Conceptual Problems**; II. **Methods and Methodological Problems**

By **Concepts**, we mean key terms such as antisemitism, philosemitism, anti-Zionism, and Jewish self-hatred. **Conceptual problems** could include such matters as the questions of the 'uniqueness' of antisemitism (e.g. in comparison with other forms of racism, sexism, homophobia, Islamophobia, etc.); how antisemitism is 'instrumentalized' to serve various ends (e.g. political, cultural, social, etc.); or the historiography of antisemitism.

Methods apply to analytical tools or approaches that can be applied to the study of antisemitism, such as gender, sociology, psychology, literary theory, translation, and post-colonial theory. Finally, **methodological problems** refer to challenges or problems presented by the application of a given methodological strategy. We have in mind, for example, applying teleological readings to the historical record (e.g. ones inexorably culminating in the Holocaust or the birth of the State of Israel); the challenge of combining Jewish and non-Jewish perspectives into a coherent narrative about antisemitism; or the advantages of looking at antisemitism through the lens of literary theory as opposed to, e.g., history or sociology.

The above examples of concepts, methods and their respective problems have been provided here for the sake of illustration and to spur thought, not because we are wedded to these specific terms or our own interpretation of them appearing in the volume.

We aim to have multiple contributors (most likely 2 per item) offering different perspectives to address each conceptual or methodological issue. This will yield a volume containing approximately 15-18 essays.

The volume will be published as part of the new series with Palgrave in cooperation with the International Consortium for Research on Antisemitism and Racism (ICRAR).

"KEY TERMS AND CONCEPTS IN THE STUDY OF ANTISEMITISM"

WORKSHOP

JUNE 25TH, 2015

10:00-11:00 **Project Introduction**

Sol Goldberg, University of Toronto
Kalman Weiser, York University, Toronto

11:15-12:15 **Presentation**

Jonathan Judaken, Rhodes College, Memphis
*Conceptualizing the Study of Anti-Semitism:
From Theory to Practice*

12:15-13:30 **Lunch**

13:30-15:00 **Basic Concepts, Panel I**

Chair: **Ela Bauer**, Kibbutzim College

Adam Teller, Brown University
Economic Relations

Shai Lavi, Tel Aviv University, Law
Ritual Slaughter

Anat Plocker, University of Haifa
Poland

15:30-17:00 **Basic Concepts, Panel II**

Chair: **Yifat Gutman**, Tel Aviv University

Raz Segal, Tel Aviv University
The Nation-State

Michael L. Miller, Central European University
Anti-Anti-Semitism

Lena Salaymeh, Tel Aviv University, Law
Islamophobia

17:00-17:30 **Concluding discussion**

Chair: **Scott Ury**, Tel Aviv University



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