



TASK FORCE FOR
INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION ON
HOLOCAUST
EDUCATION,
REMEMBRANCE,
AND RESEARCH

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

SUMMER SCHOOL IN HOLOCAUST STUDIES

The Diverse Survival Strategies of Jewish and Roma Communities in Macedonia: From Resistance to Memorialization

Resource persons:

Lecturers:

Prof. Dr. Krinka Vidakovic-Petrov (Institute of Literature and Arts in Belgrade, Serbia)

Prof. Dr. Michael Stewart (University College London, Great Britain)

Ass. Prof. Dr. Sofija Grandakovska (Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities "Euro-Balkan, Skopje, Macedonia)

Workshop moderators

Prof. Evgenii Daynov (Center for Social Practices - New Bulgarian University, Sofia, Bulgaria)

Dr. Mira Mayer (Center for Social Practices - New Bulgarian University, Sofia, Bulgaria)

Mr. Slavco Dimitrov, PhD Candidate (Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities “Euro-Balkan, Skopje, Macedonia)

Mr. Stanimir Panajotov, MA Candidate (Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities “Euro-Balkan, Skopje, Macedonia)

The morning sessions will be held in the form of interactive lectures/seminars, while the afternoon sessions will be workshops, discussions and presentations of participants papers.

Courses:

I. Course title: Memory, History and Theory: The Jews from Macedonia and the Holocaust

Lecturer: Ass. Professor Dr. Sofija Grandakovska

Short Description of the Course: The course is focused on aspects of the presence or the absence of the Jewish narrative in Macedonia during the specific historical period marked as the Holocaust. The discussion is centered at the challenge of embracing the semiotic position of reading the Jewish discourse by including the following categories: a wider spectrum of the academic discourse through the use of oral history as a way into historiography, the archival-documentary approach, the questions and prospective answers to the socio-cultural, archeological, political, linguistic-literary, artistic, sacral and memory-based practices, as well as their discursive (theoretical) positioning of an interdisciplinary and inter-textual approach.

Lecture 1: The Holocaust: Memory and Place of Absence

Short description of the topic: How do we identify the strategies of memory and survival of the memory when there are no Holocaust survivors? In terms of that: what constitutes the memorialization of the Holocaust when we address the question of place of absence and permanent loss of the memory-based practices and personal testimonies?

Lecture 2: Historical and Cultural Narratives of the Holocaust in Macedonia

Short description of the topic: The discussion is centered at the challenge of embracing the semiotic position of reading the Jewish discourse by including a spectrum of the academic discourse through the archival-documentary, socio-cultural, archeological, political and theoretical aspects.

Required readings:

J. Kolonomos, V. Vangeli, *The Jews in Macedonia in WWII*, Skopje: MASA, 1986.

S. Grandakovska, ed. by, *The Holocaust and the Jews From Macedonia: History, Theory and Culture*, Skopje: EvroBalkan Press, 2011.

Michael Ann Holly and Marqard Smith, eds., *Obsession, archive, encounter*, Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute, 2008.

Wolfgang Sofsky: *The order of terror: The concentration camp*, Princeton University Press, 1997.

G. Agamben, *Remnants of Auschwitz: The Witness and the Archive*, NY: Zone Books, 2008.

II. Course title: Culture and Memory: the Spanish Jews in Macedonia and the Holocaust

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Krinka Vidakovic-Petrov

Short Description of the Course: The course is focused on aspects of the cultural identity of the Spanish Jews in Macedonia: cultural models and transition from one to another, the role of Messiahnism, gender perspectives, Orientalism and Westernization, ideological and political currents (variations of Zionism, leftist ideologies, political polarization), assimilation and integration. It further explores continuity and disruption on the eve of the Holocaust, the impact of the Holocaust experience on identity, personal and collective Holocaust narratives, and the transformation of living culture into cultural memory in the post-war period.

Lecture 1

Topic: The Cultural Identity of the Spanish Jews in Macedonia

Short description of the topic: From Spain to the Ottoman Balkans: the cultural identity of the Spanish Jews. The Romaniot. Organization of Sephardic communities. Relationship with Ottoman authorities. Jewish and Spanish elements of identity: religion, languages, written heritage, oral tradition, customs. Cultural models.

Lecture 2

Topic: Messiahism and Gender Perspectives

Short description of the topic: The Messianic tradition among Macedonian Jews. The gender perspective in social organization, education, customs and folksongs. Conformity and subversion. Variations in the feminine narrative: the ballad as a dialogic genre.

Lecture 3

Topic: Identity in Transition: Orientalism, Westernization, Zionism and Socialism

Short description of the topic: The Balkan nation states: transition in the Balkan and Yugoslav framework. Change of cultural models: Orientalism versus Westernization. Macedonian Jews in Serbia and Yugoslavia. Identity issues. Emancipation. Emigration. Messiahism, modern Zionism, Sephardism and political polarization. The generation gap. The Holocaust.

Lecture 4

Topic: Personal and Collective Holocaust Narratives

Short description of the topic: The Holocaust and after. Survivor testimonies. Collective and personal narratives. The Holocaust experience and identity in post-war Yugoslavia. Self-perception and state policies. Cultural issues. The Holocaust narrative in present-day Macedonia.

Required readings:

A. Matkovski, *A History of the Jews of Macedonia*, Skopje, 1982.

H. Pass Friedenreich, *The Jews of Yugoslavia: a quest for community*, Philadelphia, 1979.

J. Kolonomos, *Monastir Without Jews. Recollections of a Jewish Partisan in Macedonia*, ed. R. Bedford, tr. I. Nehama and B. Berman, *The Foundation for the Advancement of Sephardic Studies and Culture*, New York, 2008.

A. Sadikario, *Raizes, Memories of Avram Sadikario, 1919-2006*, Skopje 2006 (in Judeo-Spanish).

S. Grandakovska, ed. by, *The Holocaust and the Jews From Macedonia: History, Theory and Culture*, Skopje: EvroBalkan Press, 2011.

Vidaković-Petrov, "The Holocaust in Yugoslavia: Questions of Identity", paper presented at the International Research Conference *Hiding, Sheltering and Borrowing Identities as Avenues of Rescue During the Holocaust*, Yad Vashem, December 19-21, 2010 (in print).

III. Course title: Genocide, the nature of the persecution and mass killing of Roma, Sinti, and others labeled as Gypsies

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Michael Stewart

Short Description of the Course: This course begins with conceptual and definitional questions around the notion of genocide and the problematic notion of 'a people'. It proceeds to consider whether a specifically anthropological approach brings something distinctive to this field of study, through contrasting the implications of culturalist and institutionalist explanations of genocide within social science. On the second day we move on to consider the nature of the persecution and mass killing of Roma, Sinti, & others labelled as Gypsies. One lecture will consider the specificity of this genocide and the other will deal with the challenges of archival research into this field.

Lecture 1

Topic: What constitutes genocide?

Short description of the topic: Is the definition of genocide in the UN 1948 convention as "acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group" adequate for the modern world?

Lecture 2

Topic: Assess the value of a culturalist interpretation of violence through an analysis of symbolism embedded in act and representation.

Short description of the topic: What does a specifically anthropological approach bring to the study of 'genocide?' What is at stake in the uniqueness of the holocaust debates? What are the implications of culturalist and institutionalist explanations of genocide within social science?

Lecture 3

Topic: Was there a genocide or 'merely' a persecution of the Roma and Gypsies?

Lecture 4

Topic: How can we overcome the challenges of working with archival materials on persecution of Sinti, Roma and Gypsies.

Required readings:

Lemarchand, R 1997 The Rwanda Genocide pp. 408-423, in *Century of Genocide: Eyewitness Accounts and Critical Views*, ed. S. Totten, W.S. Parsons, I.W. Charny. New York and London: Garland.

Levi, Primo 1971(9) *If this is a Man*. Trans from Italian by S. Wolf. Abacus.

Taylor, C. C. 2000 *Sacrifice as Terror: The Rwandan Genocide of 1994*. Oxford and New York: Berg.

Robert Gelattely and Ben Kiernan (ed.) *The Specter of Genocide: Mass Murder in Historical Perspective* (Cambridge University Press, 2003).

Lewy, Guenter 2000 *The Nazi Persecution of the Gypsies* Oxford: OUP 0 19 512556 8.

Workshops:

Workshop 1:

Topic: Memory, History and Theory: The Jews and the Holocaust

Moderator: Dr. Mira Mayer

Workshop 2:

Topic: Culture and Memory, Messiahnism and Gender Perspectives

Moderator: Dr. Mira Mayer

Workshop 3:

Topic: Identity in Transition, Personal and Collective Holocaust Narratives

Moderator: Stanimir Panayotov, MA Candidate

Workshop 4:

Topic: Historicising the Roma Holocaust: From Racism/Racialization to Extinction

Moderator: Prof. Evgenii Daynov

Workshop 5:

Topic: Roma histories of genocide and survival in Macedonia and the Balkans

Moderator: Prof. Evgenii Daynov

Closing Round-Table:

Topic: Learning from the Mutuality of Suffering

Moderator: Slavco Dimitrov, PhD Candidate

PROGRAMME

26 September (Monday)

12:00 – All day: Arrival of participants

19:30 – 20:00: Welcoming speeches by Prof. Elizabeta Dimitrova, Director of Ohrid Summer University, and Ass. Prof. Dr. Sofija Grandakovska, Director of the Summer School in Holocaust Studies

20:00-21:30: Welcome Dinner

27 September (Tuesday)

Course title: Memory, History and Theory: The Jews from Macedonia and the Holocaust

Lecturer: Prof. Dr. Sofija Grandakovska

07:30-9.30: Breakfast

09:30-11:00: Interactive Lecture: The Holocaust: Memory and Place of Absence

11:00-11:30: Coffee Break

11:30-13:00: Interactive Lecture: Historical and Cultural Narratives of the Holocaust in Macedonia

13:00-15:00: Lunch Break

15:30-17:00: Workshop: Memory, History and Theory: The Jews and the Holocaust

Moderator: Dr. Mira Mayer

Presentations: (note: all presenters will have 20 minutes for presentations and 10 minutes for discussion immediately after the paper's presentation)

15:30-16:00: Bernadica Juric: The consequences of Holocaust in Eastern Europe and is there contemporary Holocaust?

16:00-16:30: Dmitry Alekseev: Creating Holocaust memory in Russia

16:30-17:00: Julia Micova: The Final Solution - Terror over the Jews from Macedonia

20:00-21:30: Dinner

28 September (Wednesday)

Course title: Culture and Memory: the Spanish Jews in Macedonia and the Holocaust

Lecturer: Professor Dr. Krinka Vidakovic-Petrov

07:30-9.30: Breakfast

09:30-11:00: Interactive lecture: The Cultural Identity of the Spanish Jews in Macedonia

11:00-11:30: Coffee Break

11:30-13.00: Interactive lecture: Messiahnism and Gender Perspectives

13:00-15.00: Lunch Break

15:30-16:30: Workshop: Culture and Memory, Messiahnism and Gender Perspectives

Moderator: Dr. Mira Mayer

Presentations:

15:30-16:00: Anna Szasz

16:00-16:30: Asta Vrecko

20.00-21.30: Dinner

29 September (Thursday)

Course title: Culture and Memory: the Spanish Jews in Macedonia and the Holocaust

Lecturer: Professor Dr. Krinka Vidakovic-Petrov

07:30-9.30: Breakfast

09:30-11:00: Interactive lecture: Identity in Transition: Orientalism, Westernization, Zionism and Socialism

11:00-11:30: Coffee Break

11:30-13:00: Interactive lecture: Personal and Collective Holocaust Narratives

13:00-15:00: Lunch Break

15:30-17:00: Workshop: Identity in Transition, Personal and Collective Holocaust Narratives

Moderator: Stanimir Panayotov, MA Candidate

Presentations:

15:30-16:00: Milan Balaban: Holocaust in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Jewish community in Bosnia after World War Two

16:00-16:30: Jovan Culibrk: Parachutist of Yishuv from and in Macedonia: The case of absence of Nissim Testa-Arazi

16:30-17:00: Pavle Kondic: The RC Diocese of Skopje on religious map of Yugoslavia 1924-1941

20.00-21.30: Dinner

30 September (Friday)

Course title: Genocide, the nature of the persecution and mass killing of Roma, Sinti, and others labeled as Gypsies

Lecturer: Prof. Michael Stewart

07:30-9.30: Breakfast

09:30-11:00: Interactive lecture: What constitutes genocide?

11:00-11:30: Coffee Break

11:30-13:00: Interactive lecture: Assess the value of a culturalist interpretation of violence through an analysis of symbolism embedded in act and representation.

13:00-15:00: Lunch Break

15:30-17:00: Workshop: Historicising the Roma Holocaust: From Racism/Racialization to Extinction

Moderator: Prof. Evgenii Daynov

Presentations:

15:30-16:00: Merdita Saliu: Roma in the Holocaust

16:00-16:30: Angelica Pesarini: Analysis of the “camp” as segregation of Roma in the Holocaust

16:30-17:00: Goran Bandov: The comparative analysis of the position of the members of the Roma community in Nazi Germany and NDH – die Zigeunerfrage

20.00-21.30: Dinner

1 October (Saturday)

Course title: Genocide, the nature of the persecution and mass killing of Roma, Sinti, and others labelled as Gypsies

Lecturer: Prof. Michael Stewart

07:30-9.30: Breakfast

09:30-11:00: Interactive lecture: Was there a genocide or ‘merely’ a persecution of the Roma and Gypsies?

11:00-11:30: Coffee Break

11:30-13:00: Interactive lecture: How can we overcome the challenges of working with archival materials on persecution of Sinti, Roma and Gypsies.

13:00-15:00: Lunch Break

15:30-17:00: Workshop: Roma histories of genocide and survival in Macedonia and the Balkans

Moderator: Prof. Evgenii Daynov

Presentations:

15:30-16:00: Mikhail Tyaglyy: Nazi Occupation Policies and the Mass Murder of the Roma in Ukraine

16:00-16:30: Adrian-Nicolae Furtuna

16:30-17:00: Alexander Tinev: The Roma people in Bulgaria –from survival to integration

19:15-20:00: Promotion of the book: The Holocaust and the Jews from Macedonia: History, Theory and Culture, ed. by Sofija Grandakovska (Skopje: Evro-Balkan Press, 2011).

Promoter: Dr. Krinka Vidakovic-Petrov

20:00-21:30: Dinner

2 October (Sunday)

08:30-09.30: Breakfast

9:30-10:30: Closing Round-Table: Learning from the Mutuality of Suffering

Moderator: Slavco Dimitrov, PhD Candidate

10:30:11:00: Coffee break

11:00-12:00: Continuation of the round-table: open session and final remarks

13:00-15.00: Lunch Break

16:00-19:30: Sightseeing in Ohrid – short guided tour (there will be organized transportation for all participants)

20:00-21:30: Dinner

21:30-22:00: Official closing of the Summer School: Delivery of certificates

22:30: - : Closing Party

3 October (Monday)

08:30-09.30: Breakfast

12:00: Departure of participants