

Nov. 4 | lecture

**Conscious history:
Polish Jewish historians before
the Holocaust and today**

Natalia Aleksiu

Touro College

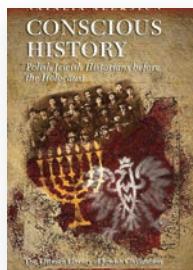
Anna Cichopek-Gajraj

History, ASU

5 p.m. MST | Zoom | registration required

jewishstudies.asu.edu/conscioushistory

As Jews struggled to assert their place in a newly independent Poland, a dedicated group of Jewish men and women devoted themselves to creating a sense of Polish Jewish belonging while fighting for their rights as an ethnic minority. The story of their struggle lies at the core of Natalia Aleksiu's new



book, *Conscious History: Polish Jewish Historians before the Holocaust*.

When the political climate challenged the careers of university-trained scholars, they continued their efforts to create and disseminate Polish Jewish history by teaching and publishing beyond the university. Their articles — published in scholarly and popular journals — enhanced community awareness of its heroes, history, cultural heritage and achievements, and countered hostility toward Jews in the public discourse of the day. Join us to learn more about the role of public intellectuals in the Polish Jewish world before the Holocaust and the continuing social role of scholars and scholarship.

**Thinking through literature
after Auschwitz**

Nov. 9 | series

**The impossible art of survival:
the poetry of Paul Celan**

Natalie Lozinski-Veach | International Letters and Cultures, ASU

7 p.m. MST | Zoom | registration required

jewishstudies.asu.edu/artofsurvival

"To write poetry after Auschwitz is barbaric." Written in 1955, by Theodor W. Adorno, these words are perhaps the most notorious philosophical statement of the 20th century. Through the work of Paul Celan — a survivor who is considered the most important poetic witness of the Holocaust in the 20th century — together we will explore the role of poetry in the face of unimaginable catastrophe.

Nov. 16 | series

**Ghost writing: Phillip Roth, Franz Kafka
and Bruno Schulz**

Brian Goodman | English, ASU

7 p.m. MST | Zoom | registration required

jewishstudies.asu.edu/ghostwriting

How and why American Jewish writers like Philip Roth look to the communist-era Eastern bloc — and to dead writers from the region like Franz Kafka and Bruno Schulz — to help them imagine new ways of writing about the Holocaust in the final decades of the Cold War?

Nov. 30 | series

**Poetry and prose after Auschwitz:
a roundtable**

Brian Goodman | English, ASU

Natalie Lozinski-Veach | International Letters and Cultures, ASU

Claudia Sadowski-Smith | English, ASU

7 p.m. MST | Zoom | registration required

jewishstudies.asu.edu/Auschwitz

How do different Jewish writers connect across historical time?

In this roundtable discussion, the panelists will put their research expertise into direct conversation to answer this question, consider the similarities and differences between post-Auschwitz poetry and prose, and discuss theoretical versus historical approaches to Holocaust literature. Audience questions are encouraged.

Jewish genealogy



Janette Silverman
Ancestry.com

Dec. 7 | series

They changed my name: immigration myths and mythologies

6 p.m. MST | Zoom | registration required

jewishstudies.asu.edu/myname

Does your family story include information about a name change at Ellis Island? Learn about this endless myth and the realities of traveling in steerage and arriving in the new country. Discuss first-person experiences of immigrants traveling from Europe to the U.S. in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and what they encountered when they arrived. Although immigrants arrived in many ports throughout North America, we will focus on Ellis Island, the port where the greatest number of immigrants arrived.

Dec. 14 | series

Challenges in Jewish Ancestral Research

6 p.m. MST | Zoom | registration required

jewishstudies.asu.edu/challenges

Many Jews have grown up thinking no records of family in Europe survived the war. Worse, families often refused to discuss the lives of immigrant ancestors in Europe; name those who remained in Europe; or share places relatives were from. If they were spoken of, towns and villages named often could not be identified on a map. People were referred to by so many different names, it often seemed as though they were five separate individuals. "Challenges in Jewish Ancestral Research" will discuss why identifying the names of our ancestors, dates of birth, death and marriage and the places they came from are so difficult.



As part of the Arizona State University commitment to increase sustainable practices, Jewish Studies is limiting the number of paper mailings we send.

Please sign up to receive periodic event announcements, updates, and reminders, via email.

jewishstudies.asu.edu/signup