

Information list of a subject

University: Bratislava International School of Liberal Arts (BISLA)	
Faculty:	
Subject code: P/H-500	Subject name: The Holocaust in Slovakia: Letters to Jozef Tiso about the “Jewish Question (1939-1945)
Type, scope, and method of educational activities: Seven weekly meetings of 120 minutes each, amounting to 14 hours total. Every week, classes are provided in a lecture format.	
Number of credits: 2	
Suggested semester: . semester	
Level of studies:	
Conditional previous subjects:	
Requirements for the course: Course evaluation (%): A – excellent: 100-93%, B – very good: 92-84%, C – good: 83-74%, D – satisfactory: 73-63%, E – sufficient: 62-51%, Fx – fail: 50-0%. Passing the course assumes that student was not absent for more than 4 class sessions. Late arrival is marked as a “tardy”. Three tardies equal one absence. Missing more than 15 minutes of the class is considered an absence.	
Learning outcomes: Students will study the basic timeline of events in Slovak Holocaust history, the origins of antisemitism in Slovakia, and major legislative milestones affecting Jews in the Slovak state. In addition, they will become acquainted with petitions written to the president of the country about Jewish matters, gain a basic understanding of ideological factors and propaganda in wartime Slovakia, become familiar with the use of archival sources, and enhance their research, written, and oral presentation skills.	
Brief outline of the course: Week 1: Introduction, Timeline of Holocaust events, origins of antisemitism in Slovakia, Who was Jozef Tiso, who wrote to him about the Jewish question and why? Week 2: How to study petitions and archival documents Week 3: Ideology and Propaganda about Jews in the Slovak state Week 4: Legislative milestones, Part 1: Who is a Jew, Aryanization, the liquidation of Jewish businesses, and the 1942 deportations. Week 5: Legislative milestones, Part 2: The “Jewish Code” Week 6: Communications addressed to Tiso about the „Jewish question“ from non-Jews, religious leaders, and the Vatican Week 7: Final project presentations	
Recommended readings: Gruner, Wolf, and Thomas Pegelow Kaplan. <i>Resisting Persecution: Jews and Their Petitions during the Holocaust</i> . New York: Berghahn Books, 2020. Hilberg, Raul. <i>The Destruction of the European Jews</i> . Vol. III. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003: 766-792. Kamenec, Ivan, “Changes in the Attitudes of the Slovak Population Regarding the So-Called Solution to the Jewish Question’ (1938-1945),” <i>Occasional Papers on Religion in Eastern Europe</i> . Vol. 40: Iss. 7, Article 4. Kubátová, Hana. “Accusing and Demanding: Denunciations in Wartime Slovakia.” In <i>Lessons and Legacies Volume XIII: New Approaches to an Integrated History of the Holocaust: Social History, Representation, Theory</i> , 92–111. Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 2018. Lónčíková, Michala. “Was the Antisemitic Propaganda a Catalyst for Tensions in the Slovak-Jewish Relations?” <i>Holocaust Studies</i> 23, no. 1–2 (2017): 76–98. Nižňanský, Eduard. “Perceptions of the Holocaust in Slovak Historiography.” In <i>United in Diversity: Contemporary European Jewry in an Interdisciplinary Perspective</i> , edited by Marcela Menachem	

Zoufalá and Olag Glöckner, 62:7–50. Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter, 2023.

Regelw Kaplan, Thomas. “Reinterpreting Jewish Petitioning Practices during the Shoah: Contestation, Transnational Space, and Survival.” *The Journal of Holocaust Research* 35, no. 4 (2021): 306-25.

Salner, Peter. “The Holocaust in Slovakia: The Deportation of 1942 through the Prism of Oral History.” *Occasional Papers on Religion in Eastern Europe*. Vol. 42: Iss. 5, Article 3.

Vrzgulová, Monika. “Memories of the Slovak Bystanders” 23 (1-2) (Holocaust Studies).

Vard, James Mace. “People Who ‘Deserve’ It: Jozef Tiso and the Presidential Exemption.” *Nationalities Papers* 30, no. 4 (2002): 571–601.

Language of the course: English

Notes: Elective course.

Evaluation

- 20 % Active attendance and preparedness for class, participation in classroom discussions
- 20% Quiz scores (2 quizzes, 10% per quiz)
- 10% Final presentation proposal
- 20 % Mid-term written assignment
- 30 % Final oral presentation

Total number of evaluated students:

A	B	C	D	E	FX
(percentage of students who got A)	(percentage of students who got B)	(percentage of students who got C)	(percentage of students who got D)	(percentage of students who got E)	(percentage of students who got FX)

Instructor: Madeline Vadkerty

Date of the last change: 20.08.2024

Approved: doc. Samuel Abrahám, PhD.