



# The American Jewish Experience

Join a team of noted experts for an exciting and unusual exploration of Jewish life and culture in America. Taught and designed collaboratively by four leading scholars, this multidisciplinary course ranges over history, politics, the family, feminism, popular music, comedy, film, fiction, and autobiography in order to ask fundamental questions about the changing experience of Jews in America. How has American Jewish identity been fashioned in different times and places in American history? What different conceptions of Jewishness have American Jews put forth? How have American Jews looked at basic ideas such as "roots", "authenticity", "ethnicity", "community", and so on? How has the structure and nature of the Jewish family changed in America, and how has this affected gender roles? Why have certain political stances tended to maintain their appeal for American Jews over time? How have American Jews viewed other ethnic and/or religious groups in America? The expertise and enthusiasm of the instructors, the inviting material, and the provocative questions promise to draw students into a lively, enriching, and personally compelling conversation.

ABOVE: *The Ghetto, New York, N.Y.; c1909; Library of Congress, Prints and Photographs Division; Detroit Publishing Company Collection*

Come study The American Jewish Experience with leading faculty. This *Me'ah In Focus* is a year-long course of 16 sessions.

#### INSTRUCTORS:

**Joyce Antler**, Professor of American Jewish History and Culture, and Women's and Gender Studies, Brandeis University

**Sylvia Barack Fishman**, Chair, Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies and Professor of Contemporary Jewry and American Jewish Sociology, Brandeis University

**Sharon Rivo**, Professor of Jewish Film, Brandeis University

**Stephen Whitfield**, Professor of American Studies, Brandeis University

#### LOCATION OF COURSE:

The Vilna Shul, 18 Phillips Street, Boston

**DAY/TIME:** Thursday evenings, 7:30 – 9:00 pm, beginning November 5, 2009

#### TUITION: \$360

Young Professionals – \$180 (subsidized by CJP). Please make payable to Hebrew College.

For more information, contact Steve Greenberg at 617-523-2324 or [steven@vilnashul.org](mailto:steven@vilnashul.org)

To register by phone, call Wendy at 617-559-8733.

To register by mail, download registration form at [hebrewcollege.edu/meah-in-focus](http://hebrewcollege.edu/meah-in-focus)

**Parking Information:** Parking is available at the Charles River Plaza Garage on Cambridge Street, near the Holiday Inn Select, at the intersection of Blossom St. (This is in the lower indoor garage—not the surface lot near Whole Foods). Discounted price with Vilna Shul validation is \$10.00.

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