

# **The Jews under Roman Rule**

## **Bernard Revel Graduate School of Jewish Studies**

L. H. Schiffman, Spring, 2014

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Students are responsible for the following:

1. All required class readings.
2. A research paper on a specific issue. No more than 20 pp. including notes will be accepted.

### **1. Introduction: Sources and Methods, and The End of Hasmonean Rule**

#### **2. From the Roman Conquest to the Rise of Herod**

Sources:

L.H. Schiffman, *Texts and Traditions: A Source Reader for the Study of Second Temple and Rabbinic Judaism* (Hoboken, NJ: KTAV, 1998), 372-85.

Required Reading:

E. M. Smallwood, *The Jews Under Roman Rule* (Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1976), 1-59.

Optional:

E. Schürer, *The History of the Jewish People in the Age of Jesus Christ* (ed. G. Vermes, et al.; Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1973) 1. 267-86.

#### **3. Herod and his Kingdom**

Sources:

Schiffman, *Texts and Traditions*, 385-95.

Required Reading:

Smallwood, *Jews under Roman Rule*, 60-104.

Optional:

M. Stern, "The Reign of Herod and the Herodian Dynasty," *The Jewish People in the First Century I*, ed. S. Safrai and M. Stern (Philadelphia: Fortress, 1974), 216-307.

#### **4. The Province of Judea**

Sources:

Schiffman, *Texts and Traditions*, 395-414

Required:

Smallwood, *Jews under Roman Rule*, 144-180, 256-92.

Optional

M. Stern, "The Province of Judaea," in Safrai and Stern, *Jewish People*, 308-76.

## **5. The Great Revolt**

Sources:

Schiffman, *Texts and Traditions*, 72.

Required:

Smallwood, *Jews under Roman Rule*, 293-355.

Optional:

M. Goodman, *The Ruling Class of Judaea, The Origins of the Jewish Revolt against Rome* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1987), 27-133.

## **6. From Pharisees to Tannaim**

Sources:

Schiffman, *Texts and Traditions*, 503-23, 529-31.

Required:

H. Lapin, "That Origins and Development of the Rabbinic Movement in the Land of Israel," in S.T. Katz, *The Cambridge History of Judaism, Volume IV, The Late Roman-Rabbinic Period* (=CHJ 4; Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006), 206-29.

## **7. Jews in the Diaspora and the Diaspora Revolt**

Sources:

L. H. Feldman and M. Reinhold, *Jewish Life and Thought among Greeks and Romans, Primary Readings* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1996) 22-33, 47-57, 61-74.

Required: Smallwood, *Jews under Roman Rule*, 120-43, 389-427.

\Optional:

M. Pucci Ben Zeev, "The Uprisings in the Jewish Diaspora, 116-117," in *CHJ* 4.93-104.

## **8. The Bar Kokhba Revolt**

Sources:

Schiffman, *Texts and Traditions*, 487-95.

Required:

Smallwood, *Jews under Roman Rule*, 428-66.

Optional;:

H. Eshel, "The Bar Kokhba Revolt, 132-135, in *CHJ* 4.105-27.

## **9. Antonine, Severan and Later Emperors**

Sources:

Feldman and Reinhold, 81-102.

Required:

Smallwood, *Jews under Roman Rule*, 457-506, 526-38.

Optional:

G. Stemberger, *Jews and Christians in the Holy Land: Palestine in the Fourth Century* (trans. R. Tuschling; Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 2000), 22-47.

## **10. The Later Roman Diaspora**

Sources:

Feldman and Reinhold, *Jewish Life*, 137-45.

Required:

Smallwood, *Jews under Roman Rule*, 507-25.

Optional

A. Kerkeslager, C. Setzer, P. Trebilco, "The Diaspora from 66 to c. 235 CE, in *CHJ* 4.53-82.

## **11. The Christianization of the Empire**

Sources:

Schiffman, *Texts and Traditions*, 565-96.

Required:

M. Avi-Yonah, *The Jews of Palestine* (Oxford: Blackwell, 1976), 137-207.

Optional:

P. Richardson, "The Beginnings of Christian Anti-Judaism, 70-c. 235," in *CHJ* 4.244-58.

## **12. Amoraic Sages**

Required:

L. Levine, *The Rabbinic Class of Roman Palestine in Late Antiquity* (Jerusalem: Yad ben Zvi, 1989), 23-97, 134-95.

Optional:

M. Goodman, *State and Society in Roman Galilee, A.D. 132-212* (Totowa, NJ: Rowman & Allanheld, 1983), 93-134.

Stemberger, *Jews and Christians*, 269-97.

## **13. The End of the Patriarchate**

Required:

Avi-Yonah, *Jews of Palestine*, 208-29.

Optional:

D. Goodblatt, "The Political and Social History of the Jewish Community in the Land of Israel, c. 235-638," in *CHJ* 4.404-30.

Stemberger, *Jews and Christians*, 230-68.

## 14. Conclusions

Required:

Avi-Yonah, *Jews of Palestine*, 232-78.

Optional:

Smallwood, *Jews under Roman Rule*, 539-45.