

English 3366 Jewish-American Literature

Section 20207 [105 Roy Cullen Bldg.] T/TH 10:00-11:30 A.M.

Texts:

Jewish American Literature. A Norton Anthology. Ed. Jules Chametzky and John Felstiner.

New York and London: W. W. Norton & Company, 2001. Hardback. ISBN 0-393-04809-8

The Cambridge Companion to Jewish American Literature. Ed. Michael P. Kramer and Hana

Wirth-Nesher. Cambridge, Engl.: Cambridge University Press, 2003. Paperback. ISBN 0-521-79699 7 (pbk)

Instructor: Dr. Irving N. Rothman

Editor of *The Barber in Modern Jewish Culture* (2008) 715 page

Author of “The ‘Hnea Yahoo’ of *Gulliver’s Travels* and Jonathan Swift’s Hebrew

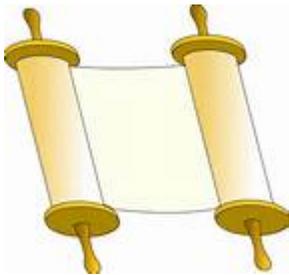
Neologisms,” *Swift Studies*. Ehrenpreis Centre of Swift Studies. Munster, Germany.

Jubilee Issue, 30, Summer 2015. 34 pages

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ABSTRACT: Jewish-American authors have been writing since their arrival in colonial America. It may even be possible to identify earlier immigrants, Marrano Jews escaping the Spanish Inquisition and sailing to the New World with Columbus. The course will study historical literature, profound sociological literature, incisive psychological literature, and even classical Jewish jokes. It will cover writers like Haym Salomon who assisted in the American Revolution and Emma Lazarus whose words appear on the Statue of Liberty. It will study the literature of the great period of immigration from 1881-1924, a period of fruition that saw new ideas and diverse populations in an America that T. S. Eliot mistakenly called “A Wasteland.” The world that recognized Shalom Asch and Anzia Yezierska also saw the emergent families of Groucho Marx and Woody Allen. Famous writers resonate in standard literary classes—Gertrude Stein, Nathanael West, Louis Zukovsky, Muriel Rukeyser, Delmore Schwartz, and Karl Shapiro. The course will be enriched with the writings of Bernard Malamud and Grace Paley and the scathing political attacks of Norma Mailer, Allen Ginsburg (the beat poet), and Phillip Roth. Two Nobel Prize Winners in Literature will be studied, Saul Bellow (born in Canada) and Isaac Bashevis Singer (born in Poland), both U.S. citizens. We are a nation of immigrants who have found literature as a mode of expression.\



Torah—The 5 Books of Moses ♦



A Jewish tailor in the Lower East side of New York