

notes

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: UNDERPRIVILEGED BODIES

Marginality and Minority

in Europe, 1850–1939

Wrocław, 6–8 July 2026



Wydział Neofilologii



SCAN ME!



Taube Department of Jewish Studies
The Jerzy Woronczak Lecture Hall (Room 115)
Św. Jadwigi 3/4, Warsaw, Poland

DAY 1: 6 July

- 12:00–13:00 **REGISTRATION**
Coffee and tour around the Department
- 13:00–13:15 **OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE**
Prof. Wojciech Drąg, Vice-Dean for Research and Scientific Evaluation,
Faculty of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, University of Wrocław
Dr. Wojciech Tworek, Chair of Taube Department of Jewish Studies,
University of Wrocław
- 13:30–15:00 **PANEL I Sexual Body**
Chair: Dr. Wojciech Tworek (University of Wrocław)
Dr. Zohar Weiman-Kelman (Ben-Gurion University)
Yiddish Sexology: A Queer Historical Search
Dr. LeiAnna X. Hamel (Smith College, Northampton, MA)
Revolting Bodies: Genital Hygiene and the Jewish Woman in Yiddish Sexual Health Pamphlets
Dr. Binyamin Hunyadi (University of Wrocław)
***Fraye libe* and Jewish Sexual Autonomy: The Migration of a Concept of Marginalized Bodies from the United States to the Polish Lands, 1890–1939**
- 15:00–15:15 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 15:15–16:45 **PANEL II Race and Body**
Chair: Prof. Marcin Wodziński (University of Wrocław)
Maria Litosh (Umeå University)
Ungrievable, Stareable, Lost: A Case Study of Preconditions for Racial Discrimination and Eugenic Policies in Sweden
Dr. Verena Meier (University of Heidelberg)
Belonging Inscribed on the Body: Handprints and the Racialized Body of 'Mixed Race' Offspring
Prof. Gil Ribak (University of Arizona)
"They Do Not Originate from the Same Race": The Envisioning of Ethiopian Jews and Blackness in East Europe's Yiddish and Hebrew Press at the Turn of the 20th Century
- 16:45–17:15 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 17:15–18:45 **KEYNOTE LECTURE**
Prof. Natan Meir (Portland State University)
The Persistent Body: Negotiating Marginality and Ritual in Modern Jewish Europe
- 19:30 **WELCOME DINNER**

DAY 2: 7 July

- 9:30–11:00 **PANEL III Medical Body**
Chair: Dr. Ekaterina Oleshkevich (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Dr. Galia Hasharoni (University of Haifa)
The Underprivileged Body in Motion: Medical Selection and the Repatriation of Jewish Immigrants, 1920–1930
Prof. Natalia Aleksiu (University of Florida)
Negotiating Jewish Medical Bodies: Minority Body Politics in East Central Europe
Dr. Aleksandra Oniszcuk (University of Warsaw)
Cultural and Medical Representations of Jewish Deaf Bodies in Warsaw (1860–1914) ONLINE
- 11:00–11:30 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 11:30–12:30 **PANEL IV Disability and Body**
Chair: Dr. Binyamin Hunyadi (University of Wrocław)
Maria Pasaricek (University of Graz)
Contesting Pathology: Deaf Bodies, Media, and Self-Representation in 19th-Century Habsburg Austria
Dr. Alexandra Polyan (University of Regensburg)
A Deaf Jewish Worker Depicted by a Yiddish Modernist: Dovid Bergelson's "The Deaf Man", "The Flour Mill" and "Zelik Broder" ONLINE
- 12:30–14:00 **LUNCH**
- 14:00–15:00 **PANEL V Jewish Women Embodied**
Chair: Prof. Natalia Aleksiu (University of Florida)
Prof. Haim Sperber (Western Galilee College)
Agunot in Eastern Europe and North America, 1851–1914: A Comparison
Dr. Katarzyna Czerwonogóra (Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Gendering Minority Self-Government: Jewish Women and Political Marginalization in Poland after 1918
- 15:00–15:30 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 15:30–17:00 **PANEL VI Body on War**
Chair: Dr. Kamil Kijek (University of Wrocław)
Olga Okhotnikova (Ludwig Maximilian University)
Engineering the "Normal" Body: The "Mutilated Warrior" and the Biopolitics of Rehabilitation between Late Russian Empire and Early Soviet State
Prof. Rotem Giladi (University of Roehampton and Hebrew University)
Corporal Emancipation: Jewish Bodies, Corporal Punishment, and the British Empire in the Dardanelles Campaign
Alma Hannig (Friedrich Wilhelm University of Bonn)
Visualizing Jewish Difference: War, Marginality, and Perception on the Eastern Front
- 17:00–17:30 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 17:30–18:30 **PANEL VII Sexuality Embodied**
Chair: Dr. Michał Narożniak (University of Potsdam)
Prof. Laurie Marhoefer (University of Washington)
Jews Writing and Reading Queer, Trans, and Intersex Bodies in Weimar Berlin
Dr. Katarzyna Kwiatkowska-Moskalewicz (Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Gabriel Narutowicz Institute of Political Thought)
Embodied Desire and Sexual Awakening in Communist Youth Organisations in Interwar Poland

DAY 3: 8 July

- 9:30–11:00 **PANEL VIII Body and Art**
Chair: Dr. Karol Jóźwiak (University of Wrocław)
Prof. Krystyna Duniec (Polish Academy of Sciences)
Women Loving Women: Lesbian Themes in Jewish and Polish Theatre
Prof. Sarah Wobick-Segev (Heinrich Heine University of Düsseldorf)
Poetry from the Margins: Disability in Jenny Bergmann's "In the Twilight Hour"
Dr. Tobias Teutenberg (Bibliotheca Hertziana – Max Planck Institute for Art History)
Vis Plastica: Viktor Lowenfeld's Modeling Class at the Israelite Institute for the Blind in Vienna
- 11:00–11:30 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 11:30–13:00 **PANEL IX Social Body**
Chair: Dr. Zuzanna Kołodziejska-Smagała (University of Wrocław)
Selma Hertz (Free University of Berlin and Humboldt University of Berlin)
Embodied Knowledge: Arab Lecturers in Oriental Studies in Imperial Berlin
Dr. Joana Vieira Paulino (Institute of Contemporary History, NOVA FCSH/IN2PAST)
Perceptions over Women's Bodies Who Breastfed Abandoned Children in 19th-Century Lisbon
Dr. Stephanie Weismann (Leibniz Institute for the History and Culture of Eastern Europe)
"Smelly Bodies": Sensory Othering and Negotiating Public Space in Interwar Lublin
- 13:00–13:15 **COFFEE BREAK**
- 13:15–13:45 **ROUNDTABLE SUMMARY OF THE CONFERENCE**
- 14:00 **END OF THE CONFERENCE**
- This conference was made possible by the generous support of the following sponsors:
- Mandel Scholion Research Center, Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School for Advanced Studies in the Humanities, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- Faculty of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, University of Wrocław
- Marcel and Maria Roth Chair in the History and Culture of Polish Jewry, Bar-Ilan University
- Taube Department of Jewish Studies, University of Wrocław
- National Science Centre, Poland
- Inicjatywa Doskonałości Uczelnia Badawcza
- Organising Committee:
- Dr. Ekaterina Oleshkevich
Dr. Anna Kałużna
Dr. Zuzanna Kołodziejska-Smagała