

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology
and the Vidal Sassoon International Center for
the Study of Antisemitism announces:

Antisemitism and American Exceptionalism: Rethinking the Place of the Postwar Era in US History

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There has been broad agreement among scholars, at least through most of the second half of the 20th century, that antisemitism in the United States was rarely violent and relatively harmless, mostly social rather than ideological or political, and fleeting rather than chronic. In the 21st century, a revisionist view has begun to take shape among historians that challenges key tenets of this Jewish version of American exceptionalism. Engaging with both the older exceptionalist scholarship and newer revisionist scholarship, this paper argues that antisemitism in the US has varied over time and in form: weak in the US before the late 19th century, intensified from the beginning of the 20th century until the US entered the Second World War, declined by the 1960s and remained at relatively low levels for the rest of the 20th century, but is rising again in the 21st century.

Mt. Scopus Campus, The Faculty of Social Sciences,
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