

## Social Psychology of the Holocaust

Seminar and study tour

Teacher: Dr. Michal Bilewicz (University of Warsaw)

Place: Silberlaube, Habelschwerdter Allee 45, KL 24/223

Date: Friday, 22.01.2010 (12:00-14:00); Saturday 23.01.2010 (12:00-15:00)

The two-day seminar offers an insight into the psychological nature of a genocide, on a specific example of the genocide of Jews during the World War II. We will focus on the social, political and psychological processes that defined Jews as the scapegoats, we will also concentrate on the role of passive bystanders and heroic helpers within the process of mass destruction. The impact of the Holocaust on current German-Polish-Jewish relations will also be discussed.

The seminar is open to the students of psychology, as well as other disciplines (history, social sciences, political sciences, humanities).

Its first part (2 hours) will take place at the Free University of Berlin: we will try to discuss the key psychological problems related to antisemitism and the Holocaust. The recommended reading is the chapter by Peter T. Glick "Sacrificial lambs dressed in wolves clothing" from the book "Understanding Genocide. Social Psychology of the Holocaust".

The second part (3 hours) includes a study tour to the House of the Wannsee Conference. This is a place where high SS officers and civil servants of the NS-era designed the plan to deport the Jews from Europe to the East and to murder them, on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 1942. Students will individually visit the exhibition and later on we will have a follow up discussion at the seminar room in Wannsee on the perpetrators of the genocide. We will meet on Saturday, January 23 at 12:00 (noon) in front of the Silberlaube building.

The main reading can be found under this link:

<http://www.google.com/books?id=j7v7oBpbhvC&lpg=PP1&hl=pl&pg=PA113#v=onepage&q=&f=false>

For more information contact the lecturer at: [bilewicz@psych.uw.edu.pl](mailto:bilewicz@psych.uw.edu.pl)

The seminar is offered within the Erasmus fellowship for academic teachers at Freie Universität Berlin. The seminar offers no credits to participating students.