

GERM 225

Popular and Pious: Early Modern Jewish Literature

Spring 2016



This seminar looks at the literature produced—originally in Yiddish—for the entertainment and uplift of 15th-18th century European Jews. This literature preserves genres popular in medieval Europe including chivalric romances, fables, and merry tales, together with early examples of Jewish journalism and autobiography. The course will examine a wide variety of texts in translation to illuminate Jewish life in the context of surrounding Christian cultures. It is designed for undergraduate students interested in history, literature, and religious studies. No previous familiarity with the subject matter is required.

Readings and class discussions will be in ENGLISH.

Approach: *Literary Arts*

Connections: *North Atlantic World, World Before 1750*



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Germanic and Slavic
Languages and Literatures

Dr Ruth von Bernuth

TTh 11:00 - 12:15 pm