



A Yiddish movie poster from The Lawndale Theater, c.1931, Chicago.
 Kehilath Anshe Maariv Temple in Chicago, pictured on a postcard from 1911

JS 300 -- JEWISH CHICAGO
MTWT 10-12:50

Looking for a course to take this summer? Join us for Jewish Chicago in Chicago! The course will be taught at the Newberry Library during summer I – May 16-June 11, 2016



Our study of Jewish Chicago will examine the life of the Jews in Chicago from 1820 to the present. We will visit Chicago's first synagogue, Kehilath Anshe Mayriv (KAM), founded in 1847 and learn about the waves of immigrants from Germany and Eastern Europe. We'll study how Chicago Jews working in overcrowded, unsanitary factories built the Jewish socialist movement and the Jewish trade union movement in the fight for better working conditions. We'll explore the vital artistic imprint of Chicago's Jewish communities, especially the many Yiddish theater companies that thrived around the turn of the nineteenth century.



Garment workers strike, Chicago Daily News, Dec. 12, 1910

When we are not out and about in the greater Chicago area, we hope to make the Newberry Library (60 W. Walnut St., Chicago IL 60610) our classroom base. Using the library's family rich archives students will research some aspect of Chicago's Jewish history. The course will culminate with a poster session.