

Subject: Fw: You are an anti-semitic asshole.

Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 6:22:08 PM Eastern Standard Time

From: Eric T. Cheyfitz

To: Risa L. Lieberwitz

FYI

Eric Cheyfitz
Ernest I. White Professor of American
Studies and Humane Letters
Professor of American Indian and Indigenous
Studies
157 Goldwin Smith Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY 14853-3201
Cell: 607-227-2076
Fax: 607-255-6661
etc7@cornell.edu
Author: The Disinformation Age: The
Collapse of Liberal Democracy in the United States

Cornell University is located on the traditional homelands of the Gayog̃hó:nq' (the Cayuga Nation). The Gayog̃hó:nq' are members of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, an alliance of six sovereign nations with a historic and contemporary presence on this land. The confederacy precedes the establishment of Cornell University, New York state and the United States of America. We acknowledge the painful history of Gayog̃hó:nq' dispossession and honor the ongoing connection of Gayog̃hó:nq' people, past and present, to these lands and waters.

The AIISP faculty would like to emphasize: Cornell's founding was enabled in the course of a national genocide by the sale of almost one million acres of stolen Indian land under the Morrill Act of 1862. To date the university has neither officially acknowledged its complicity in this theft nor has it offered any form of restitution to the hundreds of Native communities impacted. For additional information, see <https://blogs.cornell.edu/cornelluniversityindigenousdispossession/>.

From: Michael I. Kotlikoff <mik7@cornell.edu>
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 4:39:40 PM
To: Eric T. Cheyfitz <etc7@cornell.edu>
Subject: Re: You are an anti-semitic asshole.

Dear Eric,

Please note that I did not go to the press, but responded to another faculty member who complained about your course. I hope that I am mistaken in the way that you will approach this course, but your description of the course certainly did not inspire confidence that you were approaching the issue with an open mind and seeking to provoke independent thought based on facts, or open to more nuanced views of a complex situation. That being said, I support your right to teach the course as you wish, even if it is based on “advocacy” (as you stated in the Jerusalem Post), rather than a dispassionate examination of facts. However, I also reserve my own right to comment to a colleague on what I think should be the goal of a Cornell course, and the duty of care and respect we owe to Cornell students.

Mike

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Michael Kotlikoff, V.M.D., Ph.D., Sc.D. (h.c.)
Interim President and Professor of Molecular Physiology,
Cornell University

From: Eric T. Cheyfitz <etc7@cornell.edu>
Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at 1:09 PM
To: Michael I. Kotlikoff <mik7@cornell.edu>
Subject: FW: You are an anti-semitic asshole.

Dear Michael,.

The attached is the kind of email your ill-considered comments on my course in JTA provoke. It would have of course been at the very least collegial not to mention ethical to have discussed the course

with me before going to the press. And your comments also implicitly denigrate the CALS curriculum committee, which approved the course, already fully enrolled. It is clear from your comments that you are blissfully ignorant of not only the way I teach but of what Indigenous scholarship entails. From my perspective, the administration of a university should not be commenting on the content of the curriculum, which is wholly a faculty matter, and to do so, particularly when those comments are negative, violates the spirit if not the letter of academic freedom.

Eric

Eric Cheyfitz, Ph.D.

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Author: *The Colonial Construction of Indian Country: Native American Literatures & Federal Indian Law* (The University of Minnesota Press, the Indigenous Americas Series): <https://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/the-colonial-construction-of-indian-country>

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From: alphas.04-spiral@icloud.com <alphas.04-spiral@icloud.com>

Date: Monday, November 11, 2024 at 2:23 PM

To: Eric T. Cheyfitz <etc7@cornell.edu>

Subject: You are an anti-semitic asshole.

Hope the women in your life experience the brutal rape Israeli women experienced and your children and grandchildren are burned to death before your eyes.