JEWISH STUDIES*

*Jewish Studies is offered exclusively as a concentration.

Program Office: Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, 617 Kent Hall; 212-854-2581; http://www.iijs.columbia.edu/

Program Director: Prof. Elishева Carlebach, 505 Fayerweather; 212-854-5294; ec607@columbia.edu

Assistant Director: Dana Kresel, 619 Kent Hall; 212-854-4006; drk2106@columbia.edu

The academic discipline of Jewish studies is an interdisciplinary field centered on the analysis and investigation of Jewish history, religion, language, and literature. The discipline ranges from the study of Jews and Judaism in antiquity to the present day. It explores Judaism not only as a religion, but as a civilization and culture.

A special concentration in Jewish studies is available for undergraduates and allows students to draw upon classes in a wide range of departments across the University, including History; Sociology; Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies; Germanic Languages and Literature; and Religion. The requirements for the special concentration are designed to provide students with the interdisciplinary knowledge necessary to study Jewish civilization both broadly and deeply.

The roots of Judaism lie deeper than one region, gender, language, or culture; and by studying the interconnectedness of these areas, the depth of understanding across a range of spheres and disciplines greatly increases. The special concentration in Jewish studies enhances the current scholarly programs, adding to current Jewish studies courses’ vitality as students come to each course with a deeper understanding and background based on their complementary coursework.

Students wishing to complete a special concentration in Jewish studies work with a program adviser to decide upon course selection and sequencing. The program office provides and keeps on record a planning form to track the fulfillment of requirements for the special concentration.

Affiliated Faculty
Beth Berkowitz (Religion, Barnard)
Clemence Boulouque (Religion)
Elishева Carlebach (History)
Yinon Cohen (Sociology)
Jeremy Dauber (Germanic Languages)
Rebecca Kobrin (History)
Agnieszka Legutko (Germanic Languages)
Seth Schwartz (History)
Michael Stanislawski (History)

Special Concentration in Jewish Studies

In addition to the requirements of the special concentration, students must complete a major.

For a special concentration in Jewish studies, students are required to complete a minimum of 21 points. Please note:

• At least one course must be taken from each of three of the focus areas listed below.

• Credits for language courses may constitute at most 10 points, and one year of Hebrew or Yiddish language is strongly recommended.

• A minimum of 18 points must be taken at Columbia or as part of an approved study abroad program (unless equivalent courses are not offered at Columbia, as determined by the faculty adviser).

The focus areas and courses listed below are examples and do not include all the potential courses which may count. Additionally, as new courses are introduced, new focus areas may develop. Some courses may fall under multiple headings. Determination of a course’s focus area is at the discretion of the faculty adviser.

Focus Areas

Bible and Rabbinics/Ancient Judaism
RELI V3512 The Bible and its Interpreters
RELI GU4637 Talmudic Narrative
RELI W4520 Patriarchal and Rabbinic Authority in Antiquity
RELI V3501 Introduction To the Hebrew Bible
RELI V3508 Origins of Judaism
RELI V3561 Classics fo Judaism: Ethics of the Fathers
RELI V2510 Jews and Judaism in Antiquity

Medieval Judaism
HIST UN2657 Medieval Jewish Cultures
HIST W3616 Jews and Christians in the Medieval World
RELI W4510 The Thought of Maimonides
RELI V3870 Inquisitions, New Christians, and Empire
RELI GU4515 Reincarnation and Technology
HIST UN3180 Conversion in Historical Perspective

Modern Judaism
HIST W3630 American Jewish History
RELI V3571 Judaism, Jewishness, and Modernity
MDES UN3542 Introduction to Israeli Literature

Israeli Society
MDES UN3541 Zionism: A Cultural Perspective
MDES UN3542 Introduction to Israeli Literature

Gender and Judaism
HIST W3640 Jewish Women and Family, 1000-1800
RELI V3570 Women and Judaism: Folklore or Religion?
RELI W4504 Reading the Patriarchal and Matriarchal Stories in Genesis

Jewish History and Culture
MUSI G4125 Jewish Music: Uniqueness and Diversity
RELI V3585 The Sephardic Experience
RELI W4503 Readings from the Sephardic Diaspora
RELI UN2306 Intro to Judaism
RELI W4511 Jewish Ethics
HIST UN2657 Medieval Jewish Cultures
HIST UN3645 Spinoza to Sabbatai: Jews in Early Modern Europe

Jewish Literature
CLYD UN3500 Readings In Jewish Literature: Humor In Jewish Literature [In English]
YIDD UN3800 Readings in Yiddish Literature: The Family Singer [In English]
Jewish Studies courses are housed in a number of departments throughout the University. For current and past course offerings, please see below.

**Fall 2019 Courses of Interest**

**Comparative Literature**

CLRS GU4037  Poets, Rebels, Exiles: 100 Years of Russian and Russian Jews in America (Comparative Literature)

**Germanics**

YIDD UN1101  Elementary Yiddish I

YIDD UN1102  Elementary Yiddish II

YIDD UN2101  Intermediate Yiddish I

CLYD GU4200  A Taste of Yiddish [In English]

**History**

HIST BC3651  Jewish Tales from Four Cities: The Immigrant Experience in New York, Buenos Aires, Paris and London

HIST UN2628  History of the State of Israel, 1948-Present

**Middle East, South African, and Asian Studies**

MDES UN1501  First Year Modern Hebrew: Elementary I

MDES UN2501  Second Year Modern Hebrew: Intermediate I

MDES UN2517  Hebrew for Heritage Speakers I

MDES GU4501  Readings in Hebrew Texts I

MDES GU4510  Third Year Modern Hebrew I

**Latin American and Iberian Cultures**

SPJS UN3303  Jewish Culture in Translation in Medieval Iberia

**Music**

MUSI UN2030  Jewish Music of New York

**Political Science**

JWST GU4510  Rules and Reasons: Israeli Law vs. Jewish Law

**Religion**

RELI GU4807  Divine Human Animal

RELI GR9901  Research in Religion I

RELI UN3901  Guided Reading and Research

RELI GU4524  Theories of the Unconscious and Jewish Thought

**Sociology**

SOCI GR6010  ISRAELI SOCIETY: SPEC

**Spring 2019 Courses of Interest**

**American Studies**

AMST UN3931  Topics in American Studies (American Studies)

**Film**

JWST GU4145  Topics in Israeli Cinema (Jewish Studies)

**Germanic Languages**

YIDD UN1101  Elementary Yiddish I (Yiddish)

YIDD UN1102  Elementary Yiddish II

YIDD UN2101  Intermediate Yiddish I

YIDD UN3520  Magic and Monsters in Yiddish Literature [In English]

**History**

HIST UN2657  Medieval Jewish Cultures (History)

HIST UN3644  Modern Jewish Intellectual History

**Journalism**

Journalist as Historian (J6002)

**Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Studies**

MDES UN1502  First Year Modern Hebrew: Elementary II

MDES UN2502  Second Year Hebrew: Intermediate II

MDES UN2518  Hebrew for Heritage Speaker II

MDES GU4502  Fourth Year Hebrew: Readings II

MDES GU4511  Third Year Modern Hebrew II

JWST GU4537  Modernism, Nationalism, Revival: Readings in Modern Hebrew Literature

**Religion**

JWST UN2610  Introduction to Modern Jewish Thought

RELI UN3199  Theory

**Additional Courses, Including Those Not Currently Offered**

**Germanic Languages**

YIDD UN2102  Intermediate Yiddish II

YIDD UN3333  Advanced Yiddish

YIDD UN3520  Magic and Monsters in Yiddish Literature [In English]

YIDD W3550  Twentieth-Century Yiddish Literature and Film [In English]

**History**

HIST UN2611  Jews and Judaism in Antiquity

HIST UN2628  History of the State of Israel, 1948-Present

HIST UN2630  American Jewish History

HIST UN2657  Medieval Jewish Cultures

HIST UN3604  Jews and the City

HIST W4610  The Ancient Jews and the Mediterranean

HIST W4611  Jews and Muslims in the Middle Ages

HIST W4635  Ancient Jewish Texts: Leviticus Rabbah

**Middle Eastern, South Asian, and African Studies**

MDES UN1502  First Year Modern Hebrew: Elementary II

MDES UN2502  Second Year Hebrew: Intermediate II

MDES W1516  Second Year Hebrew: Intensive Grammar Review

MDES UN3541  Zionism: A Cultural Perspective

CLME W3546  Intro to Hebrew Literature

MDES GU4510  Third Year Modern Hebrew I

**Religion (Barnard)**

RELI W4501  Psalms Through the Commentary of the Baal Shem Tov

RELI W4505  The Beginnings of Jewish Mysticism

RELI W4508  Jewish Philosophy and Kabbalah

**Religion**

RELI V3501  Introduction To the Hebrew Bible

RELI V3512  The Bible and its Interpreters

RELI UN3315  Readings in Kabbalah

RELI V3571  Judaism, Jewishness, and Modernity

RELI V3585  The Sephardic Experience
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