

Judaic Studies

The Program in Judaic Studies provides students with an excellent opportunity to explore a wide range of social, cultural, political, religious, and psychological concerns reflected in the historical development of Jewish civilization throughout the ages. Christianity and Islam have deep roots in Judaism, and the Western world has been profoundly shaped by deep and abiding interactions with both Jewish religious traditions and the Jewish communities in its midst. Therefore, the Program includes the study of relations between Jews and non-Jews in the ancient, medieval, and modern periods. The analysis of texts, from the Hebrew Bible to contemporary Israeli literature, from the Kabbalah to modern Jewish autobiography, from philosophical treatises to communal record books, is central to courses offered by the Program. In the Program in Judaic Studies courses students develop their understanding of a wide variety of disciplines which our faculty members practice in their study of Jews and Judaism—history, philosophy, religious studies, literary studies, and archaeology—and how those disciplines facilitate the growth of knowledge. The history and culture of Israel and its place in the Middle East is another focus of study in the Program. Students are given the opportunity to study up to six semesters of modern Hebrew with the goal of fluency in the language. A two-semester sequence of courses in biblical Hebrew is also offered. These course sequences enable students to develop the skills necessary to make use of Hebrew as a means of understanding Jews and Judaism throughout history.

For additional information, please visit the department's website: <http://www.brown.edu/academics/judaic-studies/> (http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Judaic_Studies/)

Judaic Studies Concentration Requirements

Jews have lived and flourished over thousands of years in a variety of social contexts, stretching from the Land of Israel and the eastern Mediterranean to Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas. Concentrators will have the opportunity to study Jews in these contexts, getting to know their social structures, and what they have created. The subjects of study cover an astonishing range, including history and society, Jewish law and philosophy, and Jewish literature and ritual. Students will learn to unlock this wealth in both the ancient and the modern worlds through a number of academic disciplines - History, Religious Studies, and Literature. These also provide tools for studying and analyzing human societies and cultures in general, for which Jewish experiences provide an important perspective.

PROGRAM IN JUDAIC STUDIES

Required Coursework

A concentration in Judaic Studies includes the following requirements:

1. All students are required to take a total of *10 courses* that count toward the concentration.
2. All students must take one full year of modern Hebrew (two of the 10 required courses for the concentration) or fulfill the Hebrew requirement through examination. Usually, the Hebrew requirement is fulfilled by taking HEBR 0100 and HEBR 0200. Fulfillment of the Hebrew requirement through examination does not reduce the total number of 10 courses required for the concentration.
3. Students choosing to continue with Hebrew language study may count up to two additional Hebrew courses (HEBR 0300, HEBR 0400, or HEBR 0500) toward fulfillment of the concentration requirements. HEBR 0600 is counted as a regular, non-language course for the purposes of fulfilling concentration requirements.
4. Of the courses required for a concentration in Judaic Studies, students must fulfill both a historical and a methodological breadth requirement. For example, students primarily studying ancient Judaism must enroll in at least one course in medieval or modern Judaism, and students studying primarily modern Judaism must enroll in at least one class focusing on the ancient or medieval period. In addition, at least one course should offer training in a discipline different from the student's primary disciplinary interest (e.g., a student whose main interest is

Jewish history will take at least one course in Jewish thought, literature or religion). These two breadth requirements ensure that the student gains a broader perspective on Judaic Studies as an interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary field of study concerned with Jews and Judaism over three millennia of history.

5. Subject to the approval of the concentration adviser, up to two courses outside of Judaic Studies that relate directly to the concentration may be counted toward the concentration (e.g., a course on a particular historical context, in a particular discipline, or on a relevant topic, including courses taken abroad that are approved by Brown for transfer credit).
6. After consultation with the concentration adviser, each senior concentrator who is not writing a senior thesis in Judaic Studies to fulfill the capstone requirement will designate an advanced course (1000 level) in Judaic Studies as that student's capstone course. Alternatively, seniors may choose to do an independent study with a Judaic Studies faculty member that will function as the capstone course. Within the context of the capstone course, the student will conduct independent research and write a substantial paper of 20-25 pages on a topic in Judaic Studies that displays in an appropriate way the theoretical and methodological approaches, as well as the interpretive issues, most of interest to the student, thereby engaging the student's particular disciplinary focus/foci in a serious and substantive way. The student, in consultation with the capstone instructor, will complete the capstone form by the end of the second week of classes of the semester during which the capstone will be undertaken and submit the form to the concentration adviser for final approval. The form includes questions about the capstone course, the topic of the paper, the disciplinary approach(es) the student intends to utilize, and how the paper will fulfill the goals of the capstone. The capstone is an opportunity for students to hone their writing skills, to enhance their ability to undertake independent research, to learn more about and experience Judaic Studies as an interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary field, to make well-considered choices with regard to the topic or problem to be examined and the disciplinary approach(es) to be utilized, and to make use of language skills where appropriate.
7. Double concentrators may count up to two courses that deal with Jewish history, society, culture or religion that they have used to complete the requirements of their other concentration toward their Judaic Studies concentration.
8. Each student who opts to write a senior thesis to fulfill the capstone requirement will approach a potential thesis adviser in Judaic Studies before the end of the second semester of the junior year and secure that faculty member's agreement to advise the thesis. The thesis will be written over two semesters during the senior year and constitute two of the 10 required courses for the concentration. By the end of the second week of classes of the senior year, the student will present the concentration adviser with a succinct thesis plan approved by the thesis adviser. The second reader of each thesis will be chosen by the concentrator in consultation with the thesis adviser before the end of September of the senior year. Once the second reader has agreed to participate, the second reader will read a draft of each chapter of the thesis and provide feedback after it has been approved by the thesis adviser. In no case will the second reader be invited to participate after the thesis has been completed.
9. Study Abroad or Elsewhere in the US: Students who study at other institutions, either in the United States or abroad, may apply up to two topical courses (non-language study) toward completion of the concentration's requirements as long as Brown approves the courses for transfer credit. These approved courses will count as the two courses taken outside Judaic Studies. Students who study in Israel are required to enroll in a one month Summer/Winter Ulpan (a Hebrew language and cultural immersion course) prior to the beginning of the semester as well as a Hebrew language course during their semester in Israel. Students will receive one transfer credit toward the concentration for both of these language courses combined. Students whose level of proficiency allows them to enroll in a university course conducted in Hebrew are exempt from the Ulpan requirement.

Student Goals

Students in this concentration will:

- Have an opportunity to explore aspects of the history, culture, literature, religion, politics, thought and societies of the Jews from ancient times to the present
- Acquire at minimum an elementary proficiency in Hebrew
- Complete a capstone course or honors thesis
- Have an opportunity to explore some of the ways in which more than one discipline contributes to the study of Jews and Judaism through time and space
- Have an opportunity to learn about the often complex dynamics characteristic of the interactions of Jews with others in their larger environment as well as the reciprocal influences of Jewish and non-Jewish cultures.

Further Information

Students who are interested in further information about the concentration should contact the Judaic Studies Office at 163 George Street to make an appointment with the undergraduate concentration advisor. [Tel: 401.863.3910] or Judaic@brown.edu.

Courses

Biblical Hebrew

BHBR 0100. Introduction to Biblical Hebrew.

An intensive introduction to the fundamentals of biblical Hebrew grammar and vocabulary intended to prepare students to read biblical texts in the original language. For students with little or no prior knowledge of Hebrew.

BHBR 0200. Readings in Biblical Hebrew.

An introduction to the reading of biblical texts in Hebrew. Reading of selected texts from narrative, law, and poetry in the Hebrew Bible, with a few texts in post-classical Hebrew (the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Mishnah) introduced late in the semester. Intended for students who have completed BHBR 0100; others should consult the instructor.

Hebrew

HEBR 0100. Elementary Hebrew.

An introduction to the skills of reading, writing, and conversing in contemporary Israeli Hebrew. Students also read Hebrew texts adapted for their level of Hebrew based on biblical, rabbinic, and modern Hebrew literature, which introduce them to the approaches of Hebrew writers in various periods and to a variety of cultural issues. If registration is closed, please contact the professor and a wait list will be created. This is the first half of a year-long course whose first semester grade is normally a temporary one. Neither semester may be elected independently without special permission. Enrollment limited to 20.

Fall	HEBR0100	S01	16443	TTh	1:00-2:20(08)	(R. Adler Ben Yehuda)
Fall	HEBR0100	S01	16443	MWF	1:00-1:50(08)	(R. Adler Ben Yehuda)

HEBR 0200. Elementary Hebrew.

This is the second half of a year-long course, an introduction to the skills of reading, writing, and conversing in contemporary Israeli Hebrew. Students also read Hebrew texts adapted for their level of Hebrew based on biblical, rabbinic, and modern Hebrew literature, which introduce them to the approaches of Hebrew writers in various periods and to a variety of cultural issues. Prerequisite: HEBR 0100. Students must have taken HEBR 0100 for credit to receive credit for this course. Exceptions must be approved by both the academic department and the Committee on Academic Standing. Enrollment limited to 20.

Spr	HEBR0200	S01	25112	TTh	1:00-2:20(06)	(B. Adler)
Spr	HEBR0200	S01	25112	MWF	1:00-1:50(06)	(B. Adler)

HEBR 0300. Intermediate Hebrew.

Develops the skills of reading, writing, and conversing in contemporary Israeli Hebrew at the intermediate level and of reading Hebrew texts of the biblical, rabbinic, and modern periods (biblical stories, rabbinic legends, modern Hebrew poems, stories, essays, newspaper articles). Discussions and compositions focus on the psychological, cultural, political, and social issues reflected in the Hebrew sources that we study. Prerequisite: HEBR 0200 or equivalent. Enrollment limited to 20. If unable to enroll because of closed registration, please contact the professor and a wait list will be created.

Fall	HEBR0300	S01	16444	TTh	12:00-12:50(15)	(R. Adler Ben Yehuda)
Fall	HEBR0300	S01	16444	MWF	12:00-12:50(15)	(R. Adler Ben Yehuda)

HEBR 0400. Intermediate Hebrew.

Develops the skills of reading, writing, and conversing in contemporary Israeli Hebrew at the intermediate level and of reading Hebrew texts of the biblical, rabbinic, and modern periods (biblical stories, rabbinic legends, modern Hebrew poems, stories, essays, newspaper articles). Discussions and compositions focus on the psychological, cultural, political, and social issues reflected in the Hebrew sources that we study. Prerequisite: HEBR 0300 or equivalent. Enrollment limited to 20. If unable to enroll because of closed registration please contact the professor and a wait list will be created.

Spr	HEBR0400	S01	25113	TTh	12:00-12:50(01)	(R. Adler Ben Yehuda)
Spr	HEBR0400	S01	25113	MWF	12:00-12:50(01)	(R. Adler Ben Yehuda)

HEBR 0500. Writing and Speaking Hebrew.

Enables students to improve their skills in speaking and writing Hebrew on a variety of topics. Features advanced work on language structure and active language practice in the classroom. Class discussions of Israeli current events draw on Israeli stories, poems, television programs, and films and on the Israeli press. Students also compose essays and stories in Hebrew. Prerequisite: HEBR 0400 or equivalent. Enrollment limited to 20.

Fall	HEBR0500	S01	16445	TTh	2:30-3:50(12)	(R. Adler Ben Yehuda)
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HEBR 0600. Issues in Contemporary Israeli Society, Politics, and Culture in Hebrew.

An exploration of current issues in contemporary Israeli society, politics, and culture: the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, tensions between ultra-orthodox and secular Jews, religion and state, Israel as a Jewish and democratic state, the economic gap between rich and poor, the integration of citizens from a variety of backgrounds (Jews of Middle Eastern, North African, Russian, and Ethiopian origin; Arab citizens of Israel), gender relations. Sources include films, television programs, Internet news, works of literature. Conducted in Hebrew. Emphasizes strengthening Hebrew reading, writing, and speaking skills. Prerequisite: HEBR 0500. Students who have not taken HEBR 0500 should see instructor for permission to enroll.

Spr	HEBR0600	S01	25114	MWF	10:00-10:50(03)	(D. Jacobson)
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Judaic Studies

JUDS 0050A. Believers, Agnostics, and Atheists in Contemporary Fiction and Memoirs.

In recent decades, there has been a resurgence of religiosity in contemporary society, while at the same time many have been skeptical and even hostile to religious belief and practice. Others are just not sure what to believe. We will study selections of fiction and memoirs by writers of Christian and Jewish background that explore such situations as the affirmation or negation of the existence of God, the role of religious ritual in a person's life, and the positive and negative impacts on society of religious institutions and the clergy who lead them. Enrollment limited to 19 first-year students.

Fall	JUDS0050A	S01	16446	MWF	10:00-10:50(14)	(D. Jacobson)
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JUDS 0050E. From Amsterdam to Istanbul: Christians, Muslims, and Jews.

This course combines text, picture, and music to study the history of Europe and the wider world in the early modern period through the eyes of a minority. Examines the new Jewish centers in the Atlantic world, the Ukrainian steppe, and the Middle East from 1500-1800, and how they shaped these environments. Students study cultural revolutions, such as the spread of printing, the renaissance and new religious movements. See how the development of the modern state and the blurring of social, religious, and gender boundaries created new definitions of religious and cultural identity. Enrollment limit: 19 first year students.

JUDS 0050H. Israel's Wars.

Israel's history has unfolded under the shadow of its prolonged conflict with the Palestinians and its Arab neighbors. This first year seminar will survey the military aspect of this conflict. The major aim of the course is to present an historical survey of the Israeli-Arab wars and Jewish-Palestinian encounters in the 20th century. This will provide some of the necessary background for understanding the present phase of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East, and help in comprehending the roots and causes of contemporary controversies between Israel and the Palestinians and/or its Arab neighboring states. Enrollment limited to 19 first year students.

JUDS 0050J. Friendship in the Ancient World (RELS 0090F).

Interested students must register for RELS 0090F.

JUDS 0050K. Hope, Despair, and Longing in Jewish Thought.

What does messianism try to name in Jewish thought? From the divergence with Christianity, to the disappointed expectation of the 17th-century messiah Sabbatai Zvi and the rise of Hasidism and its reverence for the saintly (zaddik); from questions of justice, equality, and revolution to the interpretation of Jewish Statehood through the lens of supernal redemption, the messianic idea provides a window onto how Jews have made sense of exile and suffering, hope and longing. This class will introduce students to the history of Jewish thought through the lens of messianism, asking about the emotions and attachments that have become identified with the messianic idea and how this idea might help us understand political and ethical despair and longing in a world of human suffering.

Fall JUDS0050K S01 17106 TTh 1:00-2:20(06) (P. Nahme)

JUDS 0050L. The Jew in the Modern World.

How have Jews come to terms with dynamic nature of the Modern World? How has life in new places and new times affected Jewish life? We will look at the changing structures of Jewish identity in the modern period as the Jews came to terms with their new, and ever changing situation in society. Each week a different form of Jewish identity will be examined in its specific historical setting. Among others we will look at a Court Jew, an Enlightened Jew, a Jewish Nationalist, a Jew in a Nazi Ghetto, an Israeli Jew, and a contemporary American Jew. Enrollment limited to 19 first year students.

JUDS 0050M. Difficult Relations? Judaism and Christianity from the Middle Ages until the Present.

Jewish and Christian identity in Europe has traditionally been closely connected to the ways the two religions view each other. Mutual admiration, influence, and hatred have combined together in a difficult relationship, fundamental to European history. In this course, we will survey that relationship, examining some key issues and events which shaped it. The Jews' attitudes and actions will be examined alongside those of their Christian neighbors. Topics covered include: medieval revulsion and attraction; early modern re-evaluations of Judaism and Christianity; modern Christian anti-Semitism, Jewish diplomacy, and the Holocaust; the effects of Vatican II; Israel and the contemporary Christian world.

JUDS 0050N. Death and Afterlife in the Biblical Tradition (RELS 0090J).

Interested students must register for RELS 0090J.

JUDS 0050P. Sacred Spaces: Synagogues, Churches, Mosques.

In this seminar we will examine the architecture and art of synagogues, churches, and mosques from antiquity through the present. We will learn how different building traditions evolved over time, and how sacred spaces reflect beliefs and practices of Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Of interest will be both unique regional and chronological trends—characteristics that are indicative of a specific religious community—but also the parallels and shared features common to all Abrahamic religions. Special attention will be given to questions of gendered space and the role of patriarchy and women's agency in shaping religious architectures.

JUDS 0060. The Bible and Moral Debate.

How was the Bible employed in past moral debates that divided American society, e.g., debates over the legitimacy of slavery? How is the Bible used in contemporary moral discourse, e.g., concerning abortion, capital punishment and gay rights? What does the Bible really have to say about such issues? This course will consider these and other questions through a close reading of pertinent texts which address topics such as abortion, homosexuality, capital punishment, immigration, gender, family violence, race and slavery, disability, genocide, the environment and inequality of wealth. No prerequisites.

Spr JUDS0060 S01 25116 TTh 2:30-3:50(11) (S. Olyan)

JUDS 0061. Foreigners, Refugees, and the Ethics of Minority.

This class interrogates the legal and ethical definitions of persons and homelands by examining the relationship between concepts of native and foreigner, hospitality and neighbour, refuge and exile, minority and majority. We will adopt historical, philosophical, and legal perspectives and take the Jewish historical experience of exile and minority as a jumping off point for discussing the contemporary refugee and migration crisis. The goal of this class is to contextualize liberal democratic debates over rights to migration and mobility with historical religious and moral sources as well as to explore the possibilities for social integration of difference within pluralism.

JUDS 0062. Intro to the New Testament (RELS 0022).

Interested students must register for RELS 0022.

JUDS 0063. Antisemitism: A History.

Antisemitism is sometimes called the "longest hatred," and from Pittsburgh to Paris it is on the rise. This course will examine the history of antisemitism and antisemitic tropes; theoretical approaches to its persistence; and individual case studies. Topics will include: Christian and Muslim anti-Judaism; racism; economic stereotypes; and modern manifestations in the U.S. and Europe.

JUDS 0064. Angels and Demons: Past and Present.

What are angels and demons, what roles do they play in religious thought, and how do their roles change or remain consistent over time? These are only a few of the questions this course seeks to address. Texts to be considered include the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament), the New Testament, the Dead Sea Scrolls, rabbinic literature, the Kabbalah, records of the Salem Witch Trials, Milton's Paradise Lost, Goethe's Faust, the Book of Mormon, contemporary Evangelical literature and New Age writings, and representations of angels and demons in film and television. No prior knowledge of the Bible, Judaism or Christianity is assumed.

Fall JUDS0064 S01 18200 TTh 2:30-3:50(12) (S. Olyan)

JUDS 0065. Ancient Israelite and Jewish Narrative and Artistic Image.

Ancient Israel produced a great body of narrative art that is preserved in the Bible—Genesis, Exodus, the warriors of Judges, the story of David's founding of Israel and the succession to Solomon. The Jewish culture that followed extended the story-telling tradition in new directions—Daniel, the "novel women" of Esther, Susanna, and Judith. These brilliant and powerful stories inspired equally powerful images in art and sculpture. Both story and image still affect us. This course will explore the ancient narratives as story and the art they inspired as visual image.

JUDS 0067. Jesus (RELS 0014).

Interested students must register for RELS 0014.

JUDS 0069. Exodus: Freedom in the Modern Black and Jewish Religious Imaginations (RELS 0085A).

Interested students must register for RELS 0085A.

JUDS 0080A. Ethics After Auschwitz?.

Can we still speak of a “human condition”—a moral term—when human beings are capable of genocide? Does ethical responsibility have meaning if another’s death can be manufactured by the state? Can traditional morality and religion still find a place in a world of which it cannot make sense? In this class, we will take the Holocaust as the beginning of a tragic account of contemporary humanity and examine the possibilities for human life and morality in light of the social and political orchestration of mass killing and oppression. Authors include, Adorno, Agamben, Arendt, Fackenheim, Foucault, Levi, and Levinas.

JUDS 0090C. Intermediate Biblical Hebrew.

An intermediate course for those who have completed JUDS 0090A and 0090B, the introductory level courses. Focus on reading a single biblical book (translation, grammar and syntax, interpretation).

JUDS 0090D. Intermediate Biblical Hebrew II.

An intermediate course, the continuation of JUDS 0090C. Focuses on reading a single biblical book (translation, grammar and syntax, interpretation). Intended for students who have completed JUDS 0090C; others should consult the instructor.

JUDS 0601. Authority and Autonomy.

This course will introduce the history of Jewish thought, focusing upon the problems of authority and autonomy, normativity and agency, law and freedom. We will investigate the relationship between legally mandated actions and an individual’s responsibility to tradition and community and question whether the concept of revealed “law” imposes a “necessary” obligation upon ethical agency or rather serves a pedagogical function (virtue). By focusing upon Jewish philosophical critiques and endorsements of the modern conception of autonomy, we will ask whether “I” am the legitimate authority of my own actions or whether I require tradition or community to set an example.

JUDS 0602. Gender in Early Jewish and Christian Texts (RELS 0195).

Interested students must register for RELS 0195.

JUDS 0603. Race, Religion, and the Secular (RELS 0817).

Interested students must register for RELS 0817.

JUDS 0606. Gender in Early Jewish and Christian Narratives.

Many of the favorite narratives of Jews and Christians in the ancient period (for this course, about 400 BCE to 300 CE) featured women characters or emphasized issues of gender: Esther, Judith, and Susanna; Mary Magdalene and other gospel women, or Thecla, the perhaps legendary companion of Paul. Both Jewish and Christian texts used gender to explore new ways of constructing heroic women and men that either re-inscribed or challenged traditional roles. This seminar takes up a close reading of narrative texts, compared also with wisdom texts (Proverbs, Ben Sira, Wisdom of Solomon, Avot).

JUDS 0607. Defense Against the Dark Arts in the Ancient World (RELS 0290H).

Interested students must register for RELS 0290H.

JUDS 0608. The Parting of the Ways?: Questioning Jewish/Christian Difference.

How did a small apocalyptic Jewish movement from the backwaters of the Roman Empire turn into something that “we” might call Christianity? In other words, how and when did Judaism and Christianity “part ways?” While such questions might present themselves as straight-forward investigations into a historical event, they are not, in fact, as innocent as they might first appear. In this course, we will not seek to answer the question of the “Parting of the Ways” as much as we will critique it. Our aim is to reframe this crucial question by reflecting on the categories of religion, conversion, origins, narrative, and history, among others. We will read through a wide variety of ancient literature (including canonical and non-canonical Christian texts, rabbinic literature, Jewish poetry) and broach modern forms of “Jewish Christianity.”

JUDS 0617. Jewish Women: Between Conformity and Agency.

This undergraduate seminar studies Jewish women in different temporal and geographical contexts, internally within their own communities and externally with other neighboring religious groups. Visual and material sources (iconography, artefacts, architectures, film) are examined in dialogue with texts (biblical and Talmudic writings, medieval and modern commentaries, contemporary literature) to explore the binary of male authority and female agency. Case studies will encompass the Middle East and Europe from antiquity to the present. Two field trips will complement the visual and theoretical focus in class.

JUDS 0625. Israelite Religion (RELS 0320).

Interested students must register for RELS 0320.

JUDS 0630. The Old Testament/Hebrew Bible and Its World.

An introduction to the historical-critical study of the Hebrew Bible and a reconstruction of the history of Israel to the end of the Persian period (332 B.C.E.). Topics include biblical source criticism; Israel’s obscure origins; reconstructing the settlement period; an imperial Israel under David and Solomon; institutions-law and authority, covenant, prophecy, temple cult and priesthood. All readings in translation. No prerequisites.

JUDS 0651. Race, Sexuality, and the Jews.

This seminar offers an interdisciplinary and intersectional examination of the historical and contemporary experiences of Jews from antiquity through the present. We will learn about social and cultural constructions of race, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality, focusing on Jews and other neighboring minority and majority communities; we will study how in different geographical and temporal spheres these communities have defined or blurred boundaries, shaping both distinctly visible and invisible characteristics; we will examine how perceptions of race and ethnicity have changed over time and across circumstances and how the traditional binary of men and women has been reinforced throughout but also how it has been challenged and altered in various contexts.

JUDS 0670. War and Peace in the Hebrew Bible and its Environment.

An examination of the role of war and peace in the Hebrew Bible and in texts and art of ancient Israel’s neighbors. Topics include divine beings, war and peace-making; peace treaties; explaining defeat and victory; ideologies of warfare; the treatment of prisoners, corpses and captured bones; the warrior as masculine ideal; civil war and coups; treaty obligations; ritual dimensions of war and peace (e.g., mourning, animal sacrifice, child sacrifice, divination, memorializing war); visual representations of war as propaganda; the idea of a future, eschatological war between the forces of good and the forces of evil. No prerequisites.

JUDS 0671. Sex and Gender in Ancient Israel.

An investigation of Israelite views of the sexes, restrictions on sexual expression, and the construction of gender as evidenced by biblical sources and archeological data. Topics include creation stories on human origins and the human condition, including the origin of the two sexes and reproduction; marriage and family life (inheritance, intermarriage, divorce, the widow, status of the fetus); sexual boundaries (adultery, rape, incest, prostitution, homoeroticism); purity and sexual expression; male and female religious professionals and votaries; constructing gender: masculine and feminine behaviors.

JUDS 0680. Judaism, Christianity, and the Bible.

No book in human history has exercised as much influence as the Bible. Over the past 2,000 years, people have killed and died for the Bible, and it continues to exercise a powerful if contested role in modern politics. Yet how did it achieve this power? This course will trace the development of the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) from its origins in ancient Israel to its development about five hundred years later as a foundational text of both Judaism and Christianity. The focus will be on how Jews and early Christians throughout antiquity understood and ascribed authority to the Bible.

JUDS 0681. Great Jewish Books.

A survey of classic Jewish texts, from the Bible to modern literature. Each text will be discussed from the perspective of both its own historical and social context and its engagement with earlier ones. Attention will be paid on how these authors address perennial issues of human concern and how their answers are shaped by their experience as Jews.

JUDS 0682. How the Bible Became Holy.

Over the past 2,000 years, people have killed and died for the Bible, and it continues to exercise a powerful if contested role in modern politics. Yet how did it achieve this power? This course will trace the development of both the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) and the New Testament, from their origins to their status of foundational texts of Judaism and Christianity. The focus will be on how Jews and early Christians throughout antiquity understood and ascribed authority to the Bible. No prior knowledge necessary.

JUDS 0682A. Bible became Holy (RELS0325).

Interested students must register for RELS 0325.

JUDS 0683. Jews and Money.

In the West, there has always been a complicated relationship between Jews and money. In the first part of this course, we will examine, both theoretically and empirically, the complex relationship between Jews, capitalism, socialism, nationalism, and anti-Semitism. In the second part of the course, we will return to the one aspect of the "cultural capital" that is sometimes said to have helped Jews to prosper: their religious tradition. We will put these religious teachings into conversation with pressing modern questions such as: What is "wealth" and "ownership"? Do the rich and poor have obligations to each other?

JUDS 0684. Great Jewish Books (RELS 0323).

Interested students must register for RELS 0323.

JUDS 0685. Judaism, Christianity, and Islam (RELS 0088).

Interested students must register for RELS 0088.

JUDS 0686. The Ten Commandments.

A history of the Ten Commandments from the Bible to today. How have the commandments been understood by Jews and Christians throughout time? What symbolic importance have they had?

Spr JUDS0686 S01 25117 W 3:00-5:30(10) (M. Satlow)

JUDS 0703. From Margins to Center: Jews and Whiteness in America.

From being a minority suffering religious and ethnic discrimination in eastern Europe, the Jews who came to America underwent a process of integration towards becoming white Americans. Taking as its point of departure the fact that Jews have not always been considered "white people," this class will explore the history of the Jews in America through the following lenses: How did white America's attitude towards the Jews develop and change? How did American Jews negotiate their attitude to race and their relations with non-white minorities? What roles did antisemitism play in these processes?

JUDS 0820. The Language of Religious Faith.

A course on the ways poetry provides a language of religious faith that emerges from the sense of a divine presence in human experience. We will explore how this language of religious faith expresses a wide range of both negative and positive responses by those seeking a relationship with this divine presence, including fear, doubt, guilt, abandonment, ecstasy, gratefulness, hopefulness, and security. Our study of this phenomenon will yield insights into the relationship between psychology and spirituality. Sources will include the biblical books of Psalms and Job and contemporary Jewish and Christian poetry.

JUDS 0830. The Bible as Literature.

Explores how methods of literary analysis can be applied to the reading of narratives of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible (in English translation). Also compares the ways that modern writers have transformed biblical stories into new interpretive literary works. For students interested in an introduction to the Bible, as well as students with a knowledge of the Bible who want to deepen their understanding of biblical narratives and investigate the influence of the Bible on modern literature. All readings in English.

Fall JUDS0830 S01 16456 MWF 11:00-11:50(16) (D. Jacobson)

JUDS 0831. Holocaust Literature.

Readings in works of prose and poetry by victims and survivors of the Holocaust that portray experiences in ghettos, in concentration camps, and in hiding. Exploration of the moral, psychological, religious, and cultural dimensions of the Holocaust and what it can teach us about human nature.

JUDS 0840. "Coming Out" Jewish, Gay or Black: Mistaken Identity in Literature from USA and Brazil (POBS 0820).

Interested students must register for POBS 0820.

JUDS 0901. Brothers Betrayed: Jews and Poles from 1500 until Today.

Jews have lived on Polish lands for some nine hundred years. In that time, they and their non-Jewish neighbors have interacted in a wide range of ways, from friendship and co-operation to hatred and violence. In this course, we examine this centuries long relationship, focusing particularly on how peaceful co-existence between Poles and Jews could rapidly change to bitter hostility. Topics include: Jews and the early-modern nobility; the nineteenth-century "Polish-Jewish Brotherhood"; the exclusionary politics of the interwar Polish republic; Poland's role in the Holocaust; the post-war Communist regime and the Jews; Polish-Jewish relations following the collapse of communism.

JUDS 0902. History of the Holocaust.

Explores questions raised by the Holocaust regarding how such barbarism erupted in our so-called civilized and enlightened age. Attempts to analyze the meaning of the Holocaust from three vantage points: that of European, and more particularly, German history; that of Jewish history; and that of those states and religious institutions which shared responsibility. Enrollment limited to 40. If unable to enroll because of closed registration please contact the professor and a wait list will be created.

Spr JUDS0902 S01 25118 TTh 1:00-2:20(08) (A. Teller)

JUDS 1002. Targumic Aramaic.

A systematic study of the grammar of Targumic Aramaic followed by readings from Targum Onqelos to the Book of Exodus. Prerequisite: knowledge of the grammar of a Semitic language (preferably Hebrew). Open to undergraduates and graduate students with the necessary background. Regular attendance and thorough preparation are mandatory for all students in this class. By the end of the semester, we will have translated at least four chapters of the Onqelos Targum to Exodus. This course will serve as a foundation for any further work students intend to do with Aramaic (e.g., Old, Imperial, Biblical, Talmudic).

JUDS 1530. Prophets and Priests in Exile: Biblical Literature of the 6th Century BCE.

The exile of Judah's elite to Babylon elicited profound and conflicting literary responses. We will undertake a literary and historical analysis of a number of the most important works produced in response to the crisis of exile, including Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Second Isaiah, Lamentations, Psalm 137, the Priestly Writing, and the work of the exilic deuteronomists. Enrollment limited to 20.

JUDS 1600A. Race, Religion, and Ethnicity in the Study of Antiquity (RELS 1600A).

Interested students must register for RELS 1600A.

JUDS 1601. Jewish and Christian Identity in the Ancient Period.

The modern engagement with the many ways that we construct identity has been matched by a similar wave of studies about identity construction in the ancient world. In this course we will discuss the rise of "Judaism" and "Jewish identity" in the ancient period (looking at roughly 400 BCE-200 CE), and compare it with the movement of the followers of Jesus as a negotiation of a new identity within Judaism (roughly 30 CE-200 CE). We will conclude with the question of the "Parting of the Ways" of these two groups.

JUDS 1602. Mishnah and Tosefta.

An examination and close reading of the Mishnah and Tosefta, two third-century CE documents foundational to rabbinic Judaism. The class will focus on both contemporary scholarly understandings of these texts and readings, in the original Hebrew, of the text itself. Knowledge of Hebrew (biblical, rabbinic, or two years of modern or its equivalent) required.

JUDS 1603. On the Margins of the Bible: Jewish and Christian Non-Canonical Texts.

Ancient Jews and Christians produced many texts that were not canonized in the Bible, texts often as interesting, beautiful, or theologically rewarding as those later canonized. Why were they not also included? What was the process of canonization, and who was in charge? What were the contexts that produced the non-canonical texts? Were the texts omitted at odds with the mainstream, or even dangerous? What value did they have in the ancient world, and what value do they hold today for historical understanding? We will study some of the best of these texts, comparing them to biblical texts.

JUDS 1605. Social World of the Early Christians (RELS 1320).

Interested students must register for RELS 1320.

JUDS 1606. Educating Bodies in Ancient Christianity (RELS 1325A).

Interested students must register for RELS 1325A.

JUDS 1610. The Archaeology of Jerusalem: From the Origins to the Ottomans.

Jerusalem earned a special eminence among the world's famed ancient cities. Its sanctity to Jews, Christians, and Muslims made the city a focus of discussions and controversies regarding the evolving and changing identities throughout its long urban history. 1700+ archaeological excavations and surveys in and around the Old City have been conducted over the last 150 years. Examine the material remains of the city from the beginnings in the Chalcolithic period through the Ottoman period, 1917 CE. The contemporary literary sources as well as the more recent scholarly debates and discoveries help us understand the material remains of the relevant periods.

JUDS 1611. The Dead Sea Scrolls.

The Dead Sea scrolls have been rightly celebrated as changing our fundamental understanding of ancient Jewish and Christian history as well as the Bible. But what is in them, and why do they matter? In this course we will read through most of the scrolls in English translation and cover topics such as: authorship; historical context; religious practice; and scripture and its interpretation. The course will develop skills in analytical writing, close reading, and historical reasoning. Enrollment limited to 20.

JUDS 1613. Religion and Postcolonialism.

When eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Western scholars turned their gaze toward the East they began fetishizing the wonders and mysteries of the "Orient". This powerful myth of the Orient helped to reimagine the Jews of Europe as an "internal colony" and also helped justify the colonization of and Christian missionizing among peoples abroad. This course will examine the social, political, and scholarly representations of religious and cultural otherness of Jews, Muslims, and Hindus who experienced Christianity as both a colonizing force as well as a model for imagining the nationalist projects of their post-colonial states.

JUDS 1614. The Political Theology of the "Jewish Question".

This class explores the theologico-political predicament of European modernity: the modern problem of negotiating seemingly insoluble social and political tensions often rooted in purportedly absolute norms and claims. Tracing the interwoven problems of race, religion, and secularism in the European "Jewish Question," we will inquire into the possibilities for alternative, fugitive modes of being for racialized people. Authors include Arendt, Carter, Derrida, Du Bois, Fanon, Sartre, Schmitt, Strauss and Wilderson, Wynter.

Fall JUDS1614 S01 16457 W 3:00-5:30(10) (P. Nahme)

JUDS 1615. The Archaeology of Palestine.

Palestine constitutes one of the most important archaeological regions connected to the origins of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. In this class we will examine the material remains of the region beginning in pre-historic times until the end of the Ottoman period in 1917. Literary sources as well as the more recent scholarly debates and discoveries help us understand the material remains of the relevant periods.

JUDS 1616. Adam and Eve in Early Biblical Interpretation (RELS 1144).

Interested students must register for RELS 1144.

JUDS 1617. Jewish Women: Between Conformity and Agency.

This seminar studies Jewish women in different temporal and geographical contexts, internally within their own communities and externally with other neighboring religious groups. Visual and material sources (iconography, artifacts, architectures, film) are examined in dialogue with texts (biblical and Talmudic writings, medieval and modern commentaries, contemporary literature) to explore the binary of male authority and female agency. Case studies will encompass the Middle East and Europe from antiquity to the present.

JUDS 1625. Problems in Israelite Religion and Ancient Judaism.

A series of topics in Israelite religion and ancient Judaism which are of current scholarly interest are explored in a seminar setting. Students are encouraged to read widely and pursue individual research interests. The course assumes a basic knowledge of biblical literature and scholarly criticism. Enrollment limited to 20.

JUDS 1630. The Talmud.

Written from the first - seventh centuries CE, the Talmud (which runs to 20 volumes) contains law, lore, theological speculation, and complex argumentation. We will read a selection in depth and examine both traditional and modern critical (e.g. historical and literary) approaches to this fundamental text. No prerequisites; all texts in English translation. Enrollment limited to 20.

JUDS 1635. Problems in Israelite History.

Topics of recent and current debate among specialists in the field of Israelite history. Problems include (1) the historicity of the patriarchs and matriarchs; (2) the historical evidence relevant to the question of an exodus; (3) the nature of Israel's settlement in Canaan; (4) the 10th century, era of empire or literary fiction? (5) the land of Judah after the Babylonian conquest. Enrollment limited to 20.

JUDS 1640. Judaism: History and Religion.

Surveys the major practices, traditions, and beliefs of the Jews, with an emphasis on modern Jewish communities. How does a Jewish community shape its practices and beliefs against its own specific historical circumstances to create a coherent and meaningful religious system? What is "Judaism," and how do scholars of religion explain and interpret it?

JUDS 1645. Jews and Judaism in the Greco Roman Mediterranean.

An advanced survey of the evidence for Jews and Judaism in the Greco-Roman Mediterranean (Egypt, Asia Minor, Rome, North Africa, etc.). Sources include synagogue mosaics, burial and donor inscriptions, personal documents, and references in non-Jewish writers, including Christians. Also considers what theoretical models best enable us to reconstruct the identity, practices and beliefs of the ancient diaspora Jewish communities. Enrollment limited to 20.

JUDS 1650. Religion and Sexuality.

For millennia, religious thinkers have wrestled with the nature of sexuality. This class will examine how these thinkers have dealt with the essential questions that sexuality raises. Why do humans have sexual desire? Are there proper limits to sexual activity? While the focus of this class will be on Judaism and Christianity from antiquity to the present, we will also discuss Hindu, Muslim, and Tantra views. Topics to be addressed include: the nature and purpose of human sexual desire; contraception; adultery; homosexuality; abortion; and masturbation. No prerequisites.

JUDS 1654. Russian Jewish Literature and Film (RUSS 1900).

Interested students must register for RUSS 1900.

JUDS 1655. Religion in the Dead Sea Scrolls (RELS 1150).

Interested students must register for RELS 1150.

JUDS 1665. Imposing Orthodoxy: "Jews," "Pagans" and "Heretics" when Constantinian Christianity Won (HMAN 1970I).

Interested students must register for HMAN 1970I.

JUDS 1670. Ancient Synagogues, Churches, and Mosques in Palestine.

Reviews the discoveries and related scholarship of ancient synagogues, churches, and mosques in ancient Palestine. Focuses on their architectural and decorational as well as their spiritual and religious characteristics, and examines how those institutions influenced each other throughout their history of development.

JUDS 1675. Parting of the Ways: The Separation of Judaism and Christianity.

Jesus may have been Jewish, but for many centuries, Jews and Christians alike have considered their religions and their self-identifications to be mutually exclusive. When, why and how did these differences become definitive? Some modern scholars argue that "the ways parted early": others contend that they never parted at all! We focus on the period before Christianity becomes the official religion of the Roman Empire (late 4th century C.E.), with attention to persons in antiquity who contested these distinctions, and even to some in our own time ("Hebrew Christians," "Messianic Jews," and "Jews for Jesus"). Enrollment limited to 20.

JUDS 1676. Jerusalem Divided: Politics and Cultural Heritage (URBN 1870K).

Interested students must register for URBN 1870K.

JUDS 1680. The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Qumran is one of the most prominent archaeological sites in the world. Its fame derives from its proximity to a series of caves in which some 800 ancient scrolls were found. Scholars have debated the relevance of this site to the histories of Judaism and Christianity. This seminar will examine the debates regarding the character of Qumran through the material finds from old and new excavations conducted at the site itself and in the Dead Sea region. The lectures and readings are intended to stimulate a discussion about how to use texts and material culture for reconstructing the past. Enrollment limited to 20.

JUDS 1690. Prophets and Priests in Exile: Biblical Literature of the 6th Century BCE.

The exile of Judah's elite to Babylon elicited profound and conflicting literary responses. We will undertake a literary and historical analysis of a number of the most important works produced in response to the crisis of exile, including Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Second Isaiah, Lamentations, Psalm 137, the Priestly Writing, and the work of the exilic deuteronomists. Enrollment limited to 20.

JUDS 1695. Philo (RELS 1130).

Interested students must register for RELS 1130.

JUDS 1696. Kabbalah: An Introduction to Jewish Mysticism (HMAN 1971U).

Interested students must register for HMAN 1971U.

JUDS 1701. Jews and Revolutions in the 20th Century.

The 20th century was an age of revolutions, both political and social, in which Jews played pivotal roles. The student uprisings of the 1960s, the Feminist revolution, and the rise of the LGBTQ movement were crucial moments of change in the development of the western world. We will discuss the Jews' roles in all these revolutionary movements, as well as in the great political revolutions of the time.

JUDS 1702. Creating the Global Economy: Entrepreneurial Jews, 1690-2010.

What can the experience of the Jews teach us about the growth of the modern economy in the era of globalization? What were the economic, political, and cultural conditions that allowed Jewish bankers to create the economic networks that helped underpin the modern world? We will answer these questions by examining the careers and interactions of the major Jewish bankers and banking dynasties such as the Rothschilds, Jacob Schiff, and Gerson Bleichroder. We will see how these Jewish economic networks helped create - and were exploited by - the modern European economic systems of Europe, the United States and Israel.

JUDS 1711. History of the State of Israel: 1948 to the Present.

This course surveys the history of Israel from its Proclamation of Independence in 1948 until today. Israel's history has unfolded under the shadow of its prolonged conflict with the Palestinians and its Arab neighbors. At the same time, an entirely new, vibrant and dynamic society and culture has developed there. This course aims to familiarize the student with the major outlines of Israel's development, and with different narratives and interpretations of that history. The reading materials and class discussions will examine not only the Arab-Israeli conflict, but also its influence on Israeli politics, society and culture.

Spr JUDS1711 S01 25120 TTh 10:30-11:50(09) (R. Rojanski)

JUDS 1712. History of Zionism and the Birth of the State of Israel.

Examines the history of the Zionist movement within the context of the history of European nationalism and as one of numerous Jewish political responses to rising antisemitism. Explores the ideological and political foundations of the Zionist movement until Israel's establishment as well as broader concerns of Jewish politics in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

JUDS 1713. Introduction to Yiddish Culture and Language.

Yiddish was the language spoken by most Jews in Eastern Europe and the countries to which they emigrated (including the U.S., England, South Africa, South American countries, and Israel) from the nineteenth century until after the Holocaust. It was the basis for a transnational Jewish culture and literature, and it played a central role in modern Jewish political life. We will explore the history of Yiddish culture and the development of the Yiddish press, literature, and cinema. The connection between Yiddish and modern Jewish politics will also be discussed. Students in this course will also have the opportunity to develop a basic knowledge of the Yiddish language.

Fall JUDS1713 S01 16458 Th 4:00-6:30(04) (R. Rojanski)

JUDS 1714. Memoirs and Memory: The Individual Experience of Modern Jewish Life.

By comparing memoirs from the early modern period through contemporary times and from widely divergent geographical settings such as eastern, central and western Europe, North Africa, the U.S., and Palestine/Israel, this course considers how Jews in different historical settings have understood their "Jewishness" and their relationship to their past, as well as the historian's role in this relationship. Enrollment limited to 20.

JUDS 1715. Women and Gender in the Modern Jewish World.

This course will focus on Jewish women's encounters with modernity in a variety of contexts: Western and Eastern Europe, United States, and Israel. The goal of this course is to uncover the experiences of Jewish women and to use gender analysis as a means of enriching our understanding of Jewish life. Students will consider how gender has shaped Jewish women's experience in the context of immigration, assimilation, religious observance, home, work, motherhood, family, and feminism.

JUDS 1716. The End of Modern Jewish History.

This course addresses the changes to the Jewish diaspora throughout the second half of the twentieth century. It begins by considering the constellation of processes that defined modern Jewish history from the 1750s until the 1940s, including demographic growth; geographic spread; the struggle for political and legal emancipation; cultural, social, and economic integration; and the birth of modern anti-Semitism. The course then asks in what ways the Holocaust and the birth of Israel transformed Jewish life in the diaspora, positing that in the 1940s a new era of Jewish history began.

JUDS 1718. Modernity, Jews, and Urban Identities in Central Europe.

The course will explore the distinct cultural identities that Jewish modernist intellectuals like Walter Benjamin, Gershom Scholem, Sigmund Freud, Franz Kafka and Karl Kraus forged for themselves in response to the conflicting challenges of assimilation, anti-semitism and modernization. Readings will be based on primary sources and special emphasis will be placed on the historical contexts of Berlin, Vienna, Budapest and Prague where these thinkers lived their lives.

JUDS 1721. Making Sparks Fly: Mysticism and Politics in the History of Hasidism.

Hasidism was a social movement founded on mystical ideas. Using the texts of its greatest masters, we will learn how revolutionary new ideas about God and the world became a powerful movement for social change. We will examine Hasidism's kabbalistic background, and the mystical ideology of the Ba'al Shem Tov and his followers. We will focus on the development of the *Zaddik* and the Hasidic Court, as well as their conflicts with the rabbinic and community establishments in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The seminar will involve critical reading of primary sources in translation and class discussions of historiography.

JUDS 1722. Money, Power, Sex and Love: Gender and the Family in Modern Jewish History.

Traditional Jewish society was patriarchal, though the forms this power took changed over time. It was also limited, even subverted, by various roles played by women. Since Jewish family life was very much under the control of Jewish women, the family was another place where women were able to wield power. Examining the history of gender and family allows us to examine the limits of patriarchal control and construct a new, often surprising picture of how Jewish society actually functioned. It also sheds new light on how the various forms of modern Jewish family we recognize today grew and developed.

JUDS 1723. Jews and Muslims.

This course considers interactions between Muslims and Jews in various historical settings from the early Islamic world, to Medieval Spain, to contemporary Europe and the Middle East. The goal is to move beyond simplistic histories of interfaith utopia, Islamic persecution, and Zionist domination to consider the complexities of ethno-religious interaction in a variety of social, cultural, economic and political contexts.

JUDS 1726. Jewish Humor and Commercial Entertainment in Early 20th-Century Europe and America.

The seminar explores the relationship between humor, popular culture and Jewish ethnic identity in early 20th-century Europe and America. It argues that self-deprecating humor and satiric performance of Jewish stereotypes were not expressions of self-hatred, but complex cultural gestures that led to integration within mainstream society. Topics to be considered are: the joke as a social gesture; the Jewish music hall as an urban institution; the politics of blackface in American Vaudeville; the East-European Jews in Hollywood.

JUDS 1728. Slavery in the Early Modern World (HIST 1964L).

Interested students must register for HIST 1964L.

JUDS 1729. Revolution and Romanticism in 19th Century Europe (HIST 1230A).

Interested students must register for HIST 1230A.

JUDS 1730. The Lower east side: Immigration and Memory.

For many, Manhattan's Lower East Side symbolizes the immigrant Jewish experience in America. Its image is highly romanticized: descriptions of everyday life and commerce as well as Jewish cultural and political life present the L.E.S. as a thriving center of authentic Jewish experience. The reality however was more complex. Most American Jews never lived in the Lower East Side and those who did found life there extremely difficult and challenging. This class will explore Jewish immigrant experience in the United States and trace the ways in which the L.E.S. has become part of the American collective memory.

JUDS 1731. A Commonwealth of Many Nations? Early Modern Poland-Lithuania (HIST 1551).

Interested students must register for HIST 1551.

JUDS 1732. New York, Warsaw, Tel Aviv, Buenos Aires: Transnational Jewish Cultures in the 20th Century.

Being a diasporic people without a nation-state until the mid-20th century, the Jews in Eastern Europe created Jewish cultures that were also influenced by the non-Jewish environment. How did these cultures develop in the age of mass migrations? How did the new Jewish cultures express the ideas of "homeland" and "diaspora?" Was the Jewish/Hebrew culture created in Israel part of the Jewish cultural discourse, or did it define itself separately? During the course, we will explore Jewish culture in four cities, also examining their relations with each other, in order to understand the transnational nature of these unique Jewish cultures. Enrollment limited to 40.

JUDS 1733. Early Modern Globalization: Jewish Economic Activity, 1500-1800 (HIST 1974M).

Interested students must register for HIST 1974M.

JUDS 1734. German Jews and Capitalist Markets in the Long Nineteenth Century (GRMN 1660L).

Interested students must register for GRMN 1660L.

JUDS 1736. Early Modern Globalization (HIST 1974M).

Interested students must register for HIST 1974M.

JUDS 1739. Kabbalah: An Introduction to Jewish Mysticism (HMAN 1971U).

Interested students must register for HMAN 1971U.

JUDS 1740. Kabbalah: Jews, Mysticism, and Magic.

What are the relationships between Man, God, and the World? Over the centuries, Jewish mystics have sought and found many different answers to this question. In doing so, they created new spiritual formations for Judaism to supplant rational philosophy as bearer of the truth about the Cosmos. We will examine the most important mystical texts produced by Jews to understand this crucial strand of Jewish - and Human - religious, spiritual, and cultural development. Among other books, we will read from the Zohar, Lurianic Kabbalah, the false messianic testimonies of the Sabbathean movement, Hasidism, and the thought of Martin Buber. Enrollment limited to 20.

JUDS 1742. Modern Jewish History and Society.

The study of Jews in their historical and contemporary communities of western and eastern Europe, the U.S., and Israel. Major themes include emancipation and assimilation; secularization and new religious expressions; the Holocaust and modern anti-Semitism; Zionism; immigration, ethnicity, and nationalism; family and intermarriage; education, Jewish culture, and politics.

JUDS 1743. American Jewish History.

By the mid-20th century, the U.S.'s Jewish population was one of the world's largest and most important. In 1654, however, when 23 Jews landed in New Amsterdam, their position was far from assured. The history of American Jewish settlement is considered by exploring the interaction between the political, social, and cultural environment and successive waves of Jewish migrants.

JUDS 1745. History of the Holocaust.

Explores questions raised by the Holocaust regarding how such barbarism erupted in our so-called civilized and enlightened age. Attempts to analyze the meaning of the Holocaust from three vantage points: that of European, and more particularly, German history; that of Jewish history; and that of those states and religious institutions which shared responsibility. Enrollment limited to 50. If unable to enroll because of closed registration please contact the professor and a wait list will be created.

JUDS 1746. Renewal in 20th Century Europe (HIST 1230C).

Interested students must register for HIST 1230C.

JUDS 1750. Jews in the World of Islam.

This course introduces students to Jews in the Islamic World from the beginnings of Islam through the modern era. Topics include the legal and social status of Jews under Islam, the structure and schisms of the Jewish community in Islamic empires, Jewish-Muslim relations, the intellectual transformations of Judaism under the impact of Islamic and Arabic culture, and historiographic perspectives. Students will be exposed to a range of primary and secondary source materials and have an opportunity to pursue a research topic in depth.

JUDS 1751. Jews Between Christians and Muslims in the Early Modern World.

What were the different experiences for Jews living among Christians and Muslims? How did Islam and Christianity affect the development of Jewish society and culture? Examine these questions by looking at two flourishing Jewish centers from 1500-1800: one in the Muslim Ottoman Empire, the other in the Christian Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Topics to be discussed include: Christian and Muslim attitudes towards Jews and the Jews' response to them; Jewish communities in Polish and Ottoman towns; the development of Jewish law in both settings; Christianity, Islam, and anti-Jewish violence; the interactions of Jewish, Muslim, and Christian mystical movements. Enrollment limit: 20.

JUDS 1752. Zionists Anti Zionists and Post Zionists: Jewish Controversies in the 20th Century.

In Jewish historical memory, Zionism is seen as the dominant Jewish national ideology throughout the 20th century. However, emerging in 1897, the Zionist movement aroused significant Jewish opposition. Many different Jewish ideologies developed, ranging from non-Zionism to anti-Zionism. This course will discuss the different arguments used by both Zionists and their opponents. We will look at the various options: Zionism, Diaspora Nationalism, Socialism and Communism, and Reform Judaism (before 1967), as well as Israeli Zionism and the opposition it aroused from Post-Zionists. Our focal question will be: why did Zionism evoke so much opposition among different Jewish groups.

JUDS 1753. Blacks and Jews in American History and Culture.

African Americans and American Jews have interacted throughout the history of the United States. Through readings, images, and films, this course will explore this complex, sometimes tortured relationship in its religious, cultural and political aspects. It will discuss the role of Jews in the slave trade, the contributions of both groups to American popular culture, both groups' involvement in the struggle for the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the rise of Black Power, attitudes to Zionism, affirmative action and more. We will try to answer the question how the experiences of both groups both overlapped and led to conflict.

JUDS 1801. Jewish Magic.

This course is designed to introduce you to a wide variety of texts representing magical beliefs and practices found in mainstream and marginal Jewish life from the biblical and rabbinic through the early modern periods (with some present-day comparison). It is also designed to acquaint you with some of the kinds of literature (legends, liturgical compositions, chronicles, exempla, amulets, magic recipe books) that describe magical practices with varying degrees of sympathy. One question we will ask in our discussions is how the literary representations of magic relate to actual magical beliefs and practices of their time.

JUDS 1810. Israeli Literature in Hebrew.

For students interested in reading selections of Hebrew fiction, drama, and poetry. Concentrates on major issues of the State of Israel, for example: the relationship between modernity and tradition, responses to the Holocaust, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and other cultural, social, and political issues. Israeli feature films are viewed and discussed. Conducted in Hebrew. Emphasizes strengthening Hebrew reading, writing, and speaking skills. Prerequisite: JUDS 0500. Students who have not taken JUDS 0500 should see instructor for permission to enroll.

JUDS 1820. Holocaust Literature.

Readings in works of prose and poetry by victims and survivors of the Holocaust that portray experiences in ghettos, in concentration camps, and in hiding. Additional readings in works of the post-war era by survivors and their offspring. Discussion of the moral, psychological, religious, and cultural dimensions of the Holocaust and its ongoing impact on humanity.

JUDS 1830. Esthers of the Diaspora (POBS 1500H).

Interested students must register for POBS 1500H.

JUDS 1840. The 'New Jew' and the Diaspora: Voices from Israel, Brazil and America (POBS 1500W).

Interested students must register for POBS 1500W.

JUDS 1933. Early Modern Globalization (HIST 1974M).

Interested students must register for HIST 1974M.

JUDS 1970. Individual Study Projects.

Section numbers vary by instructor. Please see Banner for the correct course reference number (CRN) to use when registering for this course.

JUDS 1974. Digging for the Bible: Science, Religion, and Politics.

Archaeological exploration in the "Holy Land" began in the mid-19th century and was motivated by the quest to discover the biblical sites. This region features among the most important visual and material remains connected to the origins of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. This seminar will explore the relevant material remains from the Bronze Age through the end of the Ottoman period, and examine how these finds and their interpretations were shaped by religious and political motivations from the earliest endeavors to the present day.

JUDS 1975. Honors Thesis Semester I.

First of two semesters working with a faculty member in the Program in Judaic Studies to complete an honors thesis. Instructor permission required.

JUDS 1976. Honors Thesis Semester II.

Second of two semesters working with a faculty member in the Program in Judaic Studies to complete an honors thesis. Instructor permission required.

JUDS 2040. Yiddish for Research.

This is a course in Yiddish reading for research purposes designed primarily for advanced undergraduates and graduate students. This means that the emphasis will be on learning how to read and decipher a range of texts in modern Yiddish in different genres written. We will read the Yiddish classics and discuss their language, style and content, as well as newspaper articles published at the beginning of the 20th century and various historical documents. We will learn to read and understand non-standard pre-1930s Yiddish as well as American and Soviet Yiddish. Participation in this course requires the instructor's permission. Enrollment limited to 40.

JUDS 2060B. Methods in Ancient History (HIST 2970I).

Interested students must register for HIST 2970I.

JUDS 2450. Exchange Scholar Program.