

The Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies offers a Specialist in Jewish Studies, a Major in Jewish Studies, and a Minor in Jewish Studies.

Our undergraduate program provides students with a comprehensive education in Jewish Studies, a field that aims to situate the cultural, social, and economic diversity of the Jews and their faith within broader cultural contexts. Students who take our courses are trained in various methodological and disciplinary approaches across historical periods, geographical regions, textual corpora, and literary genres. Consequently, our students are pursuing education in Jewish history (ancient, medieval, modern, and contemporary), Jewish literary and artistic creativity, and Jewish languages (mainly Modern Hebrew, Biblical Hebrew, and Yiddish) but also about Judaism, Jewish thought, theology, philosophy, mysticism, and modern Israel.

The program is interdisciplinary, each student can pick and choose courses that broaden their disciplinary knowledge. The program provides intensive training in the historical, religious, cultural, and political experience of Jewish communities in their diverse civilizational contexts. A primary objective of our three undergraduate programs in Jewish studies has been to provide students with forward-thinking tools to shape their interaction with and understanding of questions through Jewish prisms while at the same time encouraging them to think with the potentialities found in the Jewish historical experience. We teach students how to use a variety of methodologies to explore the experiences of Jews through interdisciplinarity, transnationally, historically, and contemporarily.

We offer the following pathways in Jewish Studies:

- Jewish Philosophy and Thought
- Jewish History
- Jewish Visual Art and Archeology
- Jewish Literature and Culture
- Origins of Judaism/Hebrew Bible Studies
- German Jewish Studies
- Antisemitism Studies
- Jewish Christian Encounters
- Yiddish Studies
- Modern Hebrew Culture
- Israel Studies
- Holocaust and post-Holocaust Studies
- European Jewish Studies
- Jewish Environmentalism
- Jewish-Muslim Relations
- Sephardi and Middle Eastern Jewish Studies
- Gender, Women, Queer and Sexuality and Jewish Studies

Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies Programs

The ATCJS is an open enrolment program, which means any student that has successfully completed 4.0 FCEs may join our program. There are no specific first-year requirements; however, first-year students are welcome to take CJS200H1, CJS201H1, Hebrew Language courses (MHB155H1 and MHB156H1) and Yiddish (GER260Y1), which count towards the Jewish Studies Specialist.

Jewish Studies Specialist (Arts Program) — ASSPE0385

Completion Requirements: 10.0 credits, including 4.0 credits at the 300+ level, and 1.0 credit must be at the 400-level

1. CJS200H1/ CJS201H1
2. 1.0 credit at the 400-level; fulfilled by any 400-level courses listed in the Centre for Jewish Studies Undergraduate Course Handbook.
3. 3.0 credits in Hebrew or Yiddish:
Hebrew language courses: MHB155H1/ MHB156H1/ MHB255H1/ MHB256H1/
MHB355H1/ MHB356H1/ NML155H1/ NML156H1/ NML255H1/ NML256H1/ NML355H1/
NML356H1
Yiddish language courses: GER260Y1/ GER360H1/ GER460H1/ GER463Y1.
Students entering the program with proof of requisite linguistic proficiency in Aramaic, Hebrew, Yiddish will choose any 3.0 credits in an area of study (see above) in addition to the regular requirements described in section 4. Other languages are accepted with special permission of the Undergraduate Director.
4. 5.0 credits in any of the four areas of Jewish Studies. All courses in the Centre for Jewish Studies Undergraduate Course Handbook count towards this requirement.
5. Note: From section 3 and 4, at least 4.0 credits at the 300+ level.
6. DTS300H1 or a 0.5 credit to satisfy the Quantitative Reasoning competency of the program, to be chosen from courses in the Centre for Jewish Studies Undergraduate Course Handbook developing this competency. If none is available, a 0.5 credit from Breadth Requirement Category #5: The Physical & Mathematical Universe, or a 0.5 credit approved by the Undergraduate Director.

Codes Used in Course Listings:

Course Code:

3 letters denoting the department or college sponsoring the course

3 numbers denoting the level

1 letter indicating the credit or full-course equivalent (FCE) value (H = 0.5 credit, Y = 1.0 credit)

1 number indicating the campus (1 = St. George campus)

For example, ANT100Y1 is a 100-level course taught by the Department of Anthropology, with a credit value of 1.0, taught at the St. George campus.

Section Code:

F = fall session (September to December)

S = winter session (January to April)

Y = fall and winter sessions (September to April)

Time:

M = Monday

T = Tuesday

W = Wednesday

R = Thursday

F = Friday

S = Saturday

Where more than one letter is used for a meeting section, classes meet on each day indicated. Classes begin at 10 minutes after the hour and finish on the hour. For example, a class with a time of “TR10–11” meets on both Tuesday and Thursday, beginning at 10:10am and ending at 11:00am. A class with a time of “M3–5” meets on Mondays from 3:10pm to 5:00pm

Please note: This handbook lists the courses offered with their respective descriptions. While most courses here can be defined as “core” Jewish Studies courses, CJS students are also invited to register for more general courses that are listed here (for example, HIS242H1 “Europe in the 20th Century” or RLG209H1 “Justifying Religious Belief”); however, students are asked to submit a paper with a Jewish Studies focus. Students are encouraged to meet with the Undergraduate Director, Professor Yigal Nizri (yigal.nizri@utoronto.ca), in order to discuss their program of study. Students should contact Ms. Natasha Richichi-Fried (cjs.events@utoronto.ca) regarding Degree Explorer.



Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

מרכז למדעי היהדות

CJS200H1F - Introduction to Jewish Thought

Tuesday 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM & Thursday 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Sol Goldberg & Michael Rosenthal

A balanced presentation of the multifaceted approach to the discipline by treating Jewish religion and thought. The course introduces students not only to a chronological and thematic overview of the subject but also to different methodological approaches.

Breadth Requirement: Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

CJS201H1S - Introduction to Jewish Cultures

Friday 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

ATCJS faculty members led by Yigal Nizri

This course explores the multifaceted nature of Jewish cultures through twenty key concepts frequently debated in public discourse and academic debates. Team-taught by ten faculty members specializing in Jewish Studies, this course aims to lay the foundation for a Jewish culture lexicon drawing from diverse disciplinary and critical approaches. The lectures also span various geographic, linguistic, and aesthetic contexts, allowing students to appreciate the cultural implications, social challenges, material aspects, and intellectual significance surrounding each term.

CJS290H1S - Topics in Jewish Studies "Zionism, Anti-Zionism, and Post-Zionism"

Monday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Sol Goldberg

Zionism emerged in late nineteenth-century Europe (alongside other species of Jewish nationalisms) with a radical proposal to change not only Jews' social and cultural conditions as an ethno-religious minority but also their basic self-conception. This proposal, at once a renewal and a repudiation of Jewish tradition, has been debated by Jews inside and outside the movement ever since. Internally, political Zionists, cultural Zionists, religious Zionists, liberal Zionists, revolutionary Zionists, etc. disagreed among themselves about the movements' ideals and goals as well as about the proper means to their realization, while, externally, ultraorthodox Jews, Reform Jews, and assimilationist Jews all had their reasons to oppose Zionism in general. In the wake of the Holocaust, most of the world's remaining Jews acknowledged Zionism's necessity and took pride in its incredible success in establishing Israel as a Jewish and democratic state. Yet, even then, debates about Zionism's purposes and principles persisted among Jews both within and beyond the new state's borders. Recent years have witnessed a dramatic intensification of these debates, as Jewish communities around the world find themselves fractured into Zionist, anti-Zionist, and post-Zionist camps that offer competing narratives and assessments about the past 150 years of Jewish history. What might Jews mean today when they identify as Zionist, anti-Zionist, or post-Zionist? What reasons do they give to themselves and to other Jews to justify these identities? How do other Jews respond to Jewish identities that contradict their own? This course takes up these questions to help students understand better these live and heated debates among Zionists, anti-Zionists, and Post-Zionists about Jews' identity, flourishing, and future.

CJS330H1 F - Who's a Jew? Myth, Theory, and Practice

Wednesday 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Sol Goldberg

This course introduces students to the host of core concepts in terms of which Jewish identity has been and continues to be defined and debated. Topics include the difference between insiders and outsiders; collective vs individual identity; the nature of the bond between group members; identification across time, space, and disagreements; social and gendered hierarchies; joining and leaving the group; the identities of outsiders.

Breadth Requirement: Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

CJS383H1S - Jews and Power

Tuesday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Olga Talal

Cross-listed with POL378H1S [Topics in Comparative Politics II]

CJS390H1F - (Special Topics in Jewish Studies) Religion and Religiosity in Israel/Palestine

Thursday 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Yigal Nizri

Cross-listed with RLG338H1S

CJS391H1F - (Special Topics in Jewish Studies) Soviet Jewish History, Culture, and Diaspora

Thursday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Anna Shternshis

The course examines the history, culture and diaspora of Russian-speaking Jews in the 20th and 21st centuries. We will discuss how Jews experienced the Russian Revolution of 1917, Stalinism, the Soviet Great Terror of 1937, World War II and the Holocaust, post-war challenges, the “Thaw” of the 1960s, “Stagnation of the 1980s”, the Dissident movement, Perestroika, the collapse of the Soviet Union and the development of post-Soviet diasporas. We will read works by both Soviet Jewish authors, including Vassily Grossman, Shira Gorshman, Isaac Babel, Rivka Levin and post-Soviet ones, such as David Bezmozgis, Lara Vapnyar and Boris Fishman, study artifacts of anti-religious propaganda such as Red Passover Celebration scripts, discuss oral histories of Soviet Jews, read scripts of Yiddish theatre performances (in English translation), and scrutinize (and maybe even try) recipes of Soviet Jewish food. No prior knowledge is required, but if you took a course on European history or Jewish history, it will be an asset.

Pre-requisites: Completion of at least 4.0 credits

CJS391H1S - (Special Topics in Jewish Studies) Becoming Israel: War, Peace, and the Politics of Israel’s Identity

Monday 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Olga Talal

Pre-requisites: Completion of at least 4.0 credits

Cross-listed with POL377H1S

CJS392H1F - (Special Topics in Jewish Studies) Women in 20th-Century Jewish Philosophy

Tuesday 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Carolyn Beard

This class seeks to expand our understanding of the canon of twentieth-century Jewish philosophy by studying major movements in the field through the work and writings of women philosophers. In this course, students will read and critically reflect on the writings of twentieth-century Jewish women philosophers that address not only issues of gender, but also major questions in twentieth-century Jewish thought, including tradition and observance, faith and revelation, and the problem of evil. Students will read thinkers including Emma Goldman, Rosa Luxemburg, Regina Jonas, Edith Stein, Simone Weil, Margarete Susman, Hannah Arendt, and Judith Butler. Students will leave the class with greater familiarity with major thinkers and a deeper understanding of major issues in twentieth-century Jewish thought.

Pre-requisites: Completion of at least 4.0 credits

CJS392H1S - (Special Topics in Jewish Studies) A Literature is Born: Exploring the Evolution of Modern Yiddish and Hebrew Literature

Tuesday 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Miriam Schwartz

Though often studied separately, modern Hebrew and Yiddish literature were "born" at the same time and place. This course will trace their joint development from their emergence (since 1816!) to the present day. Through the course readings we will ask how Yiddish and Hebrew literary circles intersect and engage with each other over time. We will critically explore and challenge fundamental narratives and assumptions about Hebrew and Yiddish literature, examining the nuanced relationships between language, place, and culture. Asking what is the role of languages in shaping one's identity. And what is the role of literature in forming and negotiating national and cultural identities? All reading materials will be provided in English translations.

Pre-requisites: Completion of at least 4.0 credits

CJS396H1F - Independent Study

A scholarly project on an approved topic supervised by a faculty affiliated with the Centre for Jewish Studies. For details, please visit the ATCJS webpage on Independent Studies Courses. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Pre-requisites: CJS200H1 or CJS201H1, and permission from the CJS Undergraduate Director. At least 2.0 credits in Jewish Studies courses

CJS396H1S - Independent Study

A scholarly project on an approved topic supervised by a faculty affiliated with the Centre for Jewish Studies. For details, please visit the ATCJS webpage on Independent Studies Courses. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Pre-requisites: CJS200H1 or CJS201H1, and permission from the CJS Undergraduate Director. At least 2.0 credits in Jewish Studies courses

CJS444H1S - Topics in the Study of Antisemitism

Thursday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Ron Levi & Sol Goldberg

This seminar explores in depth one of the many theoretical or methodological issues that confront scholars of antisemitism. Possible topics include definitions of antisemitism and their purposes; philosemitism and its conceptual and real connection with antisemitism; Jewish self-hatred; contextualist vs externalist accounts of antisemitism; classic and contemporary theories of antisemitism.

Pre-requisites: CJS200H1 or CJS201H1, and permission from the CJS Undergraduate Director

CJS498Y1Y - Independent Study

A scholarly project on an approved topic supervised by a faculty affiliated with the Centre for Jewish Studies. For details, please visit the ATCJS webpage on Independent Studies Courses.

Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Pre-requisites: CJS200H1 or CJS201H1, and permission from the CJS Undergraduate Director. At least 2.0 credits in Jewish Studies courses

CJS499H1F - Independent Study

A scholarly project on an approved topic supervised by a faculty affiliated with the Centre for Jewish Studies. For details, please visit the ATCJS webpage on Independent Studies Courses.

Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Pre-requisites: CJS200H1 or CJS201H1, and permission from the CJS Undergraduate Director. At least 2.0 credits in Jewish Studies courses

CJS499H1S - Independent Study

A scholarly project on an approved topic supervised by a faculty affiliated with the Centre for Jewish Studies. For details, please visit the ATCJS webpage on Independent Studies Courses.

Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Pre-requisites: CJS200H1 or CJS201H1, and permission from the CJS Undergraduate Director. At least 2.0 credits in Jewish Studies courses



DTS200Y1Y - Introduction to Diaspora and Transnational Studies I

Wednesday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Anna Shternshis

What is the relationship between place and belonging, between territory and memory? How have the experiences of migration and dislocation challenged the modern assumption that the nation-state should be the limit of identification? What effect has the emergence of new media of communication had on the coherence of cultural and political boundaries? All of these questions and many more form part of the subject matter of Diaspora and Transnational Studies. This introductory course examines the historical and contemporary movements of peoples and the complex issues of identity and experience to which these processes give rise as well as the creative possibilities that flow from movement and being moved. The area of study is comparative and interdisciplinary, drawing from the social sciences, history, the arts and humanities. Accordingly, this course provides the background to the subject area from diverse perspectives and introduces students to a range of key debates in the field, with particular attention to questions of history, globalization, cultural production and the creative imagination.

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representation(1), Society and its Institutions (3)

DTS300H1S - Qualitative and Quantitative Reasoning

Tuesday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Alejandra Gonzalez Jimenez

Focuses on research design and training in methods from history, geography, anthropology, literary and cultural studies, and other disciplines appropriate to Diaspora and Transnational Studies. Prepares students to undertake primary research required in senior seminars.

Breadth Requirement: The Physical and Mathematical Universes (5)

Pre-requisites: Completion of 9.0 credits



Anthropology
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

ANT426H1S - Western Views of the Non-West

Wednesday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Ivan Kalmar

The history and present of Western concepts and images about the 'Other', in anthropological and other scholarship and popular culture.

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representation (1)

Pre-requisites: 0.5 credit at the 300-level from Anthropology Group C: Society, Culture, and Language, or Near and Middle Eastern Civilization or Jewish Studies or Diaspora and Transnational Studies or History



Germanic Languages & Literatures
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

GER260Y1Y - Elementary Yiddish

Monday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM & Wednesday 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

TBA

This course introduces Yiddish language, literature, music, theatre, and cinema through interactive multi-media seminars, designed to build proficiency in reading, writing and comprehending. No prior knowledge of Yiddish is required.

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representation (1)

GER275H1F - Marx, Nietzsche, Freud

Wednesday 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

TBA

This is an introductory course to the thought of Karl Marx, Friedrich Nietzsche, and Sigmund Freud and their pioneering contributions to the understanding of the individual and society in modernity. Readings include selections from writings of the early Marx, the Communist Manifesto, and Capital, Nietzsche's critique of culture, academe, and nationalism, and Freud's theory of culture, his views on the psychopathology of everyday life, on the meaning of dreams, symptoms, the return of the repressed, and what it might mean to live in a free society.

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representation (1)

GER360H1F - Intermediate Yiddish

Tuesday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM & Thursday 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

TBA

The course conducted in Yiddish offers a review of basic grammar, stylistics, study of short literary texts.

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representation (1)

GER361H1F - Yiddish Literature in Translation

Thursday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

TBA

An overview of the major figures and tendencies in modern Yiddish literature and culture from the beginning of the 19th century to the present. Readings (in English) of modern Yiddish prose, poetry, drama and cinema.

Pre-requisites: GER205H1

GER460H1S - Advanced Yiddish

Tuesday 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

TBA

This course conducted entirely in Yiddish focuses on advanced reading, writing, vocabulary and conversation, and the study of poetry, short fiction, and memoir literature by leading authors. Selected advanced grammatical topics are presented in conjunction with the study of texts.

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representation (1)

Pre-requisites: GER360H1



HIS196H1S - Religion and Violence

Tuesday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Doris Bergen

This seminar explores the roles of religion in extreme violence. Working backward from the 1990s (Rwanda, Yugoslavia), we will consider cases including Guatemala, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Holocaust, Armenians, German Southwest Africa, and the genocide of Indigenous peoples in North America. Students will produce a final project based on original research. Restricted to first-year students. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Breadth Requirement: Society and Its Institutions (3)

HIS208Y1Y - History of the Jewish People

Monday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Alan Verskin

This course explores the origins of the Jewish people, beginning with the Bible and ending in the 21st Century. We will follow the development of Jewish social and cultural life across the Muslim and Christian worlds and discuss how Jews adapted to the constraints and opportunities provided by the non-Jewish majority. We will also learn about key Jewish books and concepts, including the Talmud, Kabbalah (Jewish mysticism), Halakhah (Jewish law), and Jewish philosophy. Finally, we will investigate the Jewish movements that arose in response to the challenges of modernity and new ideologies.

Breadth Requirement: Society and Its Institutions (3)

HIS242H1F - Europe in the 20th Century

Tuesday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

TBA

The evolution of European politics, culture, and society from 1914: the two world wars, Fascism and Nazism, the post-1945 reconstruction and the movement towards European integration.

Breadth Requirement: Society and Its Institutions (3)

HIS247H1S - The Second World War—A Global History

Monday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Timothy Sayle

This course offers an introduction to the global history of the Second World War. It aims to expose students to historiographical debates regarding the war, the use of primary sources, and the scholarly and intellectual challenges that come with studying an event of this magnitude and horror. In general, students will examine the origins and causes of the conflict, survey the factors that shaped the course of the war, and consider how and why the fighting

came to an end when it did. These broad approaches will be supplemented with consideration of specific examples from around the world.

Breadth Requirement: Society and Its Institutions (3)

HIS304H1S - Topics in Middle East Histories: French Colonialism and the Jews

Monday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

TBA

This course examines the place of Jews—politically, socially, and conceptually—within both metropolitan France and its Middle Eastern and North African colonies in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In an era of liberalism and emancipation at home, the conquest of foreign lands and rule over their diverse peoples raised new questions about minority status and civil and political rights abroad. Jews, as a minority group native both to France and several of its colonies, present a unique case study of the ways these questions were answered. Readings will include both primary sources and historical scholarship on topics including civil and political emancipation, national belonging, the “civilizing mission,” philanthropy, and antisemitism. Special focus will be paid to French Algeria, at once the only overseas territory in which most Jews attained French citizenship and a central node of Francophone antisemitism.

Breadth Requirement: Society and its Institutions (3)

HIS317H1S - 20th Century Germany

Thursday 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Jennifer Jenkins

A survey of modern German history in the twentieth century. Topics include World War I and the postwar settlement, the Weimar Republic, the National Socialist dictatorship, the Holocaust, the division of Germany, the Cold War, German reunification, Germany and the European Union, nationalism, political culture, war and revolution, religious and ethnic minorities and questions of history and memory.

Breadth Requirement: Society and Its Institutions (3)

Pre-requisites: HIS103Y1/ HIS109Y1/ (HIS241H1, HIS242H1)/ EUR200Y1

HIS338H1F - The Holocaust, to 1942

Friday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Doris Bergen

German state policy towards the Jews in the context of racist ideology, bureaucratic structures, and varying conditions in German-occupied Europe. The second term considers the responses of Jews, European populations and governments, the Allies, churches, and political movements.

Breadth Requirement: Society and Its Institutions (3)

Pre-requisites: Completion of 6.0 credits

HIS351H1S - The Soviet Union and After

Tuesday 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

TBA

A survey of the history of the Soviet Union and its successor states beginning with the collapse of the Russian Empire. The course draws on scholarly literature, memoirs, and often films to understand the social, cultural, and political developments of the Soviet state, including famine, terror, and war.

Breadth Requirement: Society and Its Institutions (3)

Pre-requisites: 1.0 HIS credit at the 200+ level

HIS354H1 - Jews of Arab Lands: From the Prophet Muhammad to European Colonialism

Tuesday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Alan Verskin

This course introduces the Jewish communities of Arab lands by examining their social, cultural, and political experiences from the Arab conquests to European colonialism. We will examine the sometimes “symbiotic” relationship that existed between Jews and Muslims as well as the factors that threatened it by considering both the history of everyday life and of high culture. Many of Judaism’s formative institutions and literary works were developed in the Middle East and we will explore how they developed in dialogue with Islamic culture. Finally, we will study the impact of Western colonialism and nineteenth-century encounters between “Western” and “Eastern” Jews.

Breadth Requirement: Society and Its Institutions (3)

Pre-requisites: 4.0 credits

HIS361H1S - The Holocaust, from 1942

Friday 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Doris Bergen

Follows on HIS338H1. Themes include resistance by Jews and non-Jews; local collaboration; the roles of European governments, the Allies, the churches, and other international organizations; the varieties of Jewish responses. We will also focus on the postwar repercussions of the Holocaust in areas such as justice, memory and memorialization, popular culture and politics.

Breadth Requirement: Society and Its Institutions (3)

Pre-requisites: Completion of 6.0 credits and HIS338H1

NMC252H1S - Hebrew Bible

Wednesday 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (online)

Robert Holmstedt

An introduction to the critical study of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and the related literature of ancient Jewish communities (Apocrypha, Pseudepigrapha, Dead Sea Scrolls). English translations are used; no knowledge of Hebrew is required.

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representation(1)

NMC284H1F - Judaism and Feminism—Legal Issues from Menstruation to Ordination

Thursday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

TBA

Agitation for change exists in religious practice worldwide in areas of access, status, inclusion, and egalitarianism. Traditional religion is often in conflict with egalitarian modernity. This sometimes results in difficulties with religious identification. This course will explore the interaction between feminism and Judaism. We will examine how Jewish law (halakhah) sometimes conflicts with ideas of egalitarianism particularly in legal disabilities for women such as divorce, lack of access to high-level Torah study, and discrimination in public religious roles. The traditional exemption of women from the obligation of Torah study had a great impact on women's religious responsibility and status. Various movements within Judaism competed in efforts to resolve these difficulties. In this course, we will consider to what extent inclusion and egalitarianism have become complementary to traditional Judaism.

Breadth Requirement: Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

NMC331H1 - Samson: Lover, Liar, lion-slayer (this was not included in previous handbooks)

Friday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Jeremy Schipper

Over the centuries, Samson has captured the imagination of countless scholars, artists, and poets. Although often stereotyped as little more than a thoughtless strong man prone to violent outbursts, he is one of the most complex and enigmatic characters in the Bible. This course will explore biblical depictions of this often misunderstood figure and his complicated relationships with his family, his lovers, and his enemies. We will analyze his story within its ancient historical context and in some more recent interpretations. All readings will be in English. No knowledge of Hebrew is required.

Breadth Requirement: Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)

Pre-requisites: 4.0 credits at the 200-level

NMC450H1F - Research Seminar on Ancient Jewish Literature

Wednesday 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Robert Holmstedt

A seminar focusing on the critical analysis of the Hebrew Bible and related ancient Jewish texts. Literary genre and critical topics will vary according to the instructor's research interests. Focus will be given to developing research skills by working with accepted critical methodologies. Not eligible for CR/NCR option



POL377H1S - Topics in Comparative Politics I: Becoming Israel: War, Peace and the Politics of Israel's Identity

Monday 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Talal, Olga

This course will focus on Israel's balancing act between two competing objectives, one seeking to fulfill the Zionist vision and entrench "Jewishness" within the state and the other seeking to establish democratic institutions and procedures. Since independence, Israel's official ideology, Zionism, has been shaping the state's economic, political, demographic, and security policies, designed to advance the interests of the Jewish population in Israel. The Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel fall outside the sociological boundaries of the Jewish nation and present a challenge to nation-building. At the same time, Israel's commitment to democratic principles and procedures entails guaranteeing the rights and freedoms of Palestinian Arab citizens. In this course, students will explore the most salient manifestations of the tensions between Israel's commitment to democracy and Zionism, familiarize themselves with the debates about Israel's political regime, institutions, and society, and develop their positions on these divisive debates.

Breadth Requirement: Society and its Institutions (3)

Cross-listed with CJS391H1S

POL378H1F - Topics in Comparative Politics II: Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Tuesday 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Oron, Oded

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is one of the most intractable and multifaceted protracted conflicts in modern times with flare-ups of violence between its various actors continuing to claim lives and to threaten wider war. This course will survey the main political junctions in the conflict and will connect them to their reincarnations in contemporary times. We will study all of this, exploring the conflict's many layers and relating it to broader International Relations and sociological concepts from the emergence of the conflict's political fault lines during Ottoman times through the establishment of a Jewish state and its continued modern-

day development. The course will include cultural products relating to both societies, including movies, clips, songs and forms of art and cultural representations.

Pre-requisites: 1.0 credit in POL/ JPA/ JPF/ JPI/ JPR/ JPS/ JRA courses

Breadth Requirement: Society and its Institutions (3)

POL378H1S - Topics in Comparative Politics II: Jews and Power

Tuesday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Talal, Olga

The rich human fabric comprising contemporary Israeli society is divided along multiple identity-based lines. It is divided nationally (between Jews and Palestinian Arab citizens of Israel), religiously (between religious and secular Jews, Muslims and Christians), and ethnically (between Ashkenazi and Mizrahi Jews). Other salient identity markers separate new immigrants from the older ones and city dwellers from residents of peripheral areas - within state borders and outside them, located in Israeli settlements in the occupied territories. In this course, students will learn about the complex web of cross-cutting identities within Israeli society and how these identities are (re)shaped by power. We will pay special attention to the interrelations of political power, identity politics, and public policy in Israel.

Pre-requisites: 1.0 credit in POL/ JPA/ JPF/ JPI/ JPR/ JPS/ JRA courses

Breadth Requirement: Society and its Institutions (3)

POL485H1S - Topics in Political Thought II: Spinoza and the Invention of Liberal Democracy

Tuesday 4:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Orwin, Clifford

In keeping with the Department's current focus on liberal democracy, we will read the works of its theoretical founder, Spinoza. We will focus on his Theologico-Political Treatise and consider why his invention of liberal democracy was inseparable from his founding of modern Biblical criticism.

Pre-requisites: POL200Y1/ or POL200Y5 or (POLC70H3 & POLC71H3)

Breadth Requirement: Thought, Belief and Behaviour (2)



RLG107H1S - It's the End of the World as We Know It

Friday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

TBA

Throughout history, many religious movements have envisioned the end of the world. This course will explore how different religious movements have prepared for and expected an end time, from fears, symbols, and rituals to failed prophecies and social violence. By examining traditions such as Jewish and Christian apocalyptic texts through to fears of nuclear

emphasis on Israeli culture. (2) Writing: practical writing according to communicative functions and models of persuasion, explanation, etc. In addition, students will be asked to write short essays about a literary text. (3) Conversation: increasing vocabulary in conversations and discussions while emphasizing different language styles. (4) Comprehension: listening to radio programs on an advanced level and viewing regular television programs and YouTube music clips. (5) Grammatical Skills: complementing the student's linguistic knowledge and handling of irregular forms.

Exclusion: OAC Hebrew/ NML355Y1

Prerequisites: MHB256H1/ NML255Y1 or permission of the instructor based on previous language knowledge

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

MHB356H1S - Advanced Modern Hebrew II

Monday 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM & Wednesday 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Yigal Nizri

Continued advanced intensive study of written and spoken Hebrew.

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

Pre-requisites: MHB355H1/NML355H1 or permission of the instructor based on previous language knowledge

Exclusions: OAC Hebrew/NML356H1



Slavic Languages & Literatures
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

SLA199H1F - Invisible Kingdom, Imaginary Space

Tuesday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

TBA

The Central European Region of Galicia gave rise to a remarkable array of literary representations -- Austrian, Jewish, Polish, and Ukrainian -- animating fantastic creatures, powerful myths, deviant pleasures, and sublime stories. Bruno Schulz created shimmering peacocks, Leopold von Sacher-Masoch seized ecstasy through pain, and Ivan Franko investigated the effects of avarice and social decay. Restricted to first-year students. Not eligible for CR/NCR option

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

SLA268H1F - Cossacks!

Wednesday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

TBA

How are Cossacks depicted in literary and visual works? Were they the agents of a repressive Russian government, the hirelings of Polish kings, the tormentors of Eastern European Jews, the protectors of Europe from the Ottomans, or the liberators of the Ukrainian nation? We read works from the Jewish, Polish, Russian and Ukrainian cultural traditions

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

Exclusions: CCR199H1 (First-Year Seminar: The Cossacks), offered in Winter 2012, Winter 2013, Fall 2013, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, and Fall 2017

SLA302H1S - The Imaginary Jew

Monday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

TBA

This course examines the genesis and evolution of the image of “the Jews,” central to all European cultures, from the theology and psychology of Christian anti-Judaism to their reflection in arts and folklore, and the survival of the “Jewish” vocabulary of difference, in secular form, in post-Christian cultures. Special attention is given to “the Jews” of the East European imagination. The final part of the course will explore the experience of Jewish cultural assimilation in European societies, which forced individuals of Jewish extraction to confront the Christian and post-Christian discourse of “Jewish” difference. All readings are in English.

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representations (1)

SLA303H1F - Literary Imagination and Jewish Identity in Modern Europe

Thursday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

TBA

An exploration of Central and East European authors writing in different languages but united by Jewish ancestry. We examine the responses of artists and intellectuals of Jewish extraction (Sholem Aleichem, Babel, Bialik, Heine, Kafka, Mandelshtam, Sforim, Zhabotinskii, etc.) to cultural secularization and modernity. Taught in English. Readings in English

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representations (1)



Sociology
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

SOC199H1S - Living Together Differently in the 21st Century: Israel as a case study

Tuesday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Kineret Sadeh

How can people with different worldviews and dissimilar moral visions live together? Liberal philosophers have grappled with this question offering solutions including tolerance, peace,

and multiculturalism. However, many people today, particularly in the West, oppose liberalism as a cultural message and a political goal. Robust evidence can be found in the rise of "populist" backlash movements and the sharp polarization between liberals and conservatives. Can Western democracies overcome this crisis? This seminar explores this question from a sociological perspective with Israel as a case study. We will probe the efforts of Israeli activists and professionals to instill non-liberal peace among Jews and Arabs, to bridge the chasm between liberals and conservatives, and to include LGBTs and people with disabilities as equal members of society while surpassing liberal principles. By analyzing their work, we will broaden our understanding of living together differently in the 21st century.

Breadth Requirement: Society and Its Institutions (3)



CDN280H1F - Canadian Jewish History

Thursday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

TBA

This course focuses on initial settlement patterns of Jews in Toronto and elsewhere, community growth including suburbanization, and contemporary challenges such as anti-Semitism and assimilation.

Breadth Requirement: Society and Its Institutions(3)

CDN380H1S - Socio-Cultural Perspective of the Canadian Jewish Community

Tuesday 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

TBA

This course examines the relationship between prominent Canadians who happen to be Jews and those whose works are founded in Jewish identity; the diversity of the community based on religion, language, class, ideology, etc.; contributions to the arts and scholarship; and the role and contribution of Jewish women.

Breadth Requirement: Creative and Cultural Representation (1)



VICTORIA COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

CRE373H1F - Archives and the Art of Memory

Wednesday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Anna Shternshis

What is an Archive? What kind of history and culture does it Preserve? Or does it bury things forever? Who gets to be an archivist and who gets to tell the story? How can an archive preserve the stories of marginalized people? Can voices from the archive be brought back to life? In the context of a series of readings, presentations and projects the course focuses on case studies of government-housed and sponsored archives, family archives, archives of cultural institutions, grassroots archival initiatives, and of course digital archives. Each student will have an opportunity to produce an artistic project based on archival research or create an imaginary archive.

Prerequisites: 4.0 credits

Breadth Category: Creative and Cultural Representation (1)