

*University of Toronto's
Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies*

**2023-2024
Graduate
Course Handbook**



Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

מרכז למדעי היהדות

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GRANOVSKY-GLUSKIN GRADUATE COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMS IN JEWISH STUDIES

The Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies offers collaborative graduate degrees at the MA and PhD levels. The purpose of the collaborative degree is to institutionalize, enhance, and ensure the provision of a well-rounded graduate training in Jewish Studies. Both in the MA and PhD collaborative programs, an effective balance is struck between the need for disciplinary depth and the need for interdisciplinary breadth. Future scholars and teachers in the field of Jewish Studies whom the CJS trains master the methods, theoretical frameworks, and body of knowledge special to their discipline, but also benefit both intellectually and professionally from exposure to the breadth of Jewish civilization.

The collaborative programs are motivated by the belief that a sophisticated understanding of any one of the major subfields of Jewish Studies—the study of texts (biblical, rabbinic, philosophical, theological, literary, etc.), the study of contexts (historical, social, political, etc.), and the study of concepts (creation, covenant, messianism, etc.)—requires some knowledge of the others. CJS graduate students also succeed professionally because academic positions in Jewish Studies programs throughout North America assume that job candidates are familiar with many aspects of Jewish civilization outside of their particular discipline and area of specialization. This process of broad, interdisciplinary learning is offered to graduate students in the various fields of Jewish Studies at the University of Toronto. Upon successful completion, students receive, in addition to the degree in their home department, the notation “Completed Collaborative Program in Jewish Studies.”

Application to the Collaborative Programs

Students apply to a home department (one of the collaborating units listed under “Participating Degree Programs”). When applying, students should select the Jewish Studies program as a collaborative program option. Once admitted to the home department,* students should contact the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies in order to formalize their admission to our graduate program. * Students may join the Collaborative Program at any point during their graduate studies, though it is preferable that students join in the first year of their studies.

Participating Degree Programs

- Anthropology—MA, PhD
- Art History—MA, PhD
- Classics—MA, PhD
- Comparative Literature—MA, PhD
- Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies—MA, PhD
- English—MA, PhD
- European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies—MA
- Geography—PhD, MA
- Germanic Languages and Literatures—MA
- German Literature, Culture and Theory—PhD
- History—MA, PhD
- Information Studies—MA, PhD
- Law—JD, PhD

- Linguistics—PhD
- Medieval Studies—MA, PhD
- Museum Studies—MMSt
- Music—MA, DMA, PhD
- Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations—MA, PhD
- Philosophy—MA, PhD
- Political Science—MA, PhD
- Religion—MA, PhD
- Slavic Languages and Literatures—MA, PhD
- Sociology—MA, PhD
- Women and Gender Studies—MA

MA Program Requirements

- CJS1000H1: Completion of the core methods seminar in Jewish Studies. This seminar will introduce students to the different disciplines, methods, and approaches within Jewish Studies.
- One half-course in Jewish Studies taken within the student's home department or in another department (may count towards the course requirements of the student's home department).
- A comprehensive exam in Jewish Studies, supervised by the Graduate Director, in which the student will be asked to show knowledge of areas of Jewish Studies relevant to his or her disciplinary focus.
- If the student's home program requires a major research paper or thesis, the paper must pertain to Jewish Studies and the topic must be approved by the Graduate Director of the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies.

MMSt Program Requirements

- CJS1000H1: Completion of the core methods seminar in Jewish Studies. This seminar will introduce students to the different disciplines, methods, and approaches within Jewish Studies.
- Students must complete one of the following: a course listed in the CJS Graduate Handbook; an independent reading course on a topic in Jewish Studies; or a supervised internship at a museum related to Jewish cultural heritage or historical experience.
- A comprehensive exam in Jewish Studies, supervised by the Graduate Director, in which the student will be asked to show knowledge of areas of Jewish Studies relevant to his or her disciplinary focus.
- Those students who opt for the MMSt Exhibition Course should carry out an exhibition project that focuses on some aspect of Jewish culture. Those who opt to do a thesis should research a topic that relates to museums and Jewish Studies.

JD Program Requirements

- CJS1000H1: Completion of the core methods seminar in Jewish Studies. This seminar will introduce students to the different disciplines, methods, and approaches within Jewish Studies.
- One course listed in the CJS Graduate Handbook at some point during their law school course work.
- One paper presentation during the course of their law degree at the annual Schwartz-Reisman Graduate Student Conference in Jewish Studies.

PhD and DMA Program Requirements

- CJS2000H1: Completion of the Doctoral Seminar in Jewish Studies. This seminar will introduce students to the different disciplines, methods, and approaches within Jewish Studies.
- Two half-courses, one within and one outside of the student's home department, taught by a member of the CJS faculty (may count towards the course requirements of the student's home department).
- Paper presentation at the annual Schwartz-Reisman Graduate Student Conference in Jewish Studies before completion of the program.
- A doctoral dissertation that deals with topics in Jewish Studies and is supervised or co-supervised by a CJS graduate faculty member

ANNE TANENBAUM JEWISH CENTRE OF STUDIES

CJS1000HY - Jewish Studies Masters Seminar (“Core Methods”)

Time: Monday 4-7

Instructor: N. Seidman, K. Sadeh

This year-long, half-credit course exposes students to advanced methods employed in understanding texts, contexts, and concepts in the main areas of Jewish Studies. A diverse team of scholars from a range of academic disciplines will model methods such as textual exegesis and criticism; history of interpretation; social history; cultural studies; comparative approaches; and analysis of philosophical and theological problems and arguments. Students participate in group discussions after the twelve, scheduled guest lectures and write three short responses each semester to specific presentations.

CJS2000HY - Jewish Studies Doctoral Seminar

Time: Monday 4-7

Instructor: N. Seidman, K. Sadeh

This year-long, half-credit course exposes students to advanced methods employed in understanding texts, contexts, and concepts in the main areas of Jewish Studies. A diverse team of scholars from a range of academic disciplines will model methods such as textual exegesis and criticism; history of interpretation; social history; cultural studies; comparative approaches; and analysis of philosophical and theological problems and arguments. Students participate in group discussions after the twelve, scheduled guest lectures and write three short responses each semester to specific presentations.

CJS1012H Jewish Studies Masters Directed Reading Course

By permission of the Graduate Director

CJS2010H Jewish Studies Doctoral Directed Reading Course

By permission of the Graduate Director

DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

ANT 4060HF LEC0101 Specific Problems: Fire

Time: Wednesday 2-4

Instructor: M. Chazan

Archaeology relies heavily on the visual communication. The shift to digital media has profoundly changed visual communication and made mastery of relevant skills essential for archaeological researchers. This course will take a workshop format to develop student skills and familiarity with a range of software applications. One might think of this as the equivalent

of a writing workshop where all participants contribute towards improving student work. Among the topics to be covered will be the history and ethics of visual communication, drawing by hand, digital imagery and processing with Photoshop, creating figures with Powerpoint and Illustrator, creating maps in ARC GIS Pro, incorporating video into visual communication, and effective construction of graphs. Each student will prepare a project based on their own research that will be developed with class input. This course is designed for archaeologists but might be relevant for some other students in anthropology whose research has a visual component.

ANT6032HS - Advanced Research Seminar II: Politics, Theology, Sovereignty

Time: M 4-6

Instructor: V. Napolitano

The course explores current and historical trends in study of Europe by anthropologists and other social scientists. The focus is on the countries and regions of the European Union as well as prospective members such as Ukraine. Major topics include core-periphery relations between the more and less powerful regions of Europe; race and racialization within Europe and in Europe's geopolitical relations, especially with its former colonies; migration and other demographic issues; and anthropological approaches to challenges to democratic governance.

DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY

FAH1127HF - Art of the Medieval Book

Time: Wednesday 10-1

Instructor: A. Cohen

Early medieval art has long been viewed in the shadow of Romanesque and Gothic art and architecture, although the seven hundred years between c. 400 and 1100 produced a wealth of material culture that provides critical insights for understanding the formation of Europe. The seminar will focus in any given semester on one of the following four subdivisions with this period: Merovingian and Migratory, Carolingian, Ottonian, or Insular and Anglo-Saxon. The art and architecture in these periods can be understood in light of their relationship to the classical past, the development of political and ecclesiastical structures, the importance of the cult of saints, and the rise of monasticism. The focus in 2024 will be on the Carolingian Utrecht Psalter and there will likely be an important digital humanities component to the course.

FAH1940HS - Photography and Humour

Time: Thursday 10-1

Instructor: L. Kaplan

What are the ways in which photography as a visual and narrative medium induces laughter and provides amusement? This course explores this question by focusing on major photographic genres throughout the history of the medium and by examining major photographic humourists. The course is particularly concerned with the analysis of key images (both old and new) that mock conventional assumptions made about the nature and function of photography in terms of its claims to truth, identity and reference. The course also includes readings of major philosophers and cultural theorists about humour and applies them to thinking about photography.

DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS

CLA5028HF - Economics, Ethics and the Classics

Time: Wednesday 1-4

Instructor: B. Akrigg, K. Blouin

This course offers a multidisciplinary exploration of the economical and ethical entanglements of Classical Antiquity and Antiquities. Through a theoretically engaged, case-based and experiential approach that will draw from a wide variety of primary evidence, students will be led to reflect on issues such as the geopolitical entailments of public and private collections and displays, provenance and forgeries, the materiality of ancient texts, the ethics of edition and publication, as well as the marketization and appropriation of 'Classics' in a variety of (chronological, national, ideological) contexts. This course will be of interest to students in all streams of the Classics program, as well as to students in other departments (Religion, Anthropology, Arts, Museum Studies, Near and Middle Eastern Civilizations).

DEPARTMENT OF COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

COL5081HS - Benjamin's Arcade Project

Time: Thursday 1-3

Instructor: R. Comay

This course will be devoted to a close reading of the *Arcades Project*, Walter Benjamin's unfinished and posthumously published montage of fragments, quotations and aphorisms on the urban culture of Second Empire Paris – “capital of the nineteenth century.” Both the birthplace of consumer capitalism and the site of numerous failed revolutions, nineteenth century Paris crystallized, for Benjamin (writing during the rise of European fascism) the numerous ambiguities of modernity itself. Many of these ambiguities were registered in disorienting new experiences of space and time. While exploring Benjamin's reading of the various strands of nineteenth century visual, literary and architectural culture – fashion, photography, advertising, lighting, furniture, railways, exhibitions, department stores, catacombs, museums, etc.– we will consider the implications of his approach for thinking about history, memory, and politics today. Our reading of the *Arcades* will be supplemented with readings from Baudelaire, Blanqui, Fourier, Marx, Adorno, Brecht, Aragon, Simmel, and Freud as well as contemporary critical theorists.

JGC1855HS - Critical Theory – The French-German Connection

Time: Wednesday 3-5

Instructor: W. Goetschel

This course examines central theoretical issues in contemporary thought with particular attention to the role that the “Frankfurt School” and its affiliates such as Benjamin, Kracauer, Horkheimer, Adorno, Marcuse, Habermas and others play in the context of modern German social and cultural thought. In France, thinkers like Foucault, and Derrida respond to this tradition and enrich it. The course explores in which way the continuing dialogue between these thinkers informs current critical approaches to rethinking issues and concerns such as theorizing modernity, culture, secularization, multiculturalism, and the vital role of cultural difference.

CENTRE FOR DIASPORA AND TRANSNATIONAL STUDIES

DTS2001HS - Grad Topics in DTS: Going Astray: Translation, Migration, Diaspora

Time: Tuesday 1-3

Instructor: N. Seidman

This course will explore the intersection between translation theory and diaspora studies, focusing on translation as movement and on the linguistic dimensions of diaspora experience. Topics we will cover include postcolonial translation theory, the geopolitical sites of translation, and the literature of the translated migrant self.

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

ENG4662HS - Romantic Memory

Time: Wednesday 4-6

Instructor: K. Weissman

We are currently in the midst of a resurgence of memory studies, a field that crosses many disciplines and methodological approaches. Memory has always been one of the central motifs of Romanticism, and it has recently become a subject engaged anew by Romantic theorists. The historical and conceptual study of memory affords opportunity to interrogate the aesthetic, political, cultural, and sociological implications of Romantic discourse. We will examine poetry and prose that engage with questions of subjectivity and the self; the pathologies of nostalgia; nationalism and the past; and the tensions between history and memory. The perils of memory within all of these foci include sentimentalism, political xenophobia, and solipsism; its triumphs include cultural cohesion and self-identification. We will address Romantic memory in its full complexity.

CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN, RUSSIAN, AND EURASIAN STUDIES

ERE1175H1F - One Hundred Years of Cultures of Refugees in Europe, 1918-2022

Time: Tuesday 10-12
Instructor: A. Shternshis

The twentieth century has sometimes been referred to as a “century of Refugees”. Today, there are over seventy million refugees in the world. As a result of World War I, the Russian Revolution, the Spanish Civil War, World War II, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc, the Syrian civil war, the Russian War on Ukraine and many other turbulences of the past hundred years, refugees become an important part of European culture. This course will examine works of literature, music, theatrical plays and journalistic writing produced by European refugees. The goal of the course is to discuss how refugees made sense of their experience during the past hundred years.

ERE1179HF - Illiberalism in Central Europe

Time: Tuesday 4-6
Instructor: I. Kalmar

“Illiberal democracy” is the term used by Viktor Orbán, the Prime Minister of Hungary, for his vision of a conservative, nationalist society. We will be studying how East Central Europe has been thrust into the forefront of the illiberal rebellion now taking place throughout the Euro-Atlantic world. The course focuses on the “Visegrád Four” countries of Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary. Other post-socialist countries and the former East Germany will, however, also be frequently discussed. The varied course topics deal with where illiberalism in the area comes from, how it feels, and why we should care. Students will also be introduced to the basics of Central Europe’s history, culture, and political economy.

DEPARTMENT OF GERMANIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

GER1050HF Methods in Yiddish

Time: Tuesday 12-2
Instructor: A. Shternshis

This is the core course for the Field of Yiddish Studies, focusing on methods of analysis of major literary, historical, religious and sociological texts created in Yiddish language from 1500 until 2000. Conducted fully in Yiddish, the course trains the students both in advanced understanding of the Yiddish civilization as well as how Yiddish societies incorporated cultures of neighbouring communities. The texts analyzed will include Tsena Urena (1616) (Woman’s Companion to the Bible), stories by Nakhman from Bratslav (1700s), works by Alexander Abramovich, Sholem Rabinowitch, Itskhok Perets, Dovid Bergelson, Yankev Gladshstein and others.

GER1051Y Yiddish for German Speakers

Time: Tuesday 1-3
Instructor: A. Shternshis

The course is designed as an intensive Yiddish language training. The goal is to teach German speakers to read, write and speak in Yiddish. The curriculum relies on the German language skills of the students, and focuses on differences between Yiddish and German grammar and vocabulary. Upon the completion of the course, students should be able to read Yiddish literary texts with a minimal use of dictionary.

Note: Graduate students can take the course in preparation for their Yiddish competency test.

GER1750HS Colonialism and After in German Literature (cross-listed with GER430)

Time: Monday 2-4

Instructor: J. Noyes

Beginning in the 1970's German literature began to rethink its colonial past. Still trying to evaluate the brutality of Nazi government and the Holocaust, the relationship with the colonial past complicated the general picture of German history. Writers began to ask how to portray the colonial past. It immediately became apparent that the struggle to understand the colonial past set up interferences with the Nazi past and the cold-war present. As the present moved from the cold war to post-wall Germany and then neoliberal globalism, this struggle became even more complex. In this course we will follow literary experiments with the colonial, postcolonial, and decolonial past and present from roughly 1975 until the present. We will relate this to major moments in postcolonial and decolonial theory. Texts will include texts by Germans reconsidering colonialism, such as Uwe Timm Morenga (1978), Urs Widmer, *Im Kongo* (1996), Daniel Kehlmann, *Die Vermessung der Welt* (2005), Christian Kracht, *Imperium* (2012), but also writers from colonial or postcolonial backgrounds writing in German, such as May Ayim, Jean-Félix Belinga-Beling, André Ekama, and others.

JGC1855HS Critical Theory

Time: Wednesday 3-5

Instructor: W. Goetschel

This course examines central theoretical issues in contemporary thought with particular attention to the role that the "Frankfurt School" and its affiliates such as Benjamin, Kracauer, Horkheimer, Adorno, Marcuse, Habermas and others play in the context of modern German social and cultural thought. In France, thinkers like Foucault, and Derrida respond to this tradition and enrich it. The course explores in which way the continuing dialogue between these thinkers informs current critical approaches to rethinking issues and concerns such as theorizing modernity, culture, secularization, multiculturalism, and the vital role of cultural difference.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

HIS 1001HS Topics in History: Jews of the Premodern Islamic World

Time: Thursday 1-3

Instructor: A. Verskin

For a millennium, most of the world's Jews lived in Islamic lands. The result of this extended encounter was that Jewish literature and culture developed in intimate dialogue with Muslims. This course explores key facets of that Jewish-Muslim relationship, including the political and legal institutions that shaped the Jewish experience of minorityhood; the Islamic religious milieu which simultaneously challenged and inspired Jews; and the popular and scholarly culture which Jews both consumed and contributed to. A major focus of the course will be on investigating the promises and challenges provided by different genres of primary sources. We will examine legal, documentary, and literary sources, and consider the strategies that scholars have developed to draw information from them. Prior course work in either Jewish or Islamic studies is recommended. All texts will be provided in English although students with knowledge of Hebrew or the languages of the Islamic world will be encouraged to put those skills to use.

**HIS 1031HS Images as History: photography, historical method, and conceptualizing
visuality**

Time: Friday 1-3

Instructor: S. Coleman

This seminar examines photography and photographs in three ways: historically, methodologically, and conceptually. Throughout, we investigate the relationship between capitalist accumulation and the photographic image, and ask whether photography might enable us to refuse capitalism's violence—and if so, how?

Historically, the seminar will cover the era of the photographic image, from its invention in the 1830s to the present. We will be especially concerned with examining the role that photography has played in shaping modern understandings of self, nation, and race. In addition to examining relationships between photography, identity, and power, we will develop a set of conceptual and methodological tools for analyzing photographic images, carefully considering the status of photographs as primary sources for historical research. In terms of the conceptual, we will read and discuss foundational works by Roland Barthes, Walter Benjamin, Susan Buck-Morss, and others. Here, we will consider the ethics and politics of human visual experience as such. What does it mean to see and be seen? How has photography been used to separate, identify, and classify? How have photographs changed the kinds of claims that people could make in their respective private and public spheres? Finally, students will consider ways that they might mobilize the visual archive in their own research.

HIS 1275HF Imperial Germany, 1871 – 1918

Time: Monday 2-4,

Instructor: J. Ratellack

This research seminar will focus on recent controversies concerning social, cultural, and political change in the time of Bismarck and Wilhelm II. Among the topics to be considered are state- and nation-building after 1866, regional identities, gender and sexuality, religion, culture, antisemitism and murder in a small town, and British diplomatic reports on the rise and repression of the German labour movement. A combination of secondary literature and primary documents (all in translation and many online) will be discussed each week, beginning with a short student presentation. Among the required texts are James Retallack (ed.), *Imperial*

Germany 1871-1918. The Short Oxford History of Germany (2008) and Helmut Walser Smith, *The Butcher's Tale*. The course will conclude with a discussion of the East German film adapted from Heinrich Mann's biting satire, *The Loyal Subject* (1918).

HIS 1278HS Topics in 20th C German History: The Two Germanies in the Postwar Period

Time: Monday 2-4

Instructor: J. Retellack

This research seminar will focus on recent controversies concerning social, cultural, and political change in the time of Bismarck and Wilhelm II. Among the topics to be considered are state- and nation-building after 1866, regional identities, gender and sexuality, religion, culture, antisemitism and murder in a small town, and British diplomatic reports on the rise and repression of the German labour movement. A combination of secondary literature and primary documents (all in translation and many online) will be discussed each week, beginning with a short student presentation. Among the required texts are James Retallack (ed.), *Imperial Germany 1871-1918*. The Short Oxford History of Germany (2008) and Helmut Walser Smith, *The Butcher's Tale*. The course will conclude with a discussion of the East German film adapted from Heinrich Mann's biting satire, *The Loyal Subject* (1918).

FACULTY OF LAW

LAW319HF Israel/Palestine and the Law

Time: Monday 2-4

Instructor(s): M. Fadel, A. Katz

The question of Israel/Palestine has been a pressing issue in international law for more than a century, beginning with end of World War I and the imposition of the British Mandate under the auspices of the League of Nations. It also raises important questions of domestic constitutional law and the relationship of national identity to citizenship. International law as applied to Israel/Palestine has had to deal with numerous questions of international law, including, the right of self-determination, the rights of refugees, the law of insurgency/terrorism, and the law of belligerent occupation, as well as dealing with the legacy of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust of European Jewry. As a site of contested identity, Israel/Palestine raises important principles about the question of identity in democracies, as exemplified in statements like a "Jewish and democratic state" or a "secular state for all its citizens." The seminar will trace the history of the conflict over Palestine beginning with the birth of the Zionist movement in the 19th century. It will explore various topics, including, the establishment of the British Mandate, the birth of the State of Israel, the Palestinian refugee crisis, the 1967 War and its aftermath, the rise of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the Israeli settler movement. Readings will include primary documents as well as scholarly articles and selections from books.

DEPARTMENT OF NEAR AND MIDDLE EASTERN CIVILIZATION

NMC1111YY Babylonian Talmud

Time: Wednesday 2-5

Instructor: T. Meacham

Learning the syntax of Babylonian Aramaic and building vocabulary will be accomplished through study of the text of a Babylonian Talmud tractate and its traditional commentaries. Comparisons to Biblical Aramaic and other Aramaic dialects will be noted. Y. N. Epstein's *Aramit Bavlit* will be the reference for grammar study. M. Sokoloff's *A Dictionary of Jewish Babylonian Aramaic* is the required dictionary. Jastrow's *Dictionary of Talmud Babli, Yerushalmi, Midrashic Literature and Targumim* may also be helpful. Strong Hebrew background and/or introductory Aramaic required.

NMC1314HF Law in Ancient Judaism

Time: Thursday 1-3

Instructor: S. Metso

Law reflects the way in which society understands and organizes itself through common agreements and forms of restraint. This course examines the different ways religious legislation was generated in ancient Jewish communities and the different functions such legislation served in these communities. Special attention will focus on the legal codes embedded in the Torah, exploring the many similarities with and dependence upon other ancient Near Eastern legal corpora and judicial systems. Extra-canonical Jewish texts from the Second Temple and early rabbinic period will be studied as well, since they illumine the processes of scriptural exegesis and community development through which legal codes evolved.

NMC1318HF Halakhic Midrashim

Time: Tuesday 3-5

Instructor: T. Meacham

Halakhic Midrash, the rabbinic continuation of biblical law, is one of the three major literary creations of the Tannaitic period, making it one of the most important sources for Middle Hebrew. Midreshei Halakha are the ancient Jewish biblical interpretations and constitute the earliest and closest reading of the Pentateuch excluding Genesis. A study of terminology and methodology indicates the existence of two midrashic systems: D'vei R. Yishmael and D'vei R. Aqiva. We will examine the scholarly debate concerning the exact time in which midreshei halakha were composed and redacted and concerning the transfer of terminology and material between the schools. In this course we shall study selections from the cultic and purity texts from Leviticus in Sifra or Torat Kohanim and/or from Numbers in Sifrei and Sifrei Zuta. In the course of our study, we shall develop facility with midrashic terminology and midrashic logic. We shall compare the texts in the standard scholarly editions with the manuscripts of those texts, parallel material in other compositions in Middle Hebrew (Mishnah and Tosefta) and the Talmudim. Students will gain facility in reading and creating a critical apparatus. This course will demonstrate the context of ancient Jewish law in matters of purity and cultic practice for students of Hebrew Bible, Dead Sea Scrolls, and Rabbinics.

NMC1330HF Elementary Modern Hebrew I

Time: Monday & Wednesday 11-1
Instructor: Y. Nizri

This course is designed for students with little or no experience in Hebrew. As such, it offers intensive training in the basics of 4 language skills: reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students will be able to recognize the Hebrew verb system's fundamental structures, learn its primary forms, and acquire the necessary basic vocabulary for everyday conversations. We will focus on reading: easy dialogues, passages without vowels, and short texts in simple Hebrew. Writing: short dialogues and paragraphs. Conversation: simple dialogues and stories. Comprehension: listening to short stories and recorded conversations.

NMC1331HS Elementary Modern Hebrew I

Time: Monday & Wednesday 11-1
Instructor: Y. Nizri

The second half of a two-semester Modern Hebrew course for beginners is intended to strengthen the students' conversation skills and their reading, writing, and listening comprehension while further developing the cultural context of the language. Materials include simple stories and poems, digital media, film, comics, textbook exercises, and complementary class activities. In addition, students will be expected to deliver presentations in Hebrew and write about a range of topics, demonstrating an ability to acquire new vocabulary using print and digital dictionaries independently. Course prerequisites: NMC1330H

NMC1332HF Intermediate Modern Hebrew I

Time: Monday & Wednesday 3-5
Instructor: Y. Nizri

This course will further enhance students' Hebrew language skills. With the context of contemporary Israeli and Jewish culture in mind, the course focuses on (1) Reading: unadapted texts and simple articles in regular Hebrew. (2) Writing: the beginning of practical writing on topics discussed in class, writing about personal experiences, and writing structured compositions. (3) Conversation: conversational skills developed by regular participation in class presentations and discussions of current events and cultural issues; role play and participation in dialogues and informal expressions. (4) Comprehension: listening to recorded short stories in easy Hebrew. (5) Grammatical Skills: Completing the syntactic study of verb conjugation in different tenses. Course prerequisites: NMC1300H, NMC1331H

NMC1333HS Intermediate Modern Hebrew II

Time: Monday & Wednesday 3-5
Instructor: Y. Nizri

This course of Intermediate Hebrew is intended for those who completed the requirements of intermediate Hebrew I. Intermediate Hebrew aims to instill more excellent proficiency, enrich vocabulary, and deepen the student's understanding of the cultural context of Israeli Hebrew. Subjects include current affairs, Israeli society, and cultural traditions. Added emphasis will be placed on language registers and grammatical and syntactic nuances, with materials ranging from children's books to television programs. By the end of the semester, students will complete their

understanding of the Hebrew verb system and main preposition words. Course prerequisites: NMC1330H, NMC1331H, NMC1332H

NMC1334HF Advanced Modern Hebrew I

Time: Monday & Wednesday 6-9

Instructor: Y. Nizri

This advanced-level course is designed to deepen the student's knowledge of Hebrew in various fields and to increase vocabulary through extensive reading and writing. Areas of focus include (1) Reading: Scientific articles, newspaper editorials, prose, and poetry passages, with 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. Course prerequisites: NMC1330H, NMC1331H, NMC1332H, NMC1333H

NMC1608HS Gender-Related Topics in Jewish Law and Religion

Time: Thursday 11-1

Instructor: T. Meacham

The topic to be covered is Constructions of Sexes, Genders, and Sexualities in Rabbinic Literature. We shall deal with legal and biological definitions of sex and intersex in classical Jewish writings from the Bible through rabbinic literature, legal codes, and modern Jewish approaches, including biomedical ethics on sex assignment. We shall examine texts dealing with the legal definitions of sex acts and their legal repercussions. Constructions of the very different male and female genders and rabbinic attempts to categorize the gender of an intersex will be studied as well as sexualities (heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality, asexuality, and solitary sexuality). We shall attempt to discern trends in their constructions and the impact of crosscultural influences on Jewish approaches to sex, gender, and sexuality.

NMC1654HF LEC0101 Advanced Biblical Hebrew

Time: Tuesday 1-3

Instructor: R. Holmstedt

Advanced discussion of phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics of Biblical Hebrew. Consideration of the various linguistic methods used to investigate Biblical Hebrew. Investigation of the most visible and currently unresolved grammatical issues. For each language issue addressed, selections of texts from Biblical Hebrew will be used as a reference point. Weekly Hebrew composition will also be required.

NMC2002HF Modern Hebrew Poetry

Time: Wednesday 5-7

Instructor: H. Fox

Extensive reading in the works of a major poet. Emphasis will be on the poetry of Bialik and Amichai. Conducted in Hebrew.

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

PHL2057HF Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy: Early Modern Naturalisms – Spinoza and Hume

Time: Friday 12–3

Instructor: D. Ainslie and M. Rosenthal

Spinoza and Hume seem to endorse contrasting but extreme versions of the commitments that structure early modern philosophy – what we now call ‘rationalism’ and ‘empiricism’. But they also share a common overall naturalistic outlook, holding that we need not or cannot go beyond the natural in pursuit of philosophical understanding. This seminar will explore overlapping strands of thought in these two titans of 17th- and 18th-century philosophy, focusing in particular on their treatments of substance, the self, causality and reason, free will, and religion and politics.

JGC1855HS Critical Theory: The French-German Connection

Time: Wednesday 3-5

Instructor: W. Goetschel

This course examines central theoretical issues in critical theory, with particular attention to the role that the so-called Frankfurt School and its affiliates—such as Walter Benjamin, Siegfried Kracauer, Max Horkheimer, and Theodor Adorno—and others play in the context of modern German social and cultural thought. In France, thinkers like Michel Foucault and Jacques Derrida respond to this tradition and enrich it. The course explores in which way the continuing dialogue between these thinkers informs current critical approaches to rethinking issues and concerns such as theorizing modernity, culture, secularization, multiculturalism, difference, and alterity.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

POL2026HS/ RLG3623HS Topics in Political Thought I: The Thought of Leo Strauss

Time: Wednesday 2-4

Instructor: K. Green

The course will offer an introduction to the philosophic thought of Leo Strauss (1899-1973), which will examine his major interests: philosophy, theology, and politics. We shall approach his thought through his writings on modern Judaism and on modern Jewish thought.

POL2027HF Topics in Political Thought II: Nietzsche's Beyond

Time: Tuesday 4-7:30

Instructor: C. Orwin

We will read the earlier and the later work of Nietzsche that offer the best introduction to his philosophical/political project as a whole. We will try to understand him as both a critic of the Europe of the 19th C. and a prophet of the human future. We will consider both his intended break with all previous thought (above all Platonism and Christianity) and his continuing indebtedness to it.

Prerequisite: POL200Y1/ POL200Y5/(POLC70H3, POLC71H3)

POL2355HS Twentieth Century Ukraine

Time: Wednesday 3-5

Instructor: P. Magocsi

This course will focus on the evolution of Ukraine as a state from its failed struggle for independence after World War I, its existence as a Soviet Ukrainian state, to its full independence after the collapse of Communist rule and the Soviet Union.

DEPARTMENT OF THE STUDY OF RELIGION

RLG1002HF Philosophy of Religion

Time: Wednesday 3–5

Instructor: R. Gibbs

This gateway course introduces students to the philosophy of religion, exploring the constitution of the field. Taking as its base line the Protestant philosophical tradition as it emerges from Kant, the course moves forward to 19th- and 20th-century philosophy, sideways to explore other traditions of philosophy and religion, and even backward to medieval Christian theology. The two terms (philosophy, religion) will be placed in a complex dialogue. More, the conversation between different traditions will itself be interrogated—as that conversation need not presuppose a common canon of reason. We will engage a variety of ways of studying philosophical texts: hermeneutical, conceptual, phenomenological. By its conclusion, students should be better able to locate their research within the field and imagine their own ways of teaching an undergraduate course.

RLG1004HS Religions of Mediterranean Antiquity Gateway Seminar

Time: Wednesday 10-12

Instructor: J. Newman and J. Marshall

This gateway seminar will introduce students to approaches to the study of religions of Mediterranean antiquity. The purpose of the course is to provide a broad understanding of the

history of the discipline and how methods have evolved in the study of Hebrew Bible, Early Christianity, and Early Judaism in the context of Greco-Roman antiquity. Topics covered in the course include source and form criticism; archaeology; social sciences; conceptualization of diversity; the material text; and positionality. By the end of the course, students will be prepared to teach a range of methods at the introductory level and equipped to refine an approach to frame their own research projects.

RLG2060HS Religion and Philosophy in European Enlightenment

Time: Monday 1-3

Instructor: J. DiCenso

This is an advanced study of selected Enlightenment thinkers with a focus on their analyses of religion. The course is mainly devoted to the work of Spinoza, Hume, and Kant, although this may vary from year to year. Issues addressed include the rational critique of traditional religious sources and concepts, the relations among religion, ethics and politics, and the modern re-interpretation of religious ideas.

RLG3104HS Feminist and Womanist Biblical Interpretations

Time: Monday 10-12

Instructor: N. Junior

Both “feminist” and “womanist” are terms that are greatly debated. Alice Walker popularized the term “womanist” in her 1983 collection of essays *In Search of Our Mothers’ Gardens: Womanist Prose*. Walker’s four-part definition includes a definition of a “womanist” as “a black feminist or feminist of color.” This course provides a survey of the history and development of feminist and womanist biblical interpretation in North America. It includes interpreters of the Hebrew Bible (sometimes called Old Testament or Tanakh) and the New Testament,

RLG3123HS Samson in Text and Traditions

Time: Friday 12- 2

Instructor: J. Schipper

This seminar will focus on Judges 13 – 16, sometimes called the “Samson Cycle.” It will introduce a variety of critical methods and issues central to the scholarly interpretation of these texts. It will also cover examples of the reception of these texts across a variety of religious and secular traditions from antiquity to the present. Seminar discussions will be organized around close readings of primary texts and secondary literature. This course requires reading knowledge of biblical Hebrew narratives.

RLG3200HF Politics of Bible Translation

Time: Wednesday 10–12

Instructor: N. Seidman

This course will explore the history of Bible translation from antiquity to our own day, focusing on translation as political and cultural as well as linguistic negotiation. We will ground ourselves in the history of translation theory (and in particular in postcolonial translation theory), recognizing that theoretical approaches to the problem of translation themselves emerge from theologically and politically charged historical conditions. With our philological, cultural, and historical tools in hand, we will explore the history of translations and revisions of the Bible, immerse ourselves in unusual examples of translation (children’s Bibles, the Emoji Bible, R. Crumb’s Genesis, etc.), and try our hand at the craft of Bible translation.

RLG3228HF Social History of the Jesus Movement

Time: Thursday 9-12

Instructor: J. Kloppenborg

Focus on the social setting of the early Jesus movement in Roman Palestine and in the cities of the Eastern Empire. Topics will include: rank and legal status; age and population structure; patronalia and clientalia; family structure; marriage and divorce; forms of association outside the family; slavery and manumission; loyalty to the empire and forms of resistance; legal and social issues concerning women; taxation; the structure of the economy, and how these issues are variously reflected in documents of the early Jesus movement. Open to qualified graduate students and advanced undergraduate students. Graduate students will be expected to read primary texts in the original languages; knowledge of Greek is essential; knowledge of a modern research language (French, German, or Italian) is necessary.

RLG3623HS/POL2026HS Thought of Leo Strauss

Time: Wednesday 2-4

Instructor: K. Green

The course will offer an introduction to the philosophic thought of Leo Strauss (1899-1973), which will examine his major interests: philosophy, theology, and politics. We shall approach his thought through his writings on modern Judaism and on modern Jewish thought.

