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## JEWISH STUDIES

**Director**, Associate Professor David Freidenreich

**Program Steering Committee:** Professors Véronique Plesch (Art), Raffael Scheck (History), and Robert Weisbrot (History); Associate Professors David Freidenreich (Religious Studies) and John Turner (History); Assistant Professors Rachel Isaacs (Jewish Studies) and Damon Mayrl (Sociology); Faculty Fellow Sarah Emanuel (Religious Studies)

The Jewish Studies Program, in the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies, is an academic program whose core mission is to educate students in the breadth and complexities of Jewish history, religion, politics, and culture and to situate this learning in the larger context of their liberal arts education. Jewish studies courses engage students of all backgrounds in diverse aspects of Jewish civilization and address themes as divergent as identity formation, prejudice, and intercultural relations. Through the minor in Jewish studies, the program offers students an opportunity to take courses in several disciplines of the humanities and social sciences, including religious studies, history, government, French studies, and music.

As the only program of its kind in Maine, Jewish studies seeks not only to educate Colby students but also to provide public programming to members of the Maine community through its curricular and cocurricular activities. Though a major in Jewish studies is not offered, interested students are encouraged to consult the director about an independent major.

### Requirements for the Minor in Jewish Studies

A minimum of six Jewish studies courses, including the two core courses (Religious Studies 181 and 182) and one three- or four-credit course at the 300 or 400 level. Minors may count two two-credit courses or independent studies as the equivalent of a single course toward the requirement of six Jewish studies courses. Jewish Studies 125 does not count toward the minor. Minors may petition to receive credit toward the Jewish studies minor for up to three courses taken at other colleges and universities.

Successful completion of the minor requires a 2.00 average for all requirements above. None of the required courses may be taken satisfactory/unsatisfactory.

Courses listed below are described in the appropriate department sections of this catalogue.

### Courses from Other Departments Approved for the Minor in Jewish Studies

#### *French Studies*

- 323 Holocaust in French Cinema

#### *Government*

- 251 Israelis and Palestinians: Conflict and Accommodation
- 252 Introduction to Politics of the Middle East

#### *History*

- 283 Golden Diaspora: Modern American Jewish History
- 421 Research Seminar: Debating the Nazi Past

#### *Music*

- 121 *Entartete* (Degenerate) *Musik*

#### *Religious Studies*

- 143 Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament
- 144 Introduction to the New Testament
- 152 Israeli Popular Music
- 181 Conceptions of Jews and Judaism
- 182 Jews, Judaism, and the Modern World
- 219 Violence and Religion through the Centuries
- 221 The Jews of Maine
- 223 Religion in the Modern State of Israel
- 285 Faith, Class, and Community
- 298 Jews of Germany, Past and Present
- 298B On the Eighth Day, God Laughed: The Bible and Comedy
- 322 Food and Religious Identity
- 384 Religious Responses to Ethical Dilemmas
- 387 Anti-Judaism and Islamophobia in Christian/Western Thought
- 397A Biblical Prophecy and Apocalypse

- 298 Jews of Germany, Past and Present

## Course Offerings

**[JS121] Entartete (Degenerate) Musik** Listed as Music 121. *Three credit hours.* **A, I.**

**JS125f Hebrew I** The first of three consecutive courses designed to develop fluency and accuracy in Modern Hebrew. Through an interactive approach to language learning, students gain communicative proficiency and a greater understanding of Israeli society. Videos, audio, and web materials introduce students to the nuanced and rich connections between Hebrew and Jewish culture in Israel and around the world. **Global Innovation course.** *Three credit hours.* **ISAACS**

**JS126s Hebrew II** The second of three consecutive courses designed to develop fluency and accuracy in Modern Hebrew. Students will deepen their knowledge of Hebrew grammar and further develop the facilities for written and oral communication in Hebrew. Delves more deeply into Israeli culture through media and literature. *Prerequisite:* Jewish Studies 125 or equivalent. *Three credit hours.* **ISAACS**

**JS127s Hebrew III** The third of three consecutive courses designed to develop fluency and accuracy in Modern Hebrew. Students will deepen their knowledge of Hebrew grammar and further develop the facilities for written and oral communication in Hebrew. Delves more deeply into Israeli culture through media and literature. *Prerequisite:* Jewish Studies 126 or equivalent. *Three credit hours.* **ISAACS**

**JS143f Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament** Listed as Religious Studies 143. *Four credit hours.* **L.** **EMANUEL**

**JS144s Introduction to the New Testament** Listed as Religious Studies 144. *Four credit hours.* **L.** **EMANUEL**

**[JS152] Israeli Popular Music** Listed as Religious Studies 152. *Three credit hours.* **A.**

**JS181f Conceptions of Jews and Judaism** Listed as Religious Studies 181. *Four credit hours.* **H, I.** **FREIDENREICH**

**JS182s Jews, Judaism, and the Modern World** Listed as Religious Studies 182. *Four credit hours.* **H, I.** **FREIDENREICH**

**JS197f Biblical Hebrew** An introduction to the study of the Hebrew Bible in its original language. Students will develop basic proficiency in biblical Hebrew grammar, learn how to use standard reference tools and aids for the study of biblical texts in Hebrew, and develop a deeper appreciation of the challenges and choices inherent in biblical translation. *Prerequisite:* Jewish Studies 125. *Two credit hours.* **FREIDENREICH**

**[JS219] Violence and Religion through the Centuries** Listed as Religious Studies 219. *Four credit hours.*

**[JS221] The Jews of Maine** Listed as Religious Studies 221. *Four credit hours.* **H.**

**[JS223] Religion in the Modern State of Israel** Listed as Religious Studies 223. *Two credit hours.*

**JS226j Community Organizing and Social Justice** For decades, ordinary citizens have exercised their power on a local and state level using the principles of congregation-based community organizing (CBCO). In this hands-on introduction to the principles of CBCO, students will learn how to organize to build power and create political change. With special attention to the Jewish texts that underlie this work, we will focus on the history of Jewish involvement in social justice movements as a case study for making change. Guest speakers from across the country will share their experiences. *Three credit hours.* **ASCH**

**JS251f Israelis and Palestinians: Conflict and Accommodation** Listed as Government 251. *Four credit hours.* **S.** **DENOEUX**

**JS252s Introduction to Politics of the Middle East** Listed as Government 252. *Four credit hours.* **S.** **DENOEUX**

**[JS283] Golden Diaspora: Modern American Jewish History** Listed as History 283. *Four credit hours.* **H, U.**

**JS285f Faith, Class, and Community** Listed as Religious Studies 285. *Four credit hours.* **U.** **FREIDENREICH**

**JS298Bs On the Eighth Day, God Laughed: The Bible and Comedy** Listed as Religious Studies 298B. *Four credit hours.* **L.**

EMANUEL

[JS322] **Food and Religious Identity** Listed as Religious Studies 322. *Four credit hours.* **S.**

[JS323] **Holocaust in French Cinema** Listed as French 323. *Four credit hours.*

JS346s **Jews of Germany, Past and Present** Listed as Religious Studies 346. *Four credit hours.* **H, I.** FREIDENREICH

[JS384] **Religious Responses to Ethical Dilemmas** Listed as Religious Studies 384. *Four credit hours.*

[JS387] **Anti-Judaism and Islamophobia in Christian/Western Thought** Listed as Religious Studies 387. *Four credit hours.* **I.**

JS397Af **Biblical Prophecy and Apocalypse** Listed as Religious Studies 397A. *Four credit hours.* EMANUEL

JS421s **Research Seminar: Debating the Nazi Past** Listed as History 421. *Four credit hours.* **H, W3, I.** SCHECK

JS491f, 492s **Independent Study** *One to four credit hours.* FACULTY