JEWISH STUDIES

Director, Associate Professor David Freidenreich
Program Steering Committee: Professors Bénédicte Mauguière (French), Véronique Plesch (Art), Raffael Scheck (History), and Robert Weisbrot (History); Associate Professors David Freidenreich (Religious Studies) and John Turner (History); Assistant Professor Rachel Isaacs (Jewish 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, 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 course at the 300 or 400 level. 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

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

120 Personal Writings about God
143 Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old 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
322 Food and Religious Identity
384 Religious Responses to Ethical Dilemmas
387 Anti-Judaism and Islamophobia in Christian/Western Thought

Course Offerings

[JS120] Personal Writings about God  Listed as Religious Studies 120.  Four credit hours.  W1.
### JS121j  Entartete (Degenerate) Musik
Listed as Music 121. Three credit hours. A, I. SILVER

### 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. 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

### JS127f  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. JORGENSEN

### 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

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

### JS221s  The Jews of Maine
Listed as Religious Studies 221. Four credit hours. H. FREIDENREICH

### [JS224]  Jewish Theology
An introduction to multiple Jewish answers to life's big questions. We will explore how to live the good life, the role of God in determining our fate, the meaning of suffering in our lives, and the relationship between politics and faith. We will interrogate ideas found in the Hebrew Bible, Jewish liturgy, rabbinic texts, and the works of modern thinkers such as Hermann Cohen, Mordecai Kaplan, Abraham Joshua Heschel, Martin Buber, Franz Rosenzweig, and Abraham Isaac Kook. Four credit hours.

### JS251s  Israelis and Palestinians: Conflict and Accommodation
Listed as Government 251. Four credit hours. S. DENOEUX

### JS252f  Introduction to Politics of the Middle East
Listed as Government 252. Four credit hours. DENOEUX

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

### [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.

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

### JS387f  Anti-Judaism and Islamophobia in Christian/Western Thought
Listed as Religious Studies 387. Four credit hours. I. FREIDENREICH

### JS421f  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