

Events Calendar for MSU Jewish Studies Program

Spring Semester 2015

All events are open to the public and take place on the MSU campus unless otherwise specified.

Date	Time/Location	Event
Friday January 16	10:00–11:30 am Wells Hall B-342	JEWISH STUDIES FACULTY STUDENT RESEARCH SEMINAR <i>"We Really Like Winston Better Than Weinstein! New York City Jews and Name-changing in the Postwar Era"</i> Dr. Kirsten Fermaglich, Department of History, MSU Mid-century debates over Jewish identity tended to equate name-changing with "passing." However, later sociologists described name changing as "covering," which has accurately reflected the complicated practice of name-changing for the majority of American Jews.
Tuesday January 20	7:00 pm <i>(new venue)</i> RCAH Theater Snyder Hall C-20	GUEST LECTURE <i>"What's Missing in Middle East Reporting"</i> Mark Lavie, former Mideast Associated Press journalist, 1999–2014 For more than forty years, Mr. Lavie has reported on the Middle East. He explains what the West doesn't understand, what the media doesn't report, and why. Co-sponsored by Hillel Center, Jewish Student Union, and the School of Journalism.
Thursday January 22	7:00–8:30 pm James Madison Library 322 South Case Hall	GUEST LECTURE <i>"Water Scarcity in the Middle East: Can Technology Be the Game Changer?"</i> Alon Tal, Ben Gurion University, and co-chair of the Green Movement MSU's Visiting Serling Israeli Scholar, Professor Alon Tal, is the author of several books on Israeli environmental history and a leading environmentalist in Israel. Co-sponsored with James Madison College and the Asian Studies Center.
Wednesday January 28	3:30–5:00 pm Wells Hall B-342	FACULTY PANEL DISCUSSION <i>"Analyzing Ari Shavit's My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel"</i> Guest: Ari Shavit; Panelists: Yael Aronoff, Ken Waltzer, and Marc Bernstein Panel discussion with Ari Shavit on his critically acclaimed book on Israel and its prospects. Co-sponsored with James Madison College, MSU Hillel Center, and the Asian Studies Center.
Wednesday January 28	7:00–8:30 pm Case Hall, 3rd Floor Club Spartan	GUEST LECTURE <i>"Post Publication Reflections on My Promised Land"</i> Ari Shavit, Israeli reporter and columnist for <i>Haaretz</i> Ari Shavit discusses his latest book, <i>My Promised Land</i> . Co-sponsored with James Madison College, MSU Hillel Center, and the Asian Studies Center.
Tuesday February 3	4:00–5:00 pm Natural Resources, Room 225	FORESTRY HANOVER SEMINAR SERIES <i>"All the Trees of the Forest: The Extraordinary Story of Israel's Woodlands"</i> Alon Tal, Ben Gurion University, and co-chair of the Green Movement Dr. Tal examines the reforestation that transformed Israel's drylands and degraded soils into flourishing parks, rangelands, and renewed ecosystems. Co-sponsored with Department of Forestry.
Tuesday February 3	7:00–8:30 pm James Madison Library 322 South Case Hall	JONATHAN NETANYAHU MEMORIAL LECTURE <i>"The EU and its Working Definition of Anti-Semitism"</i> R. Amy Elman, Department of Political Science, Kalamazoo College This lecture examines the EU, the politics surrounding anti-Semitism, and the working definition that the EU developed but never formally adopted. Co-sponsored with James Madison College and the Center for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies.
Wednesday February 18	7:00–8:30 pm James Madison Library 322 South Case Hall	MICHAEL BRILL MEMORIAL LECTURE <i>"Tracking Time in Auschwitz"</i> Alan Rosen, International School for Holocaust Studies, Yad Vashem Dr. Rosen, author of <i>The Wonder of their Voices</i> , examines the innovative strategies the Jews during the Holocaust developed to track time, maintain ties to the past, and envision a future. Co-sponsored with James Madison College and the Center for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies.

Date	Time/Location	Event
Friday February 20	10:00–11:30 am Wells Hall B-342	JEWISH STUDIES FACULTY STUDENT RESEARCH SEMINAR <i>“Nobility and Monstrosity in Elye Levita’s 16th Century Yiddish Chivalric Romance, Bove-bukh”</i> Dr. Margot B. Valles , Integrative Studies in Arts & Humanities, MSU Dr. Valles explores issues of identity in late medieval secular Jewish culture through an examination of the noble and monstrous aspects of a half-dog/half-man in Elye Levita’s adventure poem. Co-sponsored by the Department of English.
Friday February 27	10:00–11:30 am Wells Hall C-742	JEWISH STUDIES FACULTY STUDENT RESEARCH SEMINAR <i>“Anti-Zionism to Zionism: Reform Judaism and Temple Beth El of Detroit’s Alternate Course”</i> Laura Williams , Jewish Studies Specialist at MSU Laura examines a Reform synagogue Temple Beth El (now in Bloomfield Hills, MI) during its transition from a strong anti-Zionist Rabbi Leo Franklin to a pro-Israel Rabbi Glazer, and connects the case study to struggles within the Reform movement.
Friday March 20	10:00–11:30 am Wells Hall B-342	JEWISH STUDIES FACULTY STUDENT RESEARCH SEMINAR <i>“The Maurerschulen (Brick Mason Schools) at Auschwitz”</i> Dr. Ken Waltzer , Professor Emeritus, James Madison College, MSU Based on testimonies and memoirs by former inmates as well as interviews, Dr Waltzer explores whether the Maurerschule inside Auschwitz from 1942-44 was a haven, a school offering credentials, or just another space in Auschwitz with youths subject to unyielding Nazi terror. Co-sponsored by James Madison College and the Center for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies.
Sunday & Monday March 22–23	Wells Hall B-122	10th ANNUAL MSU ISRAELI FILM FESTIVAL Sunday, March 22 2:30 pm <i>Garden of Eden</i> (discussant: Ronen Steinberg) 4:00 pm <i>Bethlehem</i> (discussant: Yael Aronoff) 6:00 pm dinner break (catered by Woody’s Oasis) 7:00 pm <i>Farewell Party</i> (discussant: Steven Weiland) Monday, March 23 7:00 pm <i>Shattered Rhymes</i> (discussant: Sami Shalom Chetrit)
Wednesday March 25	7:00 pm James Madison Library 322 South Case Hall	SPECIAL TOPICS LECTURE <i>“The Implications of the March 17th Israeli Elections”</i> Yael Aronoff , James Madison College, Michigan State University
Friday & Saturday March 27–28	Kellogg Center	KEN WALTZER’S BIG BASH RETIREMENT CELEBRATION Join fellow alumni, faculty, staff, and students, as well as Professor Waltzer’s family, friends, and current and former colleagues, in honoring Ken’s service, teaching, scholarship, and career. For more information, please contact Kim Allan at allank@msu.edu or 517-353-3381, or visit www.jmc.msu.edu .
Wednesday April 1	7:00 pm James Madison Library 322 South Case Hall	ADA FINIFTER MEMORIAL LECTURE <i>“Freedom and Death: The Holocaust and Greek Jewry”</i> Steven B. Bowman , Department of History, University of Cincinnati Dr. Bowman examines the Greek Jews’ contributions to the Greek Resistance against the Axis, even as the Shoah destroyed 90 percent of Greek Jewry. Co-sponsored by James Madison College.
Wednesday April 15	7:00 pm Kellogg Center, Lincoln Room	22nd RABIN HOLOCAUST LECTURE/2nd MICHAEL BRILL MEMORIAL <i>“Anti-Semitism in the 21st Century: An Illusion? Or Time to Start Worrying?”</i> Deborah E. Lipstadt , Dorot Professor at Emory University Recently, anti-Semitism has been on the rise, especially in Europe. First, is this trend real or is it linked to events in the Middle East? Second, if it is a real phenomenon, what are the causes of this development? Co-sponsored with James Madison College and the Center for European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies.
Friday April 24	10:00–11:30 am Wells Hall B-342	JEWISH STUDIES FACULTY STUDENT RESEARCH SEMINAR <i>“Living Beyond Terrorism: Israeli Stories of Hope and Healing”</i> Zieva Konvisser , board member, Israel Center for the Treatment of Psychotrauma No one can forget the devastating aftermath of a suicide bomber, but what happens to the survivors of such horrific attacks? Zieva Konvisser shares compelling stories of hope and healing of victims of terrorist attacks in Israel.