# Events Calendar
**MSU Jewish Studies Program**  
**Fall Semester 2016**  
*All events are open to the public.*

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| **Wednesday, September 7th** | 7:30-9:00pm  
Congregation Shaarey Zedek  
East Lansing | **GUEST LECTURE**  
The Land is Full: Towards a Sustainable Vision for Israel’s Future  
Alon Tal, the Serling Visiting Israeli Scholar in James Madison College, will speak about the environmental ramifications of Israel’s exponential demographic growth, from burgeoning pollution and dwindling natural resources to overcrowded classrooms, courtrooms and roads. This presentation examines the origins of Israel’s policies and describes how they must change to support a sustainable future. |
| **Friday, September 9**   | 12:15-1:30pm  
The Kellogg Center’s Corniche Room | **MEET AND GREET**  
Complimentary lunch with Jewish Studies Minors, Prospective Minors, and Jewish Studies Faculty |
| **Wednesday, September 14th** | 8:15am-5:00pm  
Club Spartan  
Case Hall | **SYMPOSIUM**  
Sustainable Management of Iconic Lakes: Lessons Learned from Lake Michigan and Lake Kinneret (Sea of Galilee)  
The Great Lakes and Lake Kinneret (Sea of Galilee) are two internationally iconic transboundary surface water resources. While completely different in their dimensions, climatic conditions and geopolitical circumstances the lakes face challenges that are surprisingly comparable. Policymakers and academics in both Michigan and Israel will learn from each other’s experiences to better address the ecological, institutional and economic problems associated with sustainable management of these unique and invaluable water resources. Co-sponsored by James Madison College, Lyman Briggs College, MSU Hillel Jewish Student Center and the Asian Studies Center. |
| **Friday, September 16th and Friday, September 23rd** | 9:30am-4:15 pm  
MSU Library, 2nd floor West Side, Red Cedar Instruction Room | **FACULTY AND STUDENT WORKSHOP (two sessions)**  
Genocide Testimonies Using the USC Shoah Foundation’s Visual History Archive  
Ken Waltzer, History Professor Emeritus, and Deborah Margolis, MSU Jewish Studies Librarian, will lead a two-day workshop for faculty and students on researching and teaching with genocide testimonies, using the new USC Shoah Foundation’s Visual History Archive. |
| **Tuesday, September 27th** | 1:00-2:30pm  
James Madison College Library  
322 South Case | **2016 SERLING MODERN ISRAEL LECTURE**  
Fear and Trembling in Zion: The Mortality and Morality of Israel  
Uriel Abulof is an Associate Professor of politics at Tel-Aviv University and a senior research fellow at Princeton University’s Woodrow Wilson School. He will discuss the tension between the Zionist movements’ commitment to articulating the moral legitimacy of the Jewish state, and their continued existential dread about the very survival of the Jewish people and Israel. The seeming failure to become “a nation like all nations,” he suggests, has augmented Zionist fears, deepening doubts about the very possibility of establishing Israel’s legitimacy. Co-sponsored by the Asian Studies Center and James Madison College. |
| **Thursday, September 29** | 4:30-6:00pm  
Snyder Hall C-200 | **ART EXHIBITION RECEPTION**  
Lines of Flight (September 26-October 21, RCAH LookOut! Gallery)  
Chen Shapira (Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, Jerusalem) will discuss his Lines of Flight, an assembly of different perspectives that explores aspects of Israeli reality and examines changes in common contemporary Israeli symbols and imagery. The paintings are executed in a continuous, meditative process, building layers of inks and watercolors on paper. The paintings also trigger political questions regarding land, territory, power and control. Co-sponsored by the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities, the Asian Studies Center and James Madison College. |
| **Thursday, October 6th** | 12:00-6:00pm  
Breslin Center | **MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY STUDY ABROAD FAIR**  
Visit the Jewish Studies booth and learn about the Nature, Culture, and Environmental Issues in a Green Israel summer program in June, and the MSU Jewish Studies summer program in July at the Hebrew University Rothberg School in Jerusalem. |
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| Friday, October 7th | TBA by the Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities | GUEST LECTURE
Fierce Entanglements
Don Ellis, Professor in the School of Communication at the University of Hartford, is a specialist in language, communication and ethno-political conflicts – especially the Arab-Israeli conflict. His talk will focus on the issues involved in closing gaps of differences in deeply divided societies. Sponsord by Global Studies in the Arts and Humanities. |
| Monday, October 10th | 6:00-7:30pm MSU Student Union, Lake Superior Room | GUEST LECTURE
Exploring the Comparative History of the Mizrahi and African-American Migration Experience
Bryan Roby, author of The Mizrahi Era of Rebellion: Israel’s Forgotten Civil Rights Struggle 1948 -1966, drew upon declassified archival sources to provide comprehensive historical accounts of the Middle Eastern Jewish struggle for equality in Israel. His current research focuses on questions of Blackness, comparative migration experiences, and connections made between the African-American community and Mizrahi Jews during the 1960s and 1970s. He is currently a Visiting Fellow at the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan. Co-sponsored by the Asian Studies Center, the Department of History and James Madison College. |
| Friday, October 21st | 10:00-11:30am Wells Hall C-742 | JEWISH STUDIES FACULTY/STUDENT RESEARCH SEMINAR
Jerusalem: The Place of the Absolute: the Temple Mount in Structures of Thought, Society, Architecture and Everyday Life
Yehotal Shapira, the Visiting Israeli Scholar in the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities will discuss the connections between absolute thinking and social structures as they manifest themselves in the Temple Mount/al-Haram al-Sharif area, especially the way the perceptions of the absolute or G-d shape the way we relate to those who think differently from us. Co-sponsored by the RCAH, the Asian Studies Center and James Madison College. |
| Friday, October 27th | 12:00-1:30pm 255 Old Horticulture | GUEST LECTURE
Forging Ties, Forging Passports: Migration and the Modern Sephardic Diaspora, 1900-1940
Devy Mays, Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan, will discuss the emigration of over one-third of the Ladino-speaking Jewish population of the northeastern Mediterranean to Egypt, Italy, France, the United States, Cuba, Mexico, and the Southern Cone. These Sephardic migrants both created and came to rely on overlapping familial, cultural, and religious networks, ties they perpetuated through frequent non-linear migrations and contact. Such connections enabled Sephardic migrants to cultivate transnational identities and citizenships in order to circumvent the migratory restrictions that saw them deemed increasingly undesirable due to nationality, race, ethnicity, class, and religion. Co-sponsored by the History Department and James Madison College. |
| Friday, November 18 | 10am-11:30am Wells Hall B-342 | JEWISH STUDIES FACULTY/STUDENT RESEARCH SEMINAR
Voices from the Holocaust: Testimonies by French Survivors
Anna Norris will examine the audiovisual testimonies of French Holocaust survivors in the archive of the Memorial de la Shoah of Paris, France. Dr. Norris discusses the reasons that so little research has been done on French survivors’ testimonies, especially those of women who were discouraged from testifying until recently, and underscores the critical importance of hearing those voices. Co-sponsored by James Madison College. |
| Friday, December 2nd | 10:00am-11:30am Wells Hall B-342 | JEWISH STUDIES FACULTY/STUDENT RESEARCH SEMINAR
Israel’s Wars with Hamas: the Dilemmas of Asymmetric Conflicts
Yael Aronoff analyzes democracies fighting asymmetric wars, which attempt to balance traditional military strategies of deterrence with pressures for restraint. Restraint mitigates further resentment by populations in which the strikes are held; are needed to maintain a political culture’s self-identity as a democracy upholding democratic norms and international laws regarding the conduct of war in opposition to the non-state actor; and deprives the opponent of winning narrative battles in the media. Dr. Aronoff will examine how international lawyers, military commanders, and non-governmental organizations such as the ICRC have come together to try to reach consensus on what the restraints binding states should be in these wars. Co-sponsored by James Madison College and the Asian Studies Center. |
| Tuesday, December 6th | 7:00pm-9:30pm MSU Library Green Room (4th Floor West) | KESSLER FILM EVENT
Son of Saul, directed by Laszlo Nemes
Winner of the 2016 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, Son of Saul follows a Hungarian Jewish prisoner (Géza Rohrig) in Auschwitz who works as a Sonderkommando, participating as a cog in the Nazis’ extermination machine. In a haunting exploration of the struggle to maintain one’s humanity in the midst of so much killing, Saul is determined to give the body of a young boy a proper Jewish burial. Amy Simon will introduce the film, provide comments at the conclusion, and then lead a discussion about the film. Co-sponsored by James Madison College. |