

MSU Jewish Studies Program

Introducing Michigan State University students to the history, religion, culture and civilization of the Jewish people



The Jewish Studies Program at Michigan State University engages in interdisciplinary study of the history, cultures, language(s), identities, and religion of the Jewish people. While our program encompasses the historical and geographic breadth of Jewish experiences, our particular strengths are in five key areas: American Jewish history, culture, and literature; European Jewish History and Holocaust Studies; Hebrew; Israel Studies; and Judaism and Jewish Philosophy. A hallmark of our program is the close interaction of faculty, students and community members. The Jewish Studies Program offers a 20 credit undergraduate minor in Jewish Studies that allows students to explore, in interdisciplinary and flexible ways, Jewish history, culture, and identity, to learn Hebrew, and to study Judaism and Jewish thought.

Consider taking some of these courses this year, all of which count towards the Jewish Studies minor. A list of all 35 offered Jewish Studies courses can be found on the Jewish Studies Program website, www.jsp.msu.edu.

HEB101: Elementary Hebrew I (4 credits)

M-Th, 9:10-10:00am. 128 Erickson Hall. Limit: 25 students; or M/W, 6:00-7:50pm. A220 Wells Hall. Limit: 15 students.(Prof. Yore Kedem.)

Spoken and written Hebrew for conversation, reading, and research. Basic grammatical analysis of modern Hebrew.

HEB102: Elementary Hebrew II (4 credits)

Sec 001: M-Th, 9:10-10:00am. A224 Wells. Limit: 25 students. Limit: 15 students.

Further work on spoken and written Hebrew for conversation, reading, and research. Further basic grammatical analysis of modern Hebrew.

HEB201-001: Second-Year Hebrew I (4 credits)

M-Th, 10:20-11:10am(Prof. Yore Kedem). Location TBA. Limit: 25 students.

Intermediate-level spoken and written Hebrew for conversation, reading, and research. Advanced grammatical analysis of modern Hebrew.

HEB202-001: Second-Year Hebrew II (4 credits)

M-Th, 10:20-11:10am(Prof. Yore Kedem). Location TBA. Limit: 25 students.

Intermediate-level spoken and written Hebrew for conversation, reading, and research. Advanced grammatical analysis of modern Hebrew.

HEB290: Independent Study (1-4 credits)

Special projects arranged by an individual student and a faculty member in areas supplementing regular course offerings.

HEB490: Independent Study (1-4 credits)

Special projects arranged by an individual student and a faculty member in areas supplementing regular course offerings.

The MSU Jewish Studies Program is offering Levy Scholarships that will pay for a full year (8 credits) of Hebrew study at MSU if they obtain at least a 3.0 average and commit to studying abroad in Israel immediately before or after taking Hebrew.

MC300-001/ENG490/FLM490/JS399: From Collective Ideology to Personal Diversity: Israeli Documentary Filmmaking (1 credit)

7:00-9:00pm (Prof. Yael Katzir). TBA, Case Hall. Limit: 25 students.

Meets from Oct. 30 to Nov. 9. Observes how Israeli documentary filmmaking has evolved from early efforts to depict aspects of the Zionist project to personal efforts to probe elements of a more diverse reality in Israel.

MC450/FW450-301: International Environmental Policy (3 credits)

M/W 5:00-7:00pm (Prof. Alon Tal). 335B Case Hall. Limit: 30 students.

Overview of concepts, actors, norms, laws, and institutions related to international environmental policy. Case studies on current global environmental issues. Case study on Israel.

MC335-301: Israeli Politics, Cultures and Society (4 credits)

MW, 9:10am-12:00pm (Prof. Alon Tal). 335B Case Hall. Limit: 30 students.

Analysis of Israeli politics, cultures and society. Relationship between society and social and ethnic cleavages, culture and politics, political institutions and parties, democracy and the Jewish nature of the state, and the influence of these and competing political cultures on foreign policy.