

Jewish Studies Minor Courses 2021-22

Fall Semester 2021

ENG 356 (3 credits): Readings in Jewish Literature Section 001, Stephen Rachman

Sec. 001- Mon/Wed 12:40-2:30pm

Extensive readings in a range of genres by Jewish writers, including fiction, poetry, drama, memoir, and/or film. Cultural and artistic contexts of Jewish literature.

ESHP 190-003 and 005 (3 credits): The Art of Starting, Harry Yuklea

Sec. 003- Tue/Thu, 12:40-2:00 pm

Sec. 005- Tue/Thu, 2:40-4:00 pm PLEASE NOTE--This section will explore the topic matter presented in ESHP 190 from the perspective of an Israeli/global business lens. Students will review Israeli innovation policy and investment strategies that give Israel its nickname as Startup Nation.

FI 491 (3 credits): Topics in Finance: Economics and Finance of Innovation, Harry Yuklea

Sec. 003- Tu/Wed, 4:10-5:30 pm

FI491-003 aims to complement the EC491 and FI444 courses by adding specific modules like global financing, capacity planning, emerging financing instruments, policy design, etc. The course combines the variety of academic perspectives with practitioners' views, making it appropriate both for students interested in pure academic research and for those looking to improve their entrepreneurial skills and knowledge base for real practice. Within this context, we will leverage the experience accumulated in Israel, recognized as "The Startup Nation," by analyzing REAL case studies around the Israeli entrepreneurial ecosystem as well as startup, growth, and developed high-tech Israeli firms. While analyzing the cases, we will consider their relevance for other economies, focusing on Michigan.

HEB 101 (4 credits): Elementary Hebrew I, Yore Kedem

Sec. 001- Mon/Wed/Fri, 9:10-10:00 am

Sec. 002- Mon/Wed, 6:00-7:20 pm

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

HEB 201 (4 credits): Second-year Hebrew I, Yore Kedem

Sec 001- Mon/Wed/Fri, 10:20-11:10am

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

HEB 290 (1-4 credits): Independent Study

HEB 490 (1-4 credits): Independent Study

HST 355 (3 credits): Spain & the Muslim World: Medieval and Early Modern Iberia, the Maghreb and West Africa, David Wheat

Sec. 001- Mon/Wed, 12:40-2:00 pm

This course provides an overview of Iberia (Spain and Portugal) in relation to selected regions of the Muslim world during the medieval and early modern periods. Much of the semester will examine religious identities, conflicts, and exchanges within the Iberian peninsula. Other topics that may be addressed include the status of religious minorities in Iberia under both Muslim and Christian rule, and scholarly debates over *convivencia*, the ostensibly peaceful co-existence of Iberian Christians, Muslims, and Jews.

HST 481 (3 credits): Seminar in Ancient History: From Alexander to Bar Kochva: The Holy Land in the Graeco-Roman Period, Noah Kaye

Section 001- Tue/Thu, 4:10-5:30 pm

When did the Judeans become the Jews? What were the Maccabees really fighting for? Was the war with Rome, which resulted in the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE, an inevitable consequence of the clash between Judaism and Hellenism? Who was the cruel and chameleon Herod the Great? What was everyday life like in the Galilee of Jesus of Nazareth? These are some of the questions explored in our seminar, which tracks the development of Judaism under the Hellenistic regimes of the Ptolemies, Seleucids, and Hasmoneans, including the millennialism of the Dead Sea Scrolls (Qumran) and the sometimes violent sectarianism of Roman Judaea.

IAH 211C (4 credits): Beyond Seinfeld and Sandler: Introduction to American Jewish Culture, Kirsten Fermaglich

Mon/Wed, Time and Location TBD

This class is designed to introduce students to some key issues and debates in modern American Jewish culture. Rather than examining Jewish culture as one integrated body, we will look at the different ways that different Jewish people throughout the country construct their identities, their heritage, and their religion. We will also examine the conflicts that have arisen among Jews because of these differences, as well as the unities that make Jews see themselves as one people.

IAH 211D (4 credits): Area Studies Middle East — Israeli Culture and Society, TBA

Sec. 001- Tu/Th, 12:40-2:30 pm A multidisciplinary consideration of the ways in which the history and societal features of Israel are reflected in the national culture

IAH 231B (4 credits): Moral Issues in the Arts and Humanities — Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, Marc Bernstein

Sec. 002 (Honors and Academic Scholars Section)- Tu/Th, 3:00-4:50 pm An examination of the origins and dynamics of the Israel-Palestinian conflict from the perspective of competing narratives.

MC 335 (4 credits): Israeli Politics, Cultures, and Society Section 301, Alon Tal

Sec. 001- Mon/Wed 9:10-11:50 am

Sec. 002- Mon/Wed 3:00-5:50 pm

Analysis of Israeli politics and society. Relationship between society and: social and ethnic cleavages, culture and politics, political institutions and parties, and democracy and the Jewish

nature of the state. Israel's foreign policy and its influence of foreign policy on shifting national-ism and political contestations.

MC 387 (4 credits): Jews and Anti-Semitism

Sec 001- Mon/Wed, 3:00-4:20 pm

This class serves as both a historical evaluation of antisemitism as well as an analysis of anti-semitism in the present day. Throughout the semester, we will explore definitions, forms, and examples of antisemitism, as well as discuss Jewish responses to it. Focusing on a few case studies from early Christianity to today, we will analyze the old forms of antisemitism that focus on images of Jews as parasitic outsiders, and we will examine how that antisemitism has changed, as well as avenues of continuity. Overall, we will seek to understand why antisemitism is, indeed, "the longest hatred" and how we can address this problem moving forward. To this end, students will read both secondary and primary sources. We will contribute to a blog on current antisemitic events started by students in MC 387 several years ago, " Blogging Anti-semitism." Students will also research in the extensive Radicalism collection at MSU's library.

MC 492 (5 credits): Senior Seminar in International Relations, Yael Aronoff

Sec 003- Tu/Th, 12:40-2:30 pm

This seminar will concentrate on the dilemmas of modern asymmetric warfare and will treat Israel's conflicts with Hamas, Islamic Jihad, and Hezbollah forces in a comparative manner with NATO and U.S. actions in Afghanistan, drone strikes in Pakistan, and attacks against ISIS in Iraq. The focus of the course is the policy choices, and tradeoffs democracies face in these conflicts with non-state actors. The causes of war have long been the central question of international relations as a field, and the military doctrine of deterrence – responding to an attack with overwhelming force and severe punishment in order to prevent future attacks -- has been a long-standing strategy to prevent or end traditional inter-state wars. However, an increasing number of wars are fought between states and non-state actors, in which non-state actors employ strategies that go against traditional military doctrines, e.g., intentionally operating from the midst of civilian populations, abjuring uniforms in favor of dress that make them indistinguishable from non-combatants and intentionally targeting civilians. This seminar will explore the tensions involved in such conflicts, especially dilemmas faced by democracies who on one hand, rely on traditional tactics of deterrence, while on the other, need to restrain their responses lest they violate the rules of war themselves. This seminar will examine the evolving norms of asymmetric warfare, particularly with regard to state actors and the force of international humanitarian laws, the pressures of accountability to international and national audiences, and the need to project legitimacy in the media wars surrounding these conflicts. Examining the tensions and dilemmas faced by state actors, the seminar will examine both external international and internal domestic pressures in their varied ramifications.

The seminar will investigate whether new rules of warfare are needed for asymmetric conflict and how militaries can minimize the cost to civilians. It will also examine the limits of these measures and evaluate diplomatic alternatives.

MKT 211 (1 credit): Business and Culture in the Middle East, Harry Yuklea

Sec. 001- Wed, 11:30 AM-12:20 PM

MKT 211 is structured around the Broad College model of Global Speakers Series, in which students are exposed to uncensored perspectives and interact firsthand with a variety of prominent industry leaders relevant to the subject. The FS'21 course is dedicated to the Middle East, a region known mostly because of its conflicts, instability, and wealth disparity. The

course will reveal the complexity of doing business in such a troubled region and discuss the best practices in circumventing barriers to success.

REL 150 (3 credits): Introduction to Biblical Literature, Christopher Frilingos

Sec. 001- Tue/Thu 1:00-2:20pm

This course teaches the critical study of religion – *not* the devotional study of the Bible. I will not try to persuade you to adopt or reject a religious viewpoint. Nor does the course promote personal religious beliefs and practices.

There are three main learning goals:

1. To acquire knowledge of the library of biblical literature. We will read books from the Tanakh, which is the biblical canon for Jews, and books from what Christians call the New Testament. (The Tanakh is similar to but not identical to the Christian “Old Testament.”)
2. To analyze biblical literature with the tools of critical biblical scholarship. We will consider important questions in the field of biblical studies as well as apply critical methods to biblical literature.
3. To reflect upon practices of interpretation in reading biblical literature.

One important practical benefit is that you will gain consistent practice in writing about the ideas of others as well as your own.

REL 414 (3 credits): Jewish Identity, Laura Yares

Sec 001- Mon/Wed 3:00-4:20 pm

Major themes and aspects of Jewish identity in modernity. Topics including philosophy, food, education, material culture.

UGS 200H (3 credits): Honors Research Seminar - History and Testimony in the Digital Age: Studying the Holocaust, Steve Weiland, Lynn Wolff, and Deborah Margolis

Sec 015- Th, 2:00-3:20 pm, This Honors College Seminar will offer participants an opportunity to work in a unique digital resource for studying the Holocaust. They will have access to the extraordinary USC Shoah Visual History Archive via the MSU Library. Working individually and in small groups with MSU faculty from several departments and meeting in the seminar format, students will explore these questions: 1) What can be learned about the Holocaust and anti-Semitism from the perspective of those who survived to tell their stories? 2) What are the best methods for learning from testimony as a form of historical evidence? And 3) How can the evidence of testimony best be incorporated into Holocaust research and presented, including the uses of digital resources? The focus will be on capitalizing on digital resources in doing research in a domain of inquiry with profound historical and personal meanings. And students can learn about the uses of digital multi-media presentations in their academic work beyond the Seminar itself.

UGS 200H/JS390 (3 credits): "Honors Research Seminar Abroad- Immigration and Cultural Diversity in Israel For 1st & 2nd year Honors College Students & Jewish Studies Minor Students

Fall Semester (at MSU)

Oct. 12 - Dec. 12, 2021, Tuesdays 4:10- 6:00 PM, Eustace-Cole Hall, Room 208.

Winter Break (in Israel)- Dec. 20- Jan.4, 2021-22

Spring Semester (at MSU)- Jan. 10 - Mar. 1, 2022, Tuesdays 4:10 - 6:00 PM, Eustace-Cole Hall, Room 208.

This Honors College Seminar Abroad will introduce first and second year students to

research through the lens of immigration and cultural diversity in Israel. Immigration, cultural diversity, and inter-cultural relationships present important issues for many countries in the world. Israel, a state which encourages immigration, and therefore is very culturally diverse, is a great site for investigating these issues. Students participating in the program will engage in weekly research seminars during the fall, a 15 day field research experience in Israel during winter break, and weekly research seminars during the spring. Students will present the results of their research projects at the University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum (UURAF).

To enroll email Dr. Janka at kristin@msu.edu. The deadline to submit applications is October 1, 2021.

Spring Semester 2022

HEB 102 (4 credits): Elementary Hebrew II, Yore Kedem

Sec. 001- Mon/Wed, 6:00-7:20 pm

Sec. 002- Mon/Wed, 6:00-7:50 pm

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

HEB 202 (4 credits): Second-Year Hebrew II, Yore Kedem

Sec. 001- Mon/Wed 4:10-5:30 pm

Further intermediate-level spoken and written Hebrew for conversation, reading, and research. Further advanced grammatical analysis of modern Hebrew

HEB 290 (1-4 credits): Independent Study

HEB 490 (1-4 credits): Independent Study

HST 317 (3 credits): American Jewish History, Kirsten Fermaglich

Sec. 001- Mon/Wed, 12:40-2:00 pm

“Bagels, Bloomingdales and Broad City: How Jews Became a Part of American Economics, Politics, and Culture”

This course will trace the development of the American Jewish community from 1654, when 23 Jewish refugees fled Brazil and landed by mistake in the city that would become New York, to the present, when American Jews have become such a successful and well-integrated ethnic and religious community that bagels, schmucks and Seth Rogen have become familiar parts of popular American culture. Composed of many different groups, including Ashkenazic and Sephardic, Reform, Orthodox and Conservative, Reconstructionist, feminist, atheist, and secular, as well as many different racial and gender identities, including Black, Latino, Asian, gay, les-bian, and transgender, the American Jewish community is not easily typed, and we will devote some of the class to examining battles over what it means to be an American Jew. Focusing on successive waves of immigration, we will also explore the changing ways in which Jews have been included as integral members of the American nation, as well as the ways that they have been excluded as outsiders.

HST 388 (3 credits): World War II: Causes, Conduct and Consequences, Matthew Pauly

Sec. 001- Tu/Th, 3:00-4:20 pm

Causes of World War II, the conduct of the war, and its consequences. Political, diplomatic, economic, and social factors as well as technological and artistic aspects.

HST 392 (3 credits): History of the Holocaust, Karrin Hanshew

Sec. 001- Tu/Th 4:10-5:30 pm

Nazi persecution and genocide in Europe, 1933-1945. Jewish experience within a broader context. Perpetrators, victims, bystanders, and resisters. Post-Holocaust memory, film, literature, and philosophical implications.

HST 411 (3 credits): European Jewish History, Amy Simon

Sec. 001- Tu/Th, 2:40-4:00 pm

Jewish life in Europe underwent a series of radical changes beginning in the nineteenth century, resulting in a complete transformation of all aspects of that life. Modernity called for a re-thinking of religious truths, leading Jews in Europe to completely reform religious ideas and practices. Jews became at once more integrated into their surrounding populations and persecuted in part due to that integration. This class will therefore emphasize the reality of Jews living through some of the most economically and culturally prosperous times in Jewish history, as well as focus on the downfall of that life, starting with the pogroms that took place in the nineteenth and early twentieth-century Russia, continuing to Jewish participation in and suffering during World War I, and culminating in the near destruction of European Jewry during the Holocaust. Finally, this class will contemplate where European Jews find themselves today, asking timely questions about the roles Holocaust memory, antisemitism, and Israel play in contemporary Jewish life in Europe.

IAH 211D (4 credits): Area Studies Middle East Focus: Modern Hebrew literature (in translation)

Sec. 001 - Tu, Th 3:00pm-4:50pm

Arts and humanities of the Middle East: literature, visual arts, music, religion, and philosophy presented in historical context. Themes variable by term.

IAH 241F (4 credits): Traditions in World Art, Marc Bernstein

Sec. 002 - Tu, Th 3:00pm-3:50pm

Through a combination of films, readings, and class discussion, we will be considering the ways in which film reflects sociological phenomena and transformations, focusing on the construction and shifting of collective and individual identities. We will examine topics that define these processes, such as the creation of modern Hebrew culture and "the Negation of the Diaspora"; immigration and cultural displacement; the trauma of the Holocaust; gender and its linkages with nationalist priorities; center and periphery (both spatial and social); ethnic divisions; the national struggle between Jewish Israelis and Palestinians; religion and secularism; and evolving individualistic challenges to the collectivist ethos.

MC 498 (5 credits): Sen Sem Social Relations, Amy Simon

Sec. 001- Mon/Wed 10:20am-12:10pm

American social relations and policy. During the course of this class, we will discuss questions such as: How does the Holocaust live on in American remembrance? Why should the United States be so invested in the memory of a European genocide? What kinds of stories do Americans tell about the Holocaust? How does the US educational system approach teaching the

Holocaust? What is the role of Holocaust museums and memorials in Holocaust remembrance? We will contribute to a blog on the Holocaust in popular culture started by MC 498 students several years ago. Students will complete a major research project on a topic related to the course.

REL 150 (3 credits): Introduction to Biblical Literature, Christopher Frilingos

Sec. 001- Tu/Th 1:00-2:20pm

A critical survey of biblical texts, including the Hebrew Bible, the New Testament, and writings found in the Apocrypha/Deuterocanon, combines historical and literary analysis with attention to the ancient religious context of this literature.

REL 310 (3 credits): Judaism, Laura Yares

Sec. 001- Mon/Wed 10:20-11:40am

Jewish life, thought, and institutions. Jewish calendar. Second Temple and Rabbinic periods. Talmud and Midrash. Jewish life in Europe and America. Hasidic, Reform, Orthodox, and Conservative movements. Anti-Semitism, Zionism, and the Holocaust. Current issues.

Register for this 1 credit course as MC300, ENG490, FLM490, and JS399 “From Collective Identity to Personal Diversity – Israeli Documentary Filmmaking,” Taught by Israeli Visiting Professor and award-winning filmmaker Yael Katzir

M March 21, T March 22, W March 23, M March 28, T March 29, and W March 30 8pm-10pm.

Professor Yael Katzir, accomplished Israeli Documentary Filmmaker and former Head of the History Department, Lecturer at the Film Department in the Art School of Beit Berl Academic College. Her films include *Company Jasmine*, about women in the Israeli Defense Forces; *Shivah For My Mother*, about family; *Praying In Her Own Voice*, about the Women of the Wall in Jerusalem; *Violins in Wartime*, about life in Israel during the Lebanon War; and *Shores of Light*, about the DP Camps in Southern Italy, and *Albanian Code*, about how the Muslim majority country of Albania saved Jews during WWII. Every meeting will include discussion and excerpts from films around a thematic topic, such as identity, immigration, women’s role in society, and religion. The objective of this course is to expose students to the complexities of documentary films, to understand why Israel is a unique platform for documentaries, to see the diverse dilemmas in Israeli society and culture, and to give students the tools to analyze and judge documentary films.

SOC 360 - Migration and Social Change

Steven J. Gold©

Weds & Friday 12:40-2:00

Description for Registrar

This course offers a review of approaches to contemporary migration and social change.

Course Description

Over the course of the semester you will be introduced to the key themes and areas of study in migration and social change. From new immigrants to forced migration, we will explore in depth the changing patterns in migration and lasting social, political, and geographical issues that migrant populations experience in contemporary society.

Summer 2022

JS 390: Spec Topics in Jewish Studies, David Mendelson

Sec 750- Education Abroad- Jerusalem, Israel The Emergence of the Modern State of Israel surveys ideological, political, and social developments from the rise of the Zionist movement to the present.

JS 400: Study Abroad in Jewish St (W): Immigration and Cultural Diversity, Yore Kedem

Sec 750- Education Abroad- Jerusalem, Israel

Immigration, cultural diversity and intercultural relationships present important issues for many countries in the world. Israel, a state which encourages immigration, and therefore is very culturally diverse, is a great site for investigating these issues. Although Israel is the Jewish homeland, the country has a 20% Arab minority, which includes Muslims, Christians, and Druze. Additionally, before its inception, and in the nearly 68 years of its existence, Israel absorbed immigrants from about 70 countries. The diversity, in many ways, is what gives Israel strength, but also creates a pressure cooker where the interaction between the different cultures, nationalities, and religions continue to present the people of Israel with significant challenges. In this course, you will learn about cultural diversity and immigration in Israel and how different educational, social, government, private and non-governmental organizations deal with these issues. We will study the history and politics of cultures in Israel and experience the work that some of these organizations do.