Minoring in Jewish Studies

The Minor in Jewish Studies offers a rich interdisciplinary program which introduces undergraduates to the history, cultures, language(s), identities, religion, and civilization of the Jewish people. It centers on strengths in American Jewish History and Culture, European Jewish History and Holocaust Studies, Hebrew, Israel Studies, and Judaism and Jewish Philosophy.

Learn more about Jewish Studies

- On average, 950 students take Jewish Studies courses per year.
- About 55 students are enrolled in the minor annually.
- Students have opportunities to study Hebrew; Jewish life in Europe, America, and Israel; Judaism; Jewish literature and culture, and film; Holocaust studies Israeli politics, cultures, society, foreign policy and conflict and cooperation with its neighbors; and more.

Social Science Track to the Minor in Jewish Studies

- This track has been approved to count as an official required College of Social Science minor.
- Students who plan to complete these requirements should consult an undergraduate advisor in the College of Social Science and the Director of the Serling Institute for Jewish Studies & Modern Israel, Professor Yael Aronoff at aronoffy@msu.edu.
- Students majoring in a College of Social Science major may complete a minimum of 16 credits from the following set of requirements in fulfillment of the minor requirements.
To learn more about Jewish Studies and to add the minor, please contact Prof. Yael Aronoff, Director of the Serling Institute for Jewish Studies & Modern Israel: aronoffy@msu.edu

The following courses (6 credits):
HST 317- American Jewish History (3)
HST392- History of the Holocaust (3)

One of the following courses (4 credits):
MC 335- Israeli Politics, Cultures, and Society (4)
MC 387- Jews and Antisemitism (4)

Two of the following courses (6 to 8 credits):
ENG 356- Readings in Jewish Literature (3)
*HEB 102- Elementary Hebrew II (4)
*HEB 201- Second-Year Hebrew I (4)
*HEB 202- Second-Year Hebrew II (4)
JS 390- Special Topics in Jewish Studies (4)
JS 400- Study Abroad in Jewish Studies (W) (2 to 4)
JS 495- Seminar in Jewish Studies (W) (3 or 4)
REL 310- Judaism (3)
REL 412- Jewish Mysticism (W) (3)
REL 413- Jewish Philosophy (W) (3)
REL 414- Jewish Identity (W)
**Social Science majors may also opt to take the general Jewish Studies minor which offers more course options, if chosen as a second minor.

*You may apply for the $2,000 Levy Hebrew scholarship for students that take Hebrew.

Join A Community

• A hallmark of the Serling Institute for Jewish Studies & Modern Israel is the quality in engagement between minors with faculty, peers, and community.
• The Institute works with faculty in six colleges and more than ten departments at MSU.
• Students are encouraged to seek guidance from their professors and complete independent research projects. Each spring, students present their work at the Serling Institute Undergraduate Research Conference, attended by Jewish Studies faculty, other Jewish Studies minors, and their family members.
• David Hersh and Finifter scholarships available to cover the in-state tuition for any Jewish Studies course for Jewish Studies minors.
• Generous scholarships for research, study abroad and internships in Israel and study abroad and internships related to the Holocaust.

Throughout the year, we sponsor a rich offering of lectures, speakers, films, panels, and exhibits, which have included presentations by Ambassadors Daniel Kurtzer and U.S. diplomat Dennis Ross, Historians Deborah Lipstadt and Samuel Kassow, Israeli authors David Grossman and Etgar Keret, and more. Get assistance in finding the right internship opportunity for you!

Study Abroad in Israel

• At least 330 students have studied abroad in Israel in the past 16 years.
• The Serling Institute Summer Program at Hebrew University offers students the opportunity to live and experience Israeli politics, culture, and society while earning 8 credits. Students take one course with an MSU Serling Institute faculty member and another with a Hebrew University professor. For more information please contact Dr. Yore Kedem at ykedem@msu.edu.
• Discover Israel - Start Up Nation Program Spring break abroad is led by Prof. Ayalla Ruvio, for more information please email ruvio@broad.msu.edu. Discover the innovation and entrepreneurship of Israel while traveling throughout the country, earning 3 credits.
• Students have the option to study abroad on their own for MSU credit at Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University, Ben Gurion University, and Haifa University.
• Scholarships covering the program fees are readily available: $4,000 Levy Study Abroad scholarships and more.

For more information please visit our website: www.jsp.msu.edu and contact us at jewishst@msu.edu Follow us