Twin Cities Campus

Jewish Studies B.A.

Classical and Near Eastern Religions and Cultures

College of Liberal Arts

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2018
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 31 to 48
- Degree: Bachelor of Arts

This broad, interdisciplinary field studies Jewish history and cultures from biblical antiquity to the present. The diverse quality of Jewish civilizations and the unifying forces of religion and language offer ample material for the study of continuity, adaptation, and change.

The undergraduate program offers courses in Hebrew Bible, Second Temple Judaism, the origins and foundational texts of rabbinic Judaism, Jewish history in the ancient, medieval, and modern worlds, Jewish literature, Jewish philosophy, the Holocaust, modern Israel, and the Jewish presence in popular culture. The program has links with the Departments of Classical & Near Eastern Studies, Sociology, History, Spanish & Portuguese Studies, French & Italian Studies, English, German, Scandinavian & Dutch, Political Science, and the School of Music. The University's Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies also offers courses related to the Nazi Holocaust and its aftermath.

Jewish studies majors acquire marketable skills in critical analysis, research, and writing that are applicable across all disciplines and in a variety of professions. In addition, majors gain cross-cultural awareness and sensitivity that is sought after in the workplace, as well as a historical awareness of the complexities that define the modern world. Jewish studies majors have access to undergraduate research opportunities and receive assistance in identifying internships and other professionalizing activities.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Admission Requirements

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the Office of Admissions website.

General Requirements

All students are required to complete general University and college requirements including writing and liberal education courses. For more information about University-wide requirements, see the liberal education requirements.Required courses for the major or minor in which a student receives a D grade (with or without plus or minus) do not count toward the major or minor (including transfer courses).

Program Requirements

Students are required to take 4 semester(s) of Hebrew.

All CLA BA degrees require 18 upper-division (3xxx-level or higher) credits outside the major designator. These credits must be taken in designators different from the major designator and cannot include courses that are cross-listed with the major designator. The major designator for the Jewish Studies BA is JWST.

At least 13 upper-division credits in the major must be taken at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities campus.

Students may earn a BA or a minor in Jewish studies, but not both.

All incoming CLA freshmen must complete the First-Year Experience course sequence.

Major Language Requirement

Beginning and Intermediate Hebrew

Take either the Modern or Biblical Hebrew 3-course language sequence for 14-15 credits. These courses, or equivalent with DUS/HLC approval, must be taken in sequential order. Students with prior knowledge may be exempt from taking some or all of these courses. See the Hebrew Language Coordinator for more information.

Take 0 - 3 course(s) totaling 0 - 15 credit(s) from the following:

Modern Hebrew

- HEBR 1001 - Beginning Hebrew I (5.0 cr)

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HEBR 1002 - Beginning Hebrew II (5.0 cr)
HEBR 3011 - Intermediate Hebrew I (5.0 cr)
•or Biblical Hebrew
•HEBR 1101 - Beginning Biblical Hebrew I (5.0 cr)
HEBR 1102 - Beginning Biblical Hebrew II (5.0 cr)
HEBR 3101 - Intermediate Biblical Hebrew I (4.0 cr)

Intermediate and Advanced Hebrew

Students are required to complete at least one course in Biblical or Modern Hebrew at the 4th semester or beyond. Students with prior knowledge of Biblical or Modern Hebrew should consult the major program adviser for appropriate placement in each sequence. (Note: these courses require prior completion of prerequisite language courses or placement by the major program adviser upon demonstrated proficiency.)

Take 1 or more course(s) totaling 3 - 5 credit(s) from the following:
•HEBR 3012 - Intermediate Hebrew II (5.0 cr)
•HEBR 3090 - Advanced Modern Hebrew (3.0 cr)
•HEBR 3102 - Intermediate Biblical Hebrew II (4.0 cr)
•HEBR 5090 - Advanced Modern Hebrew (3.0 cr)
•HEBR 5200 - Advanced Classical Hebrew (3.0 cr)

Introductory Course

Take exactly 1 course(s) totaling 3 credit(s) from the following:
HIST 1534 - Introduction to Jewish History and Cultures [HIS] (3.0 cr)
or HIST 3534 - Introduction to Jewish History and Cultures [HIS] (3.0 cr)
or JWST 1034 - Introduction to Jewish History and Cultures [HIS] (3.0 cr)
or JWST 3034 - Introduction to Jewish History and Cultures [HIS] (3.0 cr)
or RELS 1034 - Introduction to Jewish History and Cultures [HIS] (3.0 cr)
or RELS 3034 - Introduction to Jewish History and Cultures [HIS] (3.0 cr)

History and Culture Courses

A total of 7 courses are required. Take a minimum of two courses from each Emphasis Area: (1) Jewish History & Culture in the Ancient and Medieval Worlds; and (2) Jewish History, Culture, Politics and Society in the Modern World. Within each Emphasis Area, at least one of the two required courses must be from the Texts & Languages course group. The remaining three courses can be taken from any History and Culture course group.

Take 7 or more course(s) totaling 21 or more credit(s) from the following:

Jewish History & Culture in the Ancient and Medieval Worlds Emphasis Area

Take at least one "Texts & Languages" course, and one additional course from either sub-group of the Ancient and Medieval Worlds Emphasis Area. Note: students who have completed the 4th semester, or beyond, of Modern Hebrew may count a maximum of two of the following courses toward this sub-requirement: HEBR 1101, 1102, 3101 or 3102.

Take 2 or more course(s) from the following:

Text & Languages

Take 1 or more course(s) from the following:
•HEBR 5200 - Advanced Classical Hebrew (3.0 cr)
•JWST 3013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
or RELS 3013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
or JWST 5013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
or RELS 5013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
•JWST 3201 - The Bible: Context and Interpretation, World of the Hebrew Bible [LITR] (3.0 cr)
or CNRC 3201 - The Bible: Context and Interpretation, World of the Hebrew Bible [LITR] (3.0 cr)
or RELS 3201 - The Bible: Context and Interpretation, World of the Hebrew Bible [LITR] (3.0 cr)
•JWST 3202 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
or CNRC 3202 - Bible: Prophecy in Ancient Israel (3.0 cr)
or RELS 3202 - Bible: Prophecy in Ancient Israel (3.0 cr)
•CNES 3204 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
or RELS 3204 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
or CNRC 5204 - The Dead Sea Scrolls (3.0 cr)
or RELS 5204 - The Dead Sea Scrolls (3.0 cr)
•JWST 3205 - Women, Gender, and the Hebrew Bible [AH] (3.0 cr)
or CNRC 3205 - Women, Gender, and the Hebrew Bible [AH] (3.0 cr)
or RELS 3205 - Women, Gender, and the Hebrew Bible [AH] (3.0 cr)
•JWST 3504 - Apocalypticism, Cosmic Warfare, and the Maccabees: Jewish Strategies of Resistance in Antiquity (3.0 cr)
or CNRC 3504 - Apocalypticism, Cosmic Warfare, and the Maccabees: Jewish Strategies of Resistance in Antiquity (3.0 cr)
or RELS 3504 - Apocalypticism, Cosmic Warfare, and the Maccabees: Jewish Strategies of Resistance in Antiquity (3.0 cr)
•CNES 5513W *{Inactive}*[WI] (3.0 cr)
or JWST 5513W *{Inactive}*[WI] (3.0 cr)
or RELS 5513W *{Inactive}*[WI] (3.0 cr)
•Additional Ancient/Medieval Options

Take 0 or more course(s) from the following:

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- JWST 3502W - Ancient Israel: From Conquest to Exile [WI] (3.0 cr)
  or CNRC 3502W - Ancient Israel: From Conquest to Exile [WI] (3.0 cr)
  or HIST 3502W - Ancient Israel: From Conquest to Exile [WI] (3.0 cr)
  or RELS 3502W - Ancient Israel: From Conquest to Exile [WI] (3.0 cr)
  or CNRC 5502W - Ancient Israel: From Conquest to Exile [WI] (3.0 cr)
- JWST 3606 - Christians, Muslims, and Jews in the Middle Ages [HIS, GP] (3.0 cr)
  or HIST 3606 - Christians, Muslims, and Jews in the Middle Ages [HIS, GP] (3.0 cr)
  or RELS 3717 - Christians, Muslims, and Jews in the Middle Ages [HIS, GP] (3.0 cr)

•Jewish History, Culture, Politics and Society in the Modern World Emphasis Area

Take at least one "Texts & Languages" course, and one additional course from either sub-group of the Ancient and Modern World Emphasis Area. Note: students who have completed the 4th semester, or beyond, of Biblical Hebrew may count a maximum of two of the following courses toward this sub-requirement: HEBR 1001, 1002, 3011 or 3012.

Take 2 or more course(s) from the following:

Texts & Languages

Take 1 or more course(s) from the following:

- HEBR 3090 - Advanced Modern Hebrew (3.0 cr)
- HEBR 5090 - Advanced Modern Hebrew (3.0 cr)
- JWST 3601 *{Inactive}*[AH] (3.0 cr)
- JWST 3011 - Jewish American Literature: Religion, Culture, and the Immigrant Experience [HIS, DSJ] (3.0 cr)
  or ENGL 3011 - Jewish American Literature: Religion, Culture, and the Immigrant Experience [HIS, DSJ] (3.0 cr)
- JWST 3013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
  or RELS 3013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
  or JWST 5013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
  or RELS 5013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
- JWST 3631 - Jewish and German Writing at the Margins: Multilingualism, Race, Memory (3.0 cr)
  or CSCL 3123 - Jewish and German Writing at the Margins: Multilingualism, Race, Memory (3.0 cr)
  or GER 3631 - Jewish and German Writing at the Margins: Multilingualism, Race, Memory (3.0 cr)
- JWST 3633 - The Holocaust: Memory, Narrative, History [HIS, GP] (3.0 cr)
  or GER 3633 - The Holocaust: Memory, Narrative, History [HIS, GP] (3.0 cr)

•Additional Modern Options

Take 0 or more course(s) from the following:

- POL 4867W *{Inactive}*[GP, WI] (4.0 cr)
- JWST 3511 - Muslims and Jews: Conflict and Co-existence in the Middle East and North Africa since 1700 [HIS, GP] (3.0 cr)
  or HIST 3511 - Muslims and Jews: Conflict and Co-existence in the Middle East and North Africa since 1700 [HIS, GP] (3.0 cr)
  or RELS 3079 - Muslims and Jews: Conflict and Co-existence in the Middle East and North Africa since 1700 [HIS, GP] (3.0 cr)
- JWST 3512 - History of Modern Israel/Palestine: Society, Culture, and Politics [GP] (3.0 cr)
  or HIST 3512 - History of Modern Israel/Palestine: Society, Culture, and Politics [GP] (3.0 cr)
  or GLOS 3942 *{Inactive}*[GP] (3.0 cr)
  or RELS 3113 - History of Modern Israel/Palestine: Society, Culture, and Politics [GP] (3.0 cr)
- JWST 3520 - History of the Holocaust (3.0 cr)
  or HIST 3727 - History of the Holocaust (3.0 cr)
  or RELS 3520 - History of the Holocaust (3.0 cr)
- JWST 3729 - Nazi Germany and Hitler's Europe (3.0 cr)
  or HIST 3729 - Nazi Germany and Hitler's Europe (3.0 cr)
- JWST 3775 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
  or HIST 3775 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
- JWST 4315 - Never Again! Memory & Politics after Genocide [GP] (3.0 cr)
  or GLOS 4315 - Never Again! Memory & Politics after Genocide [GP] (3.0 cr)
  or SOC 4315 - Never Again! Memory & Politics after Genocide [GP] (3.0 cr)
  or GLOS 5315 - Never Again! Memory & Politics after Genocide [GP] (3.0 cr)
  or SOC 5315 - Never Again! Memory & Politics after Genocide [GP] (3.0 cr)
- JWST 4878W *{Inactive}*[GP, WI] (4.0 cr)
  or POL 4878W *{Inactive}*[GP, WI] (3.0 cr)

Capstone

Students who double major and choose to complete the capstone requirement in their other major may waive the Jewish Studies BA capstone, but they do need to replace the 3 credits with another history and culture course.

Take 1 - 2 course(s) totaling exactly 4 credit(s) from the following:

JWST 4000W

Students conduct independent research under the supervision of a faculty sponsor, resulting in a substantial research paper that makes an independent contribution to scholarship rather than merely recapitulating existing claims. Students demonstrate a synthetic mastery of relevant content within the Jewish Studies curriculum, an understanding of appropriate methodologies, an awareness of the topic's significance within the field, and mastery of the conventions of academic writing.

- JWST 4000W - Final Project, Writing Intensive [WI] (4.0 cr)

•JWST 4001W + Additional History and Culture Course

Students conduct research in the context of a 3xxx-5xxx course, resulting in a paper that goes beyond the scope/rigor of the paper

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otherwise required. The paper should make an independent contribution to scholarship rather than recapitulating existing claims and demonstrate a synthetic mastery of relevant content within Jewish Studies, an understanding of appropriate methodology, an awareness of the topic's significance within the field, and mastery of the conventions of academic writing.
•JWST 4001W - Final Project, Writing Intensive [WI] (1.0 cr)
with An additional History and Culture course from the above list, excluding any HEBR course. Instructor permission is required in order to combine a given course with JWST 4001W.

Upper Division Writing Intensive within the major

Students are required to take one upper division writing intensive course within the major. If that requirement has not been satisfied within the core major requirements, students must choose one course from the following list. Some of these courses may also fulfill other major requirements.

Take 0 - 1 course(s) from the following:

•JWST 4000W - Final Project, Writing Intensive [WI] (4.0 cr)
•JWST 4001W - Final Project, Writing Intensive [WI] (1.0 cr)
•POL 4867W *{Inactive}*[GP, WI] (4.0 cr)
•JWST 3013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
or RELS 3013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
or JWST 5013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
or RELS 5013W - Biblical Law and Jewish Ethics [WI] (3.0 cr)
•CNES 5513W *{Inactive}*[WI] (3.0 cr)
or JWST 5513W *{Inactive}*[WI] (3.0 cr)
or RELS 5513W *{Inactive}*[WI] (3.0 cr)
•JWST 4878W *{Inactive}*[GP, WI] (4.0 cr)
or POL 4878W *{Inactive}*[GP, WI] (3.0 cr)

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