

Department of Jewish Studies

12 College Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901
Tel: (732) 932-2033 Fax: (732) 932-3052 e-mail: csjl@rci.rutgers.edu
website: <http://jewishstudies.rutgers.edu>

Fall 2007

LANGUAGE COURSES

Elementary Modern Hebrew – Part I

(Middle Eastern Studies, 685:101)

563:101:01; Index #25635; MWTh2; Moshenberg
:02; Index #25647; MWTh3; Levy

*Murray 208
Scott 205*

Prerequisite: Placement test.

This course develops primary language skills through reading and writing. Emphasis is put on the sentence as a unit of language and students are engaged from the very beginning in creative writing and speech. Basic competence in grammar and comprehensive reading is achieved as well. Communication skills are enhanced by engaging in conversations based on everyday situations covering a variety of cultural topics. No previous knowledge of Hebrew required.

Elementary Modern Hebrew – Part 2

(Middle Eastern Studies, 685:102)

1:563:102:01; Index #28248; MWTh2; Bryn-Noiman
:02; Index #34315; MWTh 3; Moshenberg

*Murray 115
MTh Sc 101/ W Sc 121*

Prerequisite: 563:101 or placement test.

A continuation of Elementary Modern Hebrew 101, this course further develops the primary language skills introduced in the previous semester. Basic competence in the four areas of language (reading, writing, grammar and speech) is acquired through extensive practice of grammar, reading various Hebrew and Israeli texts, and writing. Communication skills are enhanced through conversations based on everyday situations.

Elementary Modern Yiddish – Part 1

563:103; Index #25636; MWTh6; Langman

12 College Avenue

An introduction to speaking, reading, and writing Yiddish, focusing on acquiring the fundamentals of grammar and basic vocabulary. Class activities also include Yiddish songs and Yiddish films. No previous knowledge of Yiddish required.

Intermediate Modern Hebrew – Part 1

(Middle Eastern Studies, 685:131)

563:131:01; Index #25637; MWTh2; Levy

Scott 220

Prerequisite: 563:102 or placement test

The objectives of this course are twofold: development of language skills and preparing the students to approach Hebrew literature in an analytical and comprehensive manner. Students develop conversational skills by regular participation in class presentations and discussions of current events and cultural issues. Advanced grammatical forms are integrated into the reading material, based on a variety of modern Israeli literature.

Advanced Modern Hebrew – Part 2

(Middle Eastern Studies, 685:210)

563:210:01; Index #34296; MW4; Bryn-Noiman

Scott 201

Prerequisite: 563:132 or placement test

This course is designed to increase proficiency in reading and writing skills. The course provides an intensive training in Hebrew Grammar and syntax through the reading and analysis of short essays, and newspaper and magazine articles. Reading and writing assignments as well as creative writing and oral presentations are part of the course work.

Israeli Literature & Society (in Hebrew) [ML]*(Middle Eastern Studies, 685:485)*

563:485:01; Index #34302; MTh3; Bryn-Noiman

Bishop House 211

Prerequisite: 563:372 or placement test

This course traces the developing of modern Israeli literature beginning with the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948, up until the present day. Reading and analyzing a variety of short stories through the semester will enrich the students' Hebrew and allow them to enhance their understanding of the language. Through these stories, written by influential Israeli authors, we will define the Israeli hero and discuss the question of Israeli identity.

OTHER COURSES**Jewish Society and Culture I: From Antiquity to the Middle Ages** *(core course)*

563:201:01; Index # 25638; MW4; Tartakoff

*(History, 506:271; 685:208)**Hardenberg A7*

This course will examine the social, economic, religious, and political experiences of the Jewish people from the crystallization of their national-religious consciousness in the Biblical period until the 15th century C.E. The religion and culture of the Jews will be discussed within the broader context of their environment. In the study of the ancient period, the course will survey the people of ancient Israel against the backdrop of ancient Near Eastern history and culture, starting with the emergence of the Israel in the land of Canaan c. 1200 B.C.E. through the compilation of the Mishna c. 220 C.E. Special areas of investigation will include the Babylonian Exile, the Second Temple period, the challenge of Hellenism, the Macabbean dynasty, the Jewish sects of late antiquity (Pharisees, Sadducees, Essenes), the Dead Sea Scrolls as a new source for Jewish historical and religious inquiry, the rise of Christianity, the Jewish revolts against Rome, and the importance of the Mishna as a code of law. In the study of the medieval era, the course will explore the consolidation and expansion of Rabbinic Judaism, the rise of Karaism as a challenge to the rabbis, the history of the Jews in both the Christian and Muslim spheres, theological debates between Judaism and Christianity, the joint cultural heritage of Jews and Muslims in the areas of poetry, philosophy, and science, the enterprise of biblical commentary, and the rise of Kabbalah.

The course is required for majors and minors in Jewish Studies.

Jewish Society and Culture II: The Modern Experience*(core course)*

563:202; Index #28249; MW4; Sinkoff

*(History, 506:272)**Hardenberg B5*

This course will survey the social, economic, political, religious and cultural history of Jewry from the sixteenth century to the mid-1930s. Topics to be covered include: Marranism and New Christians, the European State and the Jews, the Money Economy and the "Jewish Question," Jewish autonomy, the political emancipation of the Jews, religious reform, modern antisemitism, nationalism, WWI, and Jewish life during the interwar years in both the United States and Europe. It will examine the changes in Jewish life engendered by modernity and explore the responses of the Jews to its challenges. Attention will be paid to the regional diversity in the modern Jewish experience, as well as to the nexus between gender and modernization. Primary and secondary readings, as well as novels and memoirs, will be used.

The course is required for majors and minors in Jewish Studies.

History of the Holocaust*(History, 510:261:01)*

563:261:01; Index #34297; TTh 7; Hanebrink

Murray 211

This course is a detailed examination of the programs of persecution and mass murder carried out by the Nazi German regime between 1933 and 1945. Several themes will be prominent throughout the semester. First, we will examine when and how policies of exclusion can be transformed into a systematic program of murder. In this regard, we will examine not only the development of Nazi Germany as a "racial state," but also the role of ideologies, such as antisemitism, nationalism, and racism, in shaping policies of exclusion in Germany and elsewhere in Europe. Second, we will focus on the place of the Holocaust in European, and not only German, history. The events we associate with the Holocaust took place across the continent of Europe and were shaped by local histories; throughout the course we will pay close attention to the interaction between Germans, Jews, and non-German native populations. The mass murder of European Jews will be the central focus of this course. We will, however, also discuss programs of discrimination and murder carried out against other groups (e.g. Roma, the disabled, homosexuals, and Poles) and attempt to place these phenomena within the context of Nazi German racial policy.

American Jews and the Media*(American Studies, 050:301:02, Comparative Literature, 195:395:02)*

563:306; Index #34298; W2&3; Shandler

Murray 210

This course examines the wide range of interactions that American Jews have had with sound recordings, film, radio, television, and computers over the course of the 20th century. Attention is not only placed on significant works of American media by or about Jews (e.g., The Jazz Singer, Gentleman's Agreement), but on the role that these media have played in shaping American Jewish life from the period of mass emigration of East European Jews to America at beginning of the century (e.g., early sound recordings, early silent film, Yiddish "talkies") to the present (especially the use of videos and computers in transforming traditional Jewish community life). Special attention is placed on the use of new media for self-portraiture, propaganda, and collective memory.

Classical Jewish Philosophy [JC]*(Philosophy, 730:311)*

563:311:01; Index #25639; TTh4; Buzaglo

Murray 204

This course provides an introduction to the classical Jewish philosophical tradition, covering the works of Sa'adia Gaon, Judah Halevi, Maimonides, and others. We will examine their conceptions of God, creation, prophecy, ethics, free will, providence, Jewish peoplehood, eschatology, and dogma. Focusing on the tension between traditional Jewish faith and rational models of inquiry, we will gain an appreciation of the intellectual range and diversity that characterized Jewish thought during the Middle Ages and set a pattern for later ages.

History of Zionism*(History, 510:386, Middle Eastern Studies, 685:343)*

563:343; Index #28797; TTh6; Buzaglo

Murray 211

This course examines the Zionist movement from the precursors of Zionism to the founders of the modern State of Israel. We will examine the origins of Zionist ideology and enquire into the historical conditions that made its success possible. Topics of study will include the thought of Moses Hess, Theodore Herzl, and Ahad Ha-am; the varieties of Zionist thought (cultural Zionism, socialist Zionism, religious Zionism and their critiques) will be examined.

Introduction to the Modern Middle East*(Middle Eastern Studies, 685:350)*

563:350; Index #31179; T 6&7; Sprachman

Livingston Classroom Bdg 100 (Livingston Campus)

This course explores various aspects of the Modern Middle East, including art and architecture, ethnic diversity, literature, modern history, music, religion, and writing systems. It will encourage participants to analyze what they have learned about the region through education, family ties, travel, print and electronic media, etc. The course will strive to foster common understanding and break down stereotypes through collegial in-class activities.

Jewish Immigrant Experience*(History, 510:375)*

563:375; Index # 34299; TTh5; Zerubavel

Scott 119

During the 19th and 20th centuries, millions of Jews uprooted themselves from their places of birth in Europe and settled throughout the world. This mass movement not only transformed the cultural and demographic centers of world Jewry, but also fundamentally changed the way in which Jews viewed and defined their own identities. This course shall examine the various waves of immigration, which transformed the contours of Jewish life in Europe, the Americas, and the Middle East. Through a comparative study of Jewish immigrant life in the United States, South America, Israel and Europe during the twentieth century, this course will explore how migration changed Jewish religious life, the lives of Jewish workers and the ways in which Jews understood Jewish identity.

Germans and Jews: an Intercultural History*(German, 470:380)*

563:380; Index #34295; TTh4; Levine

Hardenberg A1

The course surveys German-Jewish culture from the eighteenth century to 1935. A wide range of philosophical, theological, autobiographical, literary, poetic, and dramatic texts will be studied, including those by Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, Moses Mendelssohn, Rahel Varnhagen, Heinrich Heine, Karl Marx, Moses Hess, Franz Kafka, Hermann Cohen, Else Lasker-Schüler, Sigmund Freud, and Martin Buber. Topics to be covered: Enlightenment and *Bildung*; salon culture; autobiography and romanticism; socialism and assimilation; "Anti-Semitism" and Zionism; theology and redemption.

History of East European Jewry

(History 510:385)

563:385:01; Index #34300; MW5; Sinkoff

Scott 215

This course will survey the social, economic, political, religious, and cultural history of East European Jewry from the thirteenth century to the post-World War II period. Topics to be covered include: Jewish autonomy, the economic and political relationship between the Jews and non-Jewish authorities, Sabbatianism, Frankism, Hasidism, the partitions of Poland, Jewish life in the Russian and Habsburg Empires in the nineteenth century, the rise of mass politics and new forms of Jewish self-expression (nationalism, socialism, Zionism, Yiddishism), World War I, the Russian Revolution and Bolshevism, the reemergence of independent Poland, Jewish life in Poland and Soviet Russia in the inter-war years, modern anti-Semitism, the destruction of East European Jewry in World War II, and the culture of memory about East European Jewry that has emerged in its aftermath. Primary and secondary readings, as well as novels, short stories and films, will be used.

Special Topics: Sephardic History, Culture & Music

563:394:01; Index #34301; MW6 Kligman

Campbell A2

This course will focus on the culture and music of *Sephardi/Mizrachi* Jewry in the Middle East in the modern era. Spanish Jewry of the medieval period begins the investigation, from there a series of themes related to European influence, economic life, communal leadership and religious life will frame the discussion. The remainder of the course will focus on Mediterranean Jewish communities, including those in North Africa, Turkey, Syria, Yemen, Iran, and Israel. Historical events and cultural contributions will be the heart of this course, illustrating the rich tapestry of Sephardic traditions. The music and culture of the region (poetry, intellectual life, ceremonial and visual art) provide examples of varied experiences in *Sephardi* life.

Special Topics: Jewish-Christian Relations

563:394:02; Index #34978; TTh 6; Redl

Campbell A3

This course examines the relations between Jews and Christians and between Judaism and Christianity during the past two millennia. We will focus on each group's view of the "Other," from the writings of Paul until today, as we proceed on the road from conflict and opposition to dialogue and interfaith cooperation. Both the Jewish perspectives on Christianity and the Christian perspectives on Judaism will be studied. Thinkers and topics will include the epistles of Paul, rabbinic Judaism on Christianity, the Church Fathers, the Barcelona disputation, and /adversos Judaeos/ literature in the ancient and medieval section of the course. We then will examine documents such as *Nostra Aetate* (1965) and *Dabru Emet* (2002), along with current voices in dialogue, including those of Irving Greenberg, George Lindbeck, John Cavadini, and Michael Signer.

Special Topics: The Holocaust & Israel

563:395:01; Index #34327; MW4; Stauber

12 College Avenue

This course will explore the impact of the Holocaust on Israeli society and its leadership from the end of World War II and the formative years of the State of Israel until recently. It will examine how the memory of the Holocaust became a central component in Israeli national identity. The following issues, among others, will be discussed: the encounter between Israelis and survivors of the Holocaust, the public debate over questions of resistance and collaboration; commemoration and museums; the "Kasztner trial" and the "Eichmann trial"; relations with Germany; the impact of the Arab-Israeli conflict on Holocaust awareness; and youth trips to Poland.

Special Topics: The Bible Through Literary Eyes

563:396:01; Index #30401; MW5; Rendsburg

12 College Avenue

This course will focus on the literary approach to the Bible, which has come to dominate the field of biblical studies in recent decades. We will pay special attention to a) the manner in which language and literature intersect to create the prose and poetry of the Bible, b) the many literary devices utilized by the ancient authors, and c) the way recent translations of the Bible reflect these concerns. A basic knowledge of Hebrew is required, though texts will be read in both the Hebrew original and in English translation.

Special Topics: Jewish Medical Ethics

563:397:01; Index #31180; TTh 7; Nelkin

Frelinghuysen A2

This course studies Jewish ethical responses to issues raised by the contemporary practice of health care and medicine. It considers the halakhic (legal) texts that undergird the majority of such responses and the theoretical concerns raised by the application of ancient precedents to contemporary situations. Topics will be examined within the context of our pluralistic society and, at times, in comparison with other religious traditions. Examples of issues considered include: end of life (suicide and assisted suicide, euthanasia, and terminating life-sustaining treatment); abortion and maternal-fetal relations; human reproduction (IVF, surrogacy, and cloning), as well as broader topics such as medical paternalism.

Jewish Studies Internship

563:460:01; Index #09007; by arrangement; Staff (*special permission required*)

Open only to junior and senior Jewish Studies majors and minors. Supervised work in historical society, archive, museum, communal agency, etc.; 112 hours required. Advisor will supervise and evaluate the student's project/paper and sponsor's assessment.

Independent Study and Research

563:491:01; Index #06879; by arrangement; Staff (*special permission required*)

Students (juniors and seniors only) can pursue an independent study project beyond the department's normal offerings with a faculty member who has expertise in the student's area of interest, subject to the approval of the Department's Undergraduate Advisor. An independent study should be the equivalent of a one-semester course and can include guided research, field work, or an internship along with directed reading. A research paper or written report is required for all independent study projects.

Senior Honors

563:496:01; Index #07012; by arrangement; Staff (*Prerequisite: Permission of the Department Chair*)

The honors program offers qualified students the opportunity to pursue a research project in depth for the entire senior year under the supervision of a faculty advisor. To be considered, students must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better, and 3.4 or better in Jewish Studies courses. Jewish Studies majors who wish to pursue an honors project are encouraged to meet with the Department's Undergraduate Advisor during the second term of their junior year in order to plan their project, and by the end of their junior year they should submit the formal application to the Department's office. Approval of the honors project is required for admission to the honors program. Honors students enroll in 01:563:496 and 01:563:497 Jewish Studies honors courses, and upon the completion of their honors project should pass an oral examination given by the department.

Standard Periods (80 min each):

1	8:10-9:30 a.m.	3	11:30-12:50 p.m.	5	2:50-4:10 p.m.	7	6:10-7:30 p.m.
2	9:50-11:10 a.m.	4	1:10-2:30 p.m.	6	4:30-5:50 p.m.	8	7:40-9:00 p.m.