Interdisciplinary Minor in Jewish Culture and Society

The Program in Jewish Culture and Society offers an interdisciplinary minor and a concentration in Jewish Studies (through the LAS Interdisciplinary Studies Major (http://catalog.illinois.edu/undergraduate/las/academic-units/interdisc-studies/jewish-studies-concentration)).

A list of courses, regularly updated by the Program in Jewish Culture and Society, is available from the Program Office, 109 English Bldg., 608 South Wright Street, Urbana, Illinois, 61801.

E-mail: jewishculture@illinois.edu

Code  Title                                               Hours
One course in the cluster of Religion, chosen from a list of courses maintained by the Advisor in the Program in Jewish Culture and Society Office. 3
One course in the cluster of Culture, chosen from a list of courses maintained by the Advisor in the Program in Jewish Culture and Society Office. 3
One course in the cluster of History, chosen from a list of courses maintained by the Advisor in the Program in Jewish Culture and Society Office. 3
Electives within the minor. Students may choose additional courses from any of the three clusters or can choose from the following language courses:
HEBR 199  Undergraduate Open Seminar  1
HEBR 205  Intensive Biblical Hebrew  3
HEBR 403  Intermediate Modern Hebrew I  3
HEBR 404  Intermediate Modern Hebrew II  3
HEBR 405  Advanced Modern Hebrew I  3
HEBR 406  Advanced Modern Hebrew II  3
HEBR 407  Topics Hebrew Lang & Lit I  3
HEBR 408  Topics Hebrew Lang & Lit II  3
YDSH 103  Intermediate Yiddish I  3
YDSH 104  Intermediate Yiddish II  3

Total Hours  18

Of the 18 required hours, two courses (6 hours) must be 300- or 400-level courses. HEBR 403 and HEBR 404 cannot be used to satisfy this requirement.

No more than 6 hours (two courses) may be at the 100 level.

The 18 hours selected by students for a minor in Jewish Culture and Society should form a coherent program and must be approved by the undergraduate advisor for the Program in Jewish Culture and Society.

Courses

JS 108  Religion & Society in West I  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as ANTH 108, PHIL 108, REL 108, and SOC 108. See REL 108. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - Western

JS 199  Undergraduate Open Seminar  credit: 1 to 5 Hours.
Faculty offer seminars in a range of areas that provide an opportunity for undergraduates to be exposed to key dimensions of Jewish Studies. May be repeated in the same or separate terms to a maximum of 10 hours.

JS 201  History of Antisemitism  credit: 3 Hours.
Studies the negative representations of Judaism and Jews from antiquity to the modern world. Topics include: Greco-Roman concepts of the Jewish religion; medieval Christian symbolization of the demonic Jew; Jews and negative attitudes to capitalism; blood purity and blood libel; the rise of racial prejudice in the modern nation state; totalitarianism and genocide; antisemitism and anti-Zionism. Same as REL 212. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - Western

JS 209  Jewish American Literature  credit: 3 Hours.
Using a combination of careful reading with historical contextualization we will discuss how the field of Jewish American literature emerged, and get a sense of where it might be heading. We will address topics such as what makes a literary work Jewish American other than the Jewishness of its author; in what ways the field of Jewish American literature has changed over time; and what might be the underlying trends/themes of this field of literature. Same as CWL 209 and ENGL 222.

JS 211  War & Peace in Israeli Lit  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CWL 211 and SAME 211. See CWL 211.

JS 220  Jewish Storytelling  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CWL 220, ENGL 223, REL 220, and YDSH 220. See YDSH 220. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Lit Arts
Cultural Studies - Western

JS 252  The Holocaust  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as HIST 252. See HIST 252. This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for: Humanities - Hist Phil
Cultural Studies - Western

JS 300  Jewish Chicago  credit: 3 Hours.
The history of Jewish Chicago from 1820 to the present will be taught in Chicago during Summer I. The class includes excursions all over the city as well as class time at the Newberry Library. Topics of study include immigration, Jews in the labor movement, Jewish political activism, Jewish religious practice, Jewish art, literature, and Yiddish theater. The course will contextualize our study of Jewish Chicago in terms of American history, urban history, gender history, and labor history.
JS 320  Lit Responses to the Holocaust  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CWL 320, ENGL 359, REL 320, and YDSH 320. See YDSH 320.
This course satisfies the General Education Criteria for:
Humanities - Lit Arts
Cultural Studies - Western

JS 335  Middle East 1566-1914  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as HIST 335. See HIST 335.

JS 341  Love & Sex in Hebrew Lit  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as CWL 341, REL 340 and SAME 341. See CWL 341.

JS 399  Special Topics  credit: 3 Hours.
Faculty offer special topics in their areas of expertise that provide an
opportunity for undergraduates to be exposed to some of the most
current developments in faculty research. May be repeated in the same or
separate term to a maximum of 9 hours.

JS 442  History of Early Judaism  credit: 3 Hours.
Same as HIST 432 and REL 442. See REL 442.

JS 454  Topics in Israeli Lit & Culture  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as CWL 454 and SAME 454. See CWL 454.

JS 495  Independent Study  credit: 2 to 4 Hours.
Readings in selected fields in consultation with the instructor along with
the completion of a specified writing assignment. 2 to 4 undergraduate
hours. 2 to 4 graduate hours. May be repeated in the same term to
a maximum of 4 undergraduate hours or 8 graduate hours. May be
repeated in separate terms to a maximum of 8 undergraduate hours and
16 graduate hours. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

JS 496  Topics in History of Judaism  credit: 3 or 4 Hours.
Same as REL 496. See REL 496.