

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Instructor	Course Description	Day	Time
* BIB 1319	KETUVIM	3	Androphy, Ronald	This course will examine key passages and themes from the Writings corpus of the Hebrew Bible.	Monday & Wednesday	1:05PM - 2:20PM
* BIB 3533	8TH CENTURY PROPHETS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE	3	Harris, Robert	This course will address selected texts from the Books of Hosea, Amos, Micah and Isaiah, and will undertake a study of the language and poetics of prophetic literature, with attention to the prophets' concern with matters of social justice. We will seek to understand the particular historical and social contexts in which these prophets arose, and the literary framework in which their prophecies have come down to us. Students will study, both individually and in hevruta, selected texts in the original Hebrew, and we will employ a variety of medieval parshanut and modern critical studies to analyze and interpret the prophetic messages, primarily in their ancient contexts and with some consideration of how these texts may speak to us in our own day and age.	Tuesday & Thursday	1:05PM - 2:20PM
* BIB 3826	CLASSICAL JEWISH BIBLICAL EXEGESIS	3	Harris, Robert	PREREQUISITE: HEBREW BET 1 - This course is an introduction to medieval Jewish biblical exegesis. During the semester students will concentrate on: a) developing skills in reading medieval commentaries (comprehension and recitation will be stressed!); b) understanding the methodologies and exegetical goals of each exegete; c) gaining an appreciation for the commentators in their own historical context.	Tuesday	2:45PM - 5:25PM
ETH 5826	GUIDE FOR THE PERPLEXED	3	Shemesh, Yonatan	In this course, students undertake a careful study of Moses Maimonides' Jewish-philosophical masterpiece, the Guide for the Perplexed. Class sessions will be devoted to analyzing the text and exploring the book's major philosophical and theological themes, including: the relation between science and religion, the nature of God, creation versus eternity, prophecy, scriptural interpretation, divine providence and the problem of evil, law and politics, and the purpose of human existence. Students will also consider competing approaches to the interpretation of the Guide, both medieval and modern.	Monday	5:35PM - 8:15PM
HIS 3416	EARLY MODERN JEWISH HISTORY	3	Siegmund, Stefanie	This survey examines dramatic changes in the Jewish diaspora, 1492-c.1700, from Rome to Cracow, Constantinople to Jamaica, in the age of trans-Atlantic conquest, print culture, and religious revolution. When Jews were expelled from Spain and ghettoized in Italy, how were they also flourishing in Poland and Germany and bursting with mysticism and messianism in the Ottoman Empire? In this course we will balance our study of political, economic, religious and social developments relevant to Jewish men and women.	Monday & Wednesday	4:10PM - 5:25PM
HIS 3418	YIDDISH IN AMERICA	3	Fox, Sandra	The course explores the role of Yiddish in the history and culture of Jews in the United States from the age of mass migration at the turn of the twentieth century to today. The class will learn about Yiddish's role in the labor movement, its relationship to gender and queerness, and activism for the continuation of Yiddish culture and language. It will also explore the history of the Yiddish press, and the vibrant world of Yiddish theater, film, and literature past and present. An important aspect of the class is the history and present day culture of Hasidic Jews, who represent the majority of today's Yiddish speakers. Class will include multiple visits to the Center for Jewish History's YIVO Institute and two walking tours.	Monday & Wednesday	10:10AM - 11:25AM
HIS 5406	MODERN JEWISH HISTORY	3	Smollett, Brian	A survey of major trends in the history of European and American Jewry from the Emancipation to the present. Primary emphasis is placed upon the internal communal, religious and ideological responses of Jews in different localities to modernity.	Monday & Wednesday	11:40AM - 12:55PM

HIS 5520	SOCIAL HISTORY OF JEWISH MARRIAGE	3	Siegmund, Stefanie	Marriage is intensely regulated by rabbinic law. However, the study of its historic role in pre-modern society, in the construction of gender roles, in economic life, in the formation of Jewish ethnic identities, and as a locus for Jewish artistic, ritual, and spiritual practices deepens our appreciation of the complexity of this crucial institution. In this interdisciplinary course (which does not focus on current practices or on all relevant halakhic issues) we will read historical scholarship, medieval and Renaissance Jewish art and literature, and, for comparison, contemporary examples of ketubot and marriage rituals. A creative family history project is also part of the course. Same as JGW/MED 5520.	Monday & Wednesday	1:05PM - 2:20PM
HIS 5624	JEWS AND THE LEFT	3	Fishman, David E.	This course will focus on the relationship between Jews and left-wing politics on three continents: Europe, the Land of Israel, and the United States. The political left is usually defined as those movements and ideologies that strive for greater social and economic equality. Jews have often supported such movements, to a large part because they championed equal rights for religious and ethnic minorities. But on other occasions, Jews have been targeted by left wing political movements, when they have perceived Jews as embodying power, wealth, and nationalism. Topics will include: the Jewish question in the French revolution; Jewish radicalism in Russia; Socialist Zionism and the labor movement in pre-state Israel; American Jews in the far left (the Communist Party), and moderate left (the civil rights movement); leftist attacks on Zionism and Israel.	Tuesday	2:45PM - 5:25PM
JGW 5322	FEMINIST JEWISH ETHICS	3	Richman, Aviva	Feminist philosophy began as a philosophical response to the marginalization female voices in the history of philosophy, and Jewish feminist thought challenges the exclusion of women from centers of Jewish ritual, cultural, and intellectual life. While Jewish feminist thought is often read as its own separate branch of modern Jewish thought, this course troubles that separation by elevating the experience of “philosophizing from the margins” as integral both to feminist philosophy and to modern Jewish philosophy. In this course we read feminist philosophy alongside modern Jewish philosophy and Jewish feminist thought.	Monday	10:10AM - 12:55PM
JGW 5542	MEDIEVAL WOMEN AND THE BIBLE: GENDER, DEVOTION AND POWER	3	Enlow, Loraine	This course examines Jewish and Christian women and gender in relation to the Bible both within medieval biblical commentaries, and within the religious and socio-economic context of medieval Europe. Students will explore concepts of gender through medieval biblical exegesis, and biblical visual and material culture, including rare materials in JTS's collection. Students will also engage with current scholarly arguments and interpretations concerning religion, women and gender in the Middle Ages as these interact with the reception history of the Bible.	Thursday	2:45PM - 5:25PM
* JGW 5617	MIDRASHIC WOMEN: GENDER IN RABBINIC LITERATURE	3	Kamine, Benjamin	This class explores the ways in which the rabbis expanded female characters of the Tanakh who appear for only a verse or two, and usually unnamed, into essential characters of Jewish history. In the process, students will build on prior skills in rabbinic narratology and exegesis, learning how the rabbis track specific Biblical characters across the rabbinic storytelling universe, reviving them to serve particular cultural needs. Significant attention to feminist scholarship on midrash (such as Judith Baskin, Gwynn Kessler, and Charlotte Fonrobert) will give students a strong theoretical basis for understanding this work. Possible characters include: Serach bat Asher; Rebecca's nurse, Devora; and the mother of King David. Prerequisites: Students must have completed RLC 5022 or RLC 6101 in order to enroll.	Wednesday	10:10AM - 12:55PM
JTH 3013	LITERATURE OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE	3	Fishbane, Eitan	A course reading and discussing literature of the spiritual life. With attention to literary genres ranging from poetry and fiction to theology and the first-person essay, the course will explore diverse expressions of the spiritual life in the work of modern Jewish and non-Jewish writers from R. W. Emerson to A. J. Heschel, John Muir to Rav Kook, Nahman of Bratzlav to Hermann Hesse, and many others.	Tuesday	2:45PM - 5:25PM

* Indicates Hebrew pre-requisite

LIT 3061	CANONICAL WORKS OF JEWISH DRAMA	3	Nahshon, Edna	In this course we will discuss the concept of "canon" and will apply it to notable dramatic works such as The Exagoge, a drama on the theme of the Jewish Exodus, written in the form of a Greek tragedy by Ezekiel the poet during the second century BCE, Leoni di Sommi's sixteenth century A Comedy of Betrothal, and modern plays for the English-language ,Yiddish, and Israeli stage. All works will be read in English translation.	Tuesday	2:45PM - 5:25PM
LIT 5176	JEWISH SEXUALITIES: FROM THE NEW MUSCEL JEW TO STONE BUTCH BLUES	3	Bailis, Beverly	In this course we will explore a variety of texts and films that feature the intersections of Jewishness, sexuality, gender and the body. The course will take as its starting point the turn-of-the-20th century discourse on Jewishness put forth by cultural critics and sexologists, where Jewish bodies became “pathologized” and bound up with emerging theories of race, in order to interrogate the longstanding notion that Jews embodied non-normative sexual and gender categories. We will then explore the legacy of these discourses, by asking how did such alleged non-normativity help to shape modern Jewish writing and creativity, what did it open up for the Jewish imagination in terms of conceptions of Jewishness, constructions of Jewish masculinity, femininity, queerness, and trans identity? How has it been mobilized in gender rights movements and Jewish activism? Readings will include theoretical works by Daniel Boyarin, Anne Pellegrini, Eve Kosofsky Sedgwick, Judith Butler, and José Esteban Muñoz, that will help frame our discussions of the work of cultural critics and thinkers such as Magnus Hirschfeld and Max Nordau, as well as a range of works of modern Hebrew and Yiddish literature by S. Y. Agnon, Yosef Haim Brenner and Sholem Asch. We will likewise turn to more contemporary American iterations of Jewish sexuality from the TV show Transparent to memoiristic works including Leslie Feinberg’s groundbreaking work on transgender identity, Stone Butch Blues, and Joy Ladin’s Through the Door of Life: A Jewish Journey Between Genders.	Monday & Wednesday	2:45PM - 4:00PM
LIT 5513	WRITING IN THE PROMISED LAND: JEWISH-AMERICAN LITERATURE	3	Braun, Sarah Alisa	An exploration of Jewish literary creativity in America, highlighting its multilingual and transnational scope. Beginning with paradigmatic narratives of immigrant arrival and concluding with contemporary narratives of return (to the Old World, to religious tradition), we will consider how poets and fiction-writers grappled with questions of assimilation, economic mobility, intergenerational trauma, and collective memory. A special focus will be Yiddish writing (in translation) and its influence on contemporary literature. This course fulfills the Texts and Interpretations major requirement for a seminar in methods and theories of critical reading and will also facilitate connections with writers and events in the new MFA program in Creative Writing. This course also fulfills the Yiddish literature requirement for LIT majors and can be counted as a literature distribution requirement for MJS majors.	Tuesday & Thursday	11:40AM - 12:55PM
LIT 5570	ISRAELI THEATRE AND DRAMA	3	Nahshon, Edna	This course will examine the story of the Israeli stage from the period of the Yishuv to this date as it reflects historical moments and ideological issues. We will examine important Israeli plays (in English translation) and will discuss central themes and artistic styles. Play texts will be situated within their socio-political context. A select number of Israeli feature and documentary films will be presented. Taught in English.	Thursday	2:45PM - 5:25PM
* LIT 5572	HEBREW POETRY IN SONG: WORKSHOP IN READING HEBREW POETRY (IN HEBREW)	3	Meir, Miriam	The goal of this course is to introduce Hebrew poetry to advanced level students. Taught in Hebrew, the course will focus on developing linguistic skills necessary to understand and appreciate poems in Hebrew. After reading works by major modern Hebrew poets, we will evaluate musical treatments of these poems in popular Israeli music. prerequisites: HEB 5203 and HEB 5220 or equivalent (i.e. exemption from those courses by the Hebrew placement exam). Same as HEB 5572.	Wednesday	2:45PM - 5:25PM

* Indicates Hebrew pre-requisite

* RLC 3002	INTRODUCTION TO TALMUD LEVEL 2	3	Androphy, Ronald	In this course students will further develop their Talmud skills by studying the eighth chapter of masechet Sanhedrin which deals with the ben sorer umoreh -- the "wayward and defiant son (child?)" of Deuteronomy 21:18-21. How does one get categorized as a ben sorer umoreh? Are there age restrictions? Why should we execute such a child when he/she has not committed a capital offense? This course is a continuation of Introduction to Talmud. Pre-requisite: Introduction to Talmud I or equivalent.Prereq: Intro to Talmud, Level 1 or the equivalent	Monday & Wednesday	2:45PM - 4:00PM
* RLC 3212	INTERMEDIATE TALMUD: MEMORY, IDENTITY AND SHABBAT	3	Wolf, Sarah	This course will consider questions of knowledge and ignorance, memory and its lapses, and rabbinic Jewish identity as explored through the Bavli's discussions of Shabbat practices in the seventh perek of Masechet Shabbat. We will focus on building skills, including parsing complex sugya structures, reading Rashi, and building Aramaic vocabulary, while also considering the larger themes of the perek and what they might mean for us as Jews considering our own identities and Shabbat practices. A prior JTS Talmud course (or the equivalent) is required.	Monday & Wednesday	1:05PM - 2:20PM

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