# Jewish Studies (JST)

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>JST 073 (REL 073)</td>
<td>The Jewish Tradition 4 Credits</td>
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<td>JST 081 (REL 081)</td>
<td>Jewish Mysticism 4 Credits</td>
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<td>JST 082 (IR 082)</td>
<td>Middle East in World Affairs Since 1945 4 Credits</td>
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<td>JST 086 (IR 086)</td>
<td>The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict 4 Credits</td>
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<td>JST 102 (AAS 102, ENGL 102, REL 102)</td>
<td>Promised Lands: Jewish and African American Children's Literature 4 Credits</td>
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<td>JST 111 (REL 111)</td>
<td>Jewish Scriptures/Old Testament 4 Credits</td>
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<td>JST 112 (REL 112)</td>
<td>The Beginnings of Judaism and Jewish Origins: Jewish Diversity in the Greco-Roman World 4 Credits</td>
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<td>JST 116 (GS 116, SOC 116)</td>
<td>Jewish Community and Identity 4 Credits</td>
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Judaism is both a textual tradition and a lived religion. Students read basic Jewish texts—Bible, Talmud, Midrash—and study the ways Jews sanctify the life cycle through rites of passage, and the round of the year through the festival cycle.

This course will examine the history and the central texts and ideas of the Jewish mystical tradition. We will read a broad range of texts, including the ancient Sefer Yetzirah or Book of Creation, the Zohar, the works of Isaac Luria and his disciples, and the writings of some of the 18th and 19th century Hasidic rabbis. We will also explore the contemporary emergence of Kabbalah and the activities of the Kabbalah Center in contemporary America.

This course will examine both the history and the central texts and ideas of Jewish and the Beginnings of Christianity. Coverage includes the Jewish and Hellenistic matrices of Christianity, traditions about the life of Jesus and his significance, and the variety of belief and practice of early Christians. Emphasis on encountering primary texts.

A century ago, large Jewish communities existed throughout the world, including North Africa, Europe, the Middle East, and South America. Today, over 80% of all Jews live in North America or Israel. This course focuses on these historical changes in Jewish communities and the transformation of Jewish identities and social life in recent years, particularly in the U.S. and in Israel.

This course will examine the way that archaeological work can inform the study of the Bible. One important consideration is how archaeological data have been used either to confirm or falsify the biblical texts. We will look at how archaeologists work and how archaeological data and the Bible intersect. We will examine in detail several archaeological sites in order to understand better the difficulties in interpreting the material remains that archaeologists dig up.

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JST 156 (REL 156) Judaism and Comic Books 4 Credits
Is The Thing Jewish? What does Superman have to do with the bible? Do Orthodox Jewish girls fight trolls? In this course, we will closely examine comic books and graphic novels in order to expand our understanding of what Jewishness might mean. With a POW! and a BAM!, we will consider many topics “from Krakow to Krypton,” including American Jewish history, how representations of Jews are gendered, global Jewish traditions, monsters and mutations, biblical adaptations, and more!
Attribute/Distribution: HU

JST 161 (GS 161, REL 161) Globalization in the Ancient Mediterranean 4 Credits
We often think of globalization as a modern phenomenon. Yet as early as the twelfth century BCE, transportation, trade, political and religious networks tied the Mediterranean basin together. This course will examine in three periods—the Late Bronze Age, the Hellenistic period, and the Roman period—how these networks were organized and how they affected a range of Mediterranean and Near Eastern peoples. We will use some modern approaches to globalization as analytical tools for understanding the ancient world.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

JST 174 (REL 174) Modern Theology 4 Credits
Major 20th century movements within Christian and Jewish theology understood as responses to the problems of modern times. May be repeated for credit as the subject matter varies.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

JST 177 (REL 177, THTR 177) Jews and the Broadway Musical 4 Credits
The history of American musical theater is deeply interwoven with the history of American Jews. This course examines how Jews have taken part in musical theater on multiple levels—as composers, lyricists, producers, and performers, among other roles. It also examines how Jews are depicted in Broadway musicals, with particular attention to gender and ethnicity.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

JST 180 Independent Study in Jewish Studies 1-4 Credits
Directed readings or research on a Jewish Studies related topic under the direction of a Jewish Studies faculty member. May be repeated for credit up to eight credits. Must have consent of the program director.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.
Attribute/Distribution: HU, SS

JST 181 Special Topics in Jewish Studies 4 Credits
Study of a subject or issue in Jewish Studies not covered in other courses. May be repeated for credit as subtitle varies.
Repeat Status: Course may be repeated.

JST 230 (REL 230) Kabbalah: Jewish Mystical Tradition 4 Credits
Explores the history of the quest to know God, through mystical experience or theosophical speculation, as found in Jewish tradition. Examines such issues as the tensions between institutional religion and personal religious experience, between views of God as immanent in the world or transcending it, and between imagery for God and religious experience of God.
Attribute/Distribution: HU

JST 231 (REL 231) Classic Jewish Texts 4 Credits
Many people know that the Hebrew Bible (“Old Testament”) is a foundational scripture for Judaism. Fewer are familiar with the post-biblical Jewish classics. Yet these works shaped the understanding of God, the identity of the Jewish people, and the vision of history and of the ethical life that inform Judaism today. As students read the Talmud, Midrash, and traditional prayer-book, they will become familiar with the wisdom of the rabbinic sages, and the central concepts of Judaism.
Attribute/Distribution: HU