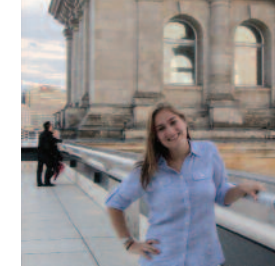


Ten Reasons to Celebrate



In spring 2003, a group of Carolina faculty, administrators and alumni banded together to lay out an ambitious plan for Jewish Studies at Carolina — a particularly bold plan for a state-funded research university located in the American South. In the ensuing decade, the goals that were initially considered rather audacious started to be achieved, one by one, with the top goal, a major in Jewish Studies, being accomplished this academic year. Here are our top 10 reasons to celebrate 10 years of excellence:



10

SUCCESSFUL ALUMNI

Carolina alumni who have minored in Jewish Studies or who have pursued research projects and courses in Jewish Studies are now making their mark on the academic, non-profit and corporate arenas. Recent alumni have gone on to pursue Ph.D.s in various fields of Jewish Studies, such as Abigail Lewis, who graduated from Carolina in 2012 and is now working on her Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, while other alumni have gone into career fields as diverse as non-profit management and broadcast journalism.

PHOTO: Ruthie Warshenbrot '05, who graduated from Carolina with a minor in Jewish Studies, won the Jewish Communal Service Association's Young Professional Award in 2009, and is now Associate Program Director at The Wexner Foundation.

9

MEANINGFUL SPEAKER'S BUREAU

With the support of the Charles H. Revson Foundation, Carolina's Jewish Studies faculty have been able to give lectures to community groups across the state of North Carolina, sharing their expertise well beyond the borders of the campus and the town of Chapel Hill. These speaking events, which have been held at libraries, schools and local organizations, have been a crucial component of the Center's community outreach mission.

8

EXPANDED COURSE OFFERINGS

Over the past decade, faculty have created numerous new courses and revised existing courses with strong Jewish Studies content, with topics ranging from Israeli Cinema to Classic Jewish Texts, Jewish Women in America, Ancient Synagogues, and History of the Holocaust. A new core course, Introduction to Jewish Studies, was introduced in 2009 and now attracts about 100 undergraduates each fall semester and serves as the gateway course for the new major. In 2012, the University introduced a new Capstone Course in Jewish Studies, an upper-level research seminar for advanced undergraduates, which is also required for the new major.

PHOTO: Professor Yaron Shemer with Modern Hebrew students.

7

IMPACT ON CAMPUS CULTURE

Jewish Studies faculty are based in seven different academic departments in the humanities, which gives the College of Arts and Sciences unique opportunities to incorporate Jewish Studies themes into an array of courses. It also allows for collaboration among faculty from a wide range of disciplines and between the Center and other units on campus, such as the Program for Medieval and Early Modern Studies and the Center for the Study of the American South. All this in turn has a tremendous impact on the course offerings and extracurricular activities available to Carolina's students.

6

PROMISING UNDERGRADUATES

Each year, more than 1,000 Carolina undergraduates register for Jewish Studies courses. Some of these students are pursuing a Jewish Studies major or minor, while others are fulfilling their foreign language requirements or simply taking an elective course to enhance their college experience. Jewish Studies courses attract a diverse group of students with a wide range of academic interests and unique cultural experiences, which has a tremendous influence on classroom discussions. In addition, there has been a growing number of undergraduates who are conducting independent research projects with Jewish Studies themes.

PHOTO: Caroline Carter, '14, is majoring in Classical Archaeology and has spent two summers on the Huqoq dig. Photo by J. Haberman.

5

ENLIGHTENING PUBLIC EVENTS

The Center has hosted more than 80 events since 2003, in addition to co-sponsoring many other campus events and lectures. These events bring international experts to Chapel Hill to enrich the academic experience of students, faculty and the general community. Events have ranged from community lectures and academic symposia to musical performances, film screenings, lunchtime discussions and annual continuing education seminars, with each event delving into a unique aspect of Jewish history and culture. In addition to funding from grants and annual fund contributions, five endowments have been established by alumni and friends to support the Center's vibrant community outreach efforts.

PHOTO: Ethan Bronner of the New York Times visited campus in 2011.

4

TALENTED GRAD STUDENTS

Each year, Carolina attracts an international group of future teacher-scholars in a wide range of academic fields related to Jewish Studies, from anthropology to archaeology, music, history and religious studies. These exceptional graduate students are mentored by our faculty as they pursue their own original research projects and prepare for an academic career. Carolina's Ph.D. alumni have gone on to join the faculty at peer institutions, such as Ria Van Ryn at Yeshiva University and Waitman Beorn at the University of Nebraska.

PHOTO: Alumna Carrie Duncan is an assistant professor at the University of Missouri.

3

RENOWNED FACULTY

With nine new faculty recruitments in the past 10 years, Carolina has the fastest growing Jewish Studies program in the nation, in terms of faculty growth. Carolina currently has 15 faculty members in Jewish Studies and has funding in place to recruit three more in the near future. Their depth and breadth of scholarly expertise, combined with a caliber of teaching and scholarship that is second to none, have made it possible to expand the Jewish Studies program at an unprecedented rate.

PHOTO: Professor Ruth von Bernuth joined the Carolina faculty in 2008.

2

GROUNDBREAKING MAJOR

When Carolina launched the interdisciplinary B.A. undergraduate degree—the first official Jewish Studies major in the state of North Carolina—in 2012, it made it possible for undergraduates to make Jewish Studies the centerpiece of their academic program. Carolina also created a truly modern, multidisciplinary liberal arts program that will serve as a model for other institutions. Hayley Wright, the first Carolina student to declare a Jewish Studies major, will graduate this May.

PHOTO: Hayley Wright in Germany in 2012.

1

OUTSTANDING FRIENDS

Friends have made it all possible. From annual gifts to endowments and planned gifts, all the generous donations from alumni and friends throughout the past decade have had a powerful impact on Carolina's Jewish Studies program and will continue to have a lasting impact long into the future. Without this support, the Center and the Jewish Studies program would not be what it is today.

AND ONE MORE REASON...

An ambitious plan for the future of Jewish Studies.