

## Spring 2024 Jewish Studies Course List

**JWST/CLAR/RELI 110: The Archeology of Palestine in the New Testament Period.** This course surveys the archaeology of Palestine (modern Israel and Jordan) from the Persian period (ca. 586 BCE) to the Muslim conquest (640 CE). *Jodi Magness*,

**JWST/RELI 224: Modern Jewish Thought.** This course examines how contemporary thinkers have considered philosophy, ethics, and theology from a Jewish perspective. Methodological points of inquiry include: the role of interpretation in Judaism, revelation and redemption, authority and tradition, pluralism and inclusion, suffering and evil, gender and Jewish philosophy, and 20th-century approaches to God. Honors version available. *Andrea Cooper*

**JWST/GSLL 225: Popular and Pious: Early Modern Jewish Literature.** This seminar covers popular and pious literature written by and for Jews in the 15th to 18th century in German-speaking countries. Originally written in Old Yiddish, this literature preserved the popular European genres and nonfiction accounts of Jewish community and family life. Previously offered as GERM 225. *Ruth von Bernuth*

**JWST/AMST 251 : Jewish American Experience.** In this course, we'll examine the Jewish American experience from colonial times to the present through a diversity of kinships, communal settings, political commitments, and religious and cultural modes. *Emily Katz*

**JWST/AMST/WGST 253: A Social History of Jewish Women in America.** This course examines the history and culture of Jewish women in America from their arrival in New Amsterdam in 1654 to the

present and explores how gender shaped this journey. *Jillian Hinderliter*

**JWST/HIST/PWAD 262: History of the Holocaust: The Destruction of the European Jews.** Anti-Semitism; the Jews of Europe; the Hitler dictatorship; evolution of Nazi Jewish policy from persecution to the Final Solution; Jewish response; collaborators, bystanders, and rescuers; aftermath. *Recitation required. Karen Auerbach*

**JWST/GSLL 274: Representing the Holocaust: Mediating Trauma in Art and Theory.** This course will explore artistic mediations of the Holocaust in literature, film, and beyond. It focuses on questions of representation, authenticity, appropriateness and uniqueness, the role of memory, the problems and limits of language in articulating the Shoah, and issues of trauma and justice. Readings and class discussions in English. *Adi Nester*

**HIST 308: The Renaissance and the Jews** The Renaissance (1300–1600) is known as a time of great artistic, scientific, and political renewal. But did Jews, the only religious minority in Europe, get an opportunity to benefit from and participate in that progress? This class studies the history of the Jews at a time of great cultural change. *Jennifer Grayson*

**JWST/RELI 343: Religion in Modern Israel.** The relation between religious communities, their hopes and their agendas to the culture, politics, and law of the country has been a central feature of the Israeli state from its inception. Religious faiths, agendas, and affiliations have affected the character of the country,

as well as its relationships with groups and governments around the globe. *Yaakov Ariel*

**JWST 390: Special Topics in Jewish Studies: Confronting Antisemitism. 1 credit.** JWST 390-001 is connected with the Carolina Away program. This course takes a broad look at antisemitism in history, our contemporary world, and at UNC. Class sessions will feature guest speakers and discussions on different aspects of this persistent form of hatred. The class offers a unique opportunity to explore the humanities and social sciences, meeting with faculty from English, History, Religious Studies, Psychology, German Studies and other fields. Students will hear firsthand testimony about individual experiences with antisemitism in Europe and the American South. Learning about the interconnections among Antisemitism and other forms of intolerance, students also learn how to challenge hatred in contemporary society and media. *Oskar Czendze*

**JWST/GSSL/PWAD 465: Literature of Atrocity: The Gulag and the Holocaust in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.** Historical contexts and connections through artistic representation of the Holocaust and Soviet terror in Eastern Europe and the USSR. Taught in English; some foreign language readings for qualified students. *David Pike*

**JWST/HIST 485: From Fiddler on the Roof to the Holocaust: East European and Soviet Jewish History.** Eastern Europe was one of the largest centers of Jewish civilization from premodern times to the Second World War, giving rise to important religious, cultural, and political developments in Jewish modernity. This course examines main developments of Jewish society from the late 18th century until the aftermath of the Holocaust. *Karen Auerbach*

**JWST/AMST 486: Jewish South.** This course explores ethnicity in the South and focuses on the history and culture of Jewish Southerners from their arrival in the Carolinas in the 17th century to the present day. *Marcie Cohen Ferris*

**JWST/CLAR/RELI 512: Ancient Synagogues.** This is a course on ancient synagogues in Palestine and the Diaspora from the Second Temple period to the seventh century CE. *Jodi Magness*

**RELI 108. Classic Jewish Texts: From Bible and Dead Sea Scrolls to Kabbalah and Hassidism.** This course will explore Jewish literary works that are

considered “fundamental,” “classic,” “traditional” (often, all of the above), including the Hebrew Bible, the Mishnah, the Babylonian Talmud, midrashic collections, works by Maimonides, major codes of Jewish law, major kabbalistic, philosophic, poetic, and ethical works, hassidic compositions, and more. *Evyatar Marienberg*

**RELI /WGST 450 Sexuality In Judaism** This course deals with various topics related to sexuality and marriage in Jewish tradition and history: sex outside of marriage, wedding ceremonies, regulations of marital sex, menstruation, homosexuality, and more. *Evyatar Marienberg*

**SPAN 834: Seminar in Peninsular Spanish Literature and Culture- “Jews and the Spanish State, 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> Centuries”** This seminar explores how Sephardic and Jewish topics have evolved as a means of discussing questions of statehood and national identity in Spain from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to the present. We will study how non-Jewish intellectuals imagined the Sephardic experience in the advancement of liberal and conservative political projects and how Spanish Jewish authors have turned to (Iberian) Jewish history in order to reflect on the place of Jews in contemporary Spain. Taught in Spanish. *Adam Cohn*

## Language Courses

**HEBR 102: Elementary Modern Hebrew II.** Continued instruction in the essential elements of modern Hebrew structure and vocabulary and aspects of modern Israeli culture. Aural comprehension, reading, speaking, and writing are stressed. *Prerequisite:* HEBR 101. *Hanna Sprintzlik*

**HEBR 204: Intermediate Modern Hebrew II.** Continued instruction in the essential elements of modern Hebrew structure and vocabulary and aspects of modern Israeli culture. Aural comprehension, reading, speaking, and writing are stressed. An introduction to representative literary works is included. *Prerequisite:* HEBR 203. *Hanna Sprintzlik*

**HEBR 305: Advanced Composition and Conversation: Immigration, Ethnicities, and Religious Traditions.** Third year of instruction in modern Hebrew with an emphasis on Israeli culture, literature, and media. *Prerequisite:* HEBR 204. *Hanna Sprintzlik*