Judaic Studies (JDS)

Minor in Judaic Studies

Department of History, College of Arts and Sciences

Director of the Minor: Robert Hoberman

Undergraduate Secretary: Susan Grumet

Office: S-359 Social and Behavioral Sciences
Phone: (631) 632-7500

Web Address: http://history.sunysb.edu/

Judaic Studies (JDS)

The minor in Judaic Studies offers students an opportunity to acquire background in Hebrew and to study selected areas of Jewish history, culture, or religion. With the approval of an advisor from the Judaic Studies program faculty, the student must construct a program of at least 21 credits fulfilling the requirements listed below. The advisor helps to assure that the student's program has a curricular focus; courses from other departments suiting that focus may be included.

Requirements for the Minor in Judaic Studies (JDS)

No more than one course offered for the minor may be taken under the Pass/No Credit option. All other courses for the minor must be taken for a letter grade. Students interested in enrolling in the minor must consult with the coordinator of the minor in Judaic Studies and select an advisor from the Judaic Studies program faculty.

Completion of the minor requires at least 21 credits.

1. One year of Hebrew at a level appropriate to the student's previous background
2. Two of the following:
   • JDH 230/RLS 230 Judaism
   • JDS 225/HIS 225 The Formation of the Judaic Heritage
   • JDS 226/HIS 226 The Shaping of Modern Judaism
3. Three courses numbered 300 or higher approved in advance by the minor advisor.
   Requirement 3 may be satisfied by courses in the Judaic Studies program itself or by related courses in other programs, if the subject is judged appropriate for the student's field of concentration. The following list of courses from other departments is meant to be representative and does not exclude the possibility of substituting others with the approval of the student's advisor.
   • ANT 402 Problems in Archaeology
   • RLS 301 Sources and Methods
   Appropriate topics from any directed readings course and from the following:
   • ANT 310 Ethnography
   • EGL 375 Literature in English in Relation to Other Disciplines
   • RLS 390 Special Topics
HBW

Hebrew

HBW 101: Intensive Elementary Hebrew
An intensive course covering the elementary Hebrew program in one semester, satisfying the language requirement. This course is designed for students who have no prior knowledge of the language.

DEC: S3
SBC: LANG
6 credits

HBW 111: Elementary Hebrew I
An introduction to modern Hebrew as currently spoken and written in Israel, stressing pronunciation, speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing. The course is designed for students who have no prior knowledge of the language. A student who has had two or more years of Hebrew in high school (or who has otherwise acquired an equivalent proficiency) may not take HBW 111 without written permission from the supervisor of the course.

3 credits

HBW 112: Elementary Hebrew II
An introduction to modern Hebrew as currently spoken and written in Israel, stressing pronunciation, speaking, listening comprehension, reading, and writing.

Prerequisite: HBW 111
DEC: S3
SBC: LANG
3 credits

HBW 211: Intermediate Hebrew I
Intermediate courses in conversation, composition, and the reading of texts in modern Hebrew.

Prerequisite: HBW 112
DEC: S3
SBC: GLO, LANG
3 credits

HBW 212: Intermediate Hebrew II
Intermediate courses in conversation, composition, and the reading of texts in modern Hebrew.

Prerequisite: HBW 211
DEC: S3
SBC: GLO, HUM, LANG
3 credits

HBW 311: Advanced Hebrew I
A course in the active use of spoken and written Hebrew. Readings of classics in the Hebrew language. Discussion is conducted mainly in Hebrew.

Prerequisite: HBW 212
DEC: S3
SBC: HFA+, LANG
3 credits

HBW 312: Advanced Hebrew II
Readings in modern Hebrew authors. Oral and written reports. Discussion is conducted mainly in Hebrew.

Prerequisite: HBW 311
DEC: S3
SBC: HFA+, LANG
3 credits

HBW 405: Studies in Hebrew Literature
May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: HBW 311 or 312
DEC: S3
SBC: HFA+
3 credits

HBW 415: The History of the Hebrew Language
Readings and discussion (in Hebrew) of selections from Biblical, post-Biblical, and modern literature; lectures and discussion (in English) on the changes of sentence structure, meaning, sound, and style from one period to another. Particular attention is given to classicism, innovation, and restructuring in the rise of modern Hebrew.

Prerequisite: HBW 311
DEC: S3
SBC: HFA+
3 credits

HBW 447: Directed Readings in Hebrew
Intensive study of a particular author, period, or genre of Hebrew literature in the original under close faculty supervision. May be repeated.

Prerequisite: Permission of director
DEC: S3
SBC: EXP+
1-4 credits

HBW 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum I
Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled classes. The student is required to attend all the classes, do all the regularly assigned work, and meet with the faculty member at regularly scheduled times to discuss the intellectual and pedagogical matters relating to the course. Students may not serve as teaching assistants in the same course twice.

Prerequisites: U3 or U4 standing; permission of instructor
SBC: EXP+
3 credits, S/U grading

HBW 476: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum II
Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled classes. The student is required to attend all the classes, do all the regularly assigned work, and meet with the faculty member at regularly scheduled times to discuss the intellectual and pedagogical matters relating to the course. In HBW 476, students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that have already been graded. Students may not serve as teaching assistants in the same course twice.

Prerequisites: HBW 475; permission of instructor
SBC: EXP+
3 credits, S/U grading

JDH

Judaic Studies: Humanities

JDH 230: Judaism
A survey of the great texts of the Judaic heritage, with the aim of learning the contribution of each to the Jewish tradition. The course includes an examination of characteristic Jewish beliefs, practices, and attitudes. This course is offered as both JDH 230 and RLS 230.

DEC: G
SBC: HUM
3 credits

JDH 261: The Bible as Literature
A literary approach to the Bible that explores the characteristic principles of the Bible's narrative and poetic art. This course is offered as both EGL 261 and JDH 261.

Prerequisite: WRT 102 or equivalent
DEC: B
SBC: HUM
3 credits

JDH 361: Women in the Biblical World
Consideration of how we define, on the basis of biblical and other contemporaneous literature, women's position in the socio-
political sphere, including women in professions and institutions, such as goddesses, leaders of the community, queens, "wise women", writers, prophetesses, magicians, and prostitutes; and examination of literary types such as the Wife (and concubine), the Mother, the Daughter, the Temptress, and the Ancestress. This course is offered as both JDH 361 and WST 361.

Prerequisite: One JDH or JDS or WST or literature course at the 200 level or higher

DEC:  G
SBC:  HFA+
3 credits

JDH 390: Humanities Topics in Judaic Studies

An examination of a selected topic in Judaic studies within the humanities area. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: JDS/HIS 225 or 226 or JDH/RLS 230

DEC:  G
SBC:  HFA+
3 credits

JDH 415: Judaic Response to Catastrophe

The response of Judaic thinkers, from the Bible to the Second World War, to the problem of historical disaster and the need to understand and respond to it. Particular attention is given to the question of long-term continuity and the appearance of innovation in such responses. This course is offered as both JDH 415 and RLS 415.

Prerequisite: JDS/HIS 225 or 226 or JDH/RLS 230

DEC:  G
SBC:  HFA+
3 credits

JDH 447: Readings in Judaic Studies

Qualified juniors and seniors may read independently in the areas of Jewish religion, philosophy, and literature in an approved program under the supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor
1-6 credits

JDS

Judaic Studies: Social and Behavioral Sciences

JDS 225: The Formation of the Judaic Heritage

Jewish history and the development of Judaism from Ancient Israel until the close of the Middle Ages (ca. 1000 B.C.E.- ca. 1492 C.E.). The course begins with the epic tales of the Hebrew Bible, examines the varieties of Judaism which arose under Greece and Rome, explores the "parting of the ways" between Judaism and Christianity, and ends with the rise and fall of Jewish settlements in the Muslim Middle East and across Christian Europe. This course is offered as both HIS 225 and JDS 225.

Advisory Prerequisite: RLS 101 (or the former RLS 110) or one HIS course

DEC:  J
SBC:  GLO
3 credits

JDS 226: The Shaping of Modern Judaism

An examination of the emergence of modern forms of Judaism from 1492 until the present day, covering Jewish life through the Reformation, French Revolution, the emergence of democracy, two World Wars, Holocaust, and the establishment of the State of Israel, tracing the shift both in centers of life and in the ideas that furnished those centers. This course is offered as both HIS 226 and JDS 226.

Advisory Prerequisite: RLS 101 (or the former RLS 110) or one HIS course

DEC:  F
SBC:  GLO, SBS
3 credits

JDS 241: Nazi Genocide and the Holocaust

The rise of modern anti-Semitism since the late 18th century and its political application in Nazi Germany. Topics include the destruction process, ghetto life, resistance, foreign response, and the war crimes trials. This course is offered as both HIS 241 and JDS 241.

Advisory Prerequisite: JDS/HIS 226 or HIS 101 or 102

DEC:  I
SBC:  GLO
3 credits

JDS 356: Zionism and the State of Israel

This course explores one of the more divisive events of the twentieth century: the establishment of the State of Israel. Beginning with the origins of the Zionist movement and its activities in nineteenth-century Europe and the Middle East, the course then moves to explore the establishment of the state in 1948 and subsequent Israeli politics and society, with an eye to its relationship with neighboring Arab states, the Palestinians, and Jews around the world. This course is offered as both HIS 356 and JDS 356.

DEC:  I
SBC:  SBS+
3 credits

JDS 390: Social Sciences Topics in Judaic Studies

An examination of selected topics within the social and behavioral sciences area to be announced whenever the course is offered. Semester supplements to this Bulletin contain specific description when course is offered. May be repeated as the topic changes.

Prerequisite: JDH/HIS 225 or 226

DEC:  F
SBC:  SBS+
3 credits

JDS 447: Readings in Judaic Studies

Qualified juniors and seniors may read independently in the areas of Jewish history, culture, and society, in an approved program under the supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated.

Prerequisites: Two JDS courses, or one course each in JDS and JDH; permission of director
1-6 credits