

JEWISH STUDIES

Departmental Notes

Subject Code for Hebrew: **HEBR**

Subject Code for Jewish Studies: **JWST**

World Wide Web Address: www.queensu.ca/jewishstudies

(<http://www.queensu.ca/jewishstudies/>)

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Overview

Jewish civilization has a recorded global history of 4,000 years. Drawing from texts spanning from the Hebrew Scriptures to post-modern writing, the study of the Jewish diasporas in their transnational historical and cultural contexts provides students with insight into the complexities of global culture, identity, religion, and politics. All Jewish Studies courses are offered in the History Department.

Advice to Students

Students considering a minor in Jewish Studies should consult with the Director of Jewish Studies. Those considering any advanced work related to Jewish Studies or Jewish professional work are encouraged to study Hebrew at Queen's and abroad, especially in Israel, with prior approval of the Director.

No specific background is required to enrol in many Jewish studies courses. Students wishing to take advantage of the opportunity to study Jewish life in the context of the surrounding cultures are urged to consider a degree in Religion as a Major (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/archive/2022-2023/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/religious-studies/religious-studies-major-arts-ba-honours/>), Joint Honours (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/archive/2022-2023/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/religious-studies/religious-studies-medial-arts-ba-honours/>), or Minor (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/archive/2022-2023/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/religious-studies/religious-studies-minor-arts/>).

Special Study Opportunities

Courses taken at Israeli universities, subject to Faculty of Arts and Science regulations on credit for courses taken elsewhere (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/>

[archive/2022-2023/arts-science/academic-regulations/#text](https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/archive/2022-2023/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/jewish-studies/jewish-studies-minor-arts/)), may be counted toward a Minor in Jewish Studies (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/archive/2022-2023/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/jewish-studies/jewish-studies-minor-arts/>) with the prior permission of the Director, toward credit in other departments, or toward general electives. Consult the International Programs Office as well as the Director for more information on Israeli and other universities, programs and scholarships.

One of the special features of the Jewish Studies Program at Queen's is dialogue courses, particularly courses about Jewish-Muslim and Palestinian-Israeli relations. These seminar courses are taught by two instructors with training in parallel fields who engage narratives from different perspectives about historical situations and contemporary situations.

Future Prospects

In addition to providing an undergraduate program, Jewish studies, like History, offers a background for many careers requiring liberal arts training, especially strong writing, research, and speaking skills. These include public service, government, education, law, business, social work, clergy, graduate study, journalism, and communal service. With backgrounds in the humanities, students also go to professional training in scientific fields such as medicine, nursing, and physical and occupational therapy.

Faculty

- Howard Adelman (<https://www.queensu.ca/jewishstudies/howard-adelman/>)

General/Minor

- Jewish Studies – General (Arts) – Bachelor of Arts (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/archive/2022-2023/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/jewish-studies/jewish-studies-general-arts-ba/>)
- Jewish Studies – Minor (Arts) (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/archive/2022-2023/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/jewish-studies/jewish-studies-minor-arts/>)

Courses



Hebrew (HEBR)

HEBR 190 Introduction to Modern Hebrew Units: 6.00

For students with no (or a minimal) background in Hebrew. Introduces elements of grammar and vocabulary of modern Hebrew.

Requirements: Prerequisite Permission of the Instructor.

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

HEBR 192 Introductory Biblical Hebrew Units: 3.00

Provides a basic introduction to reading and understanding biblical Hebrew prose. No prior knowledge of Hebrew assumed.

NOTE This course replaces the first semester of HEBR 191.

Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)

Requirements: Prerequisite None. Exclusion HEBR 191. Equivalency HEBR 191.

Course Equivalencies: HEBR191; HEBR192

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

HEBR 193 Classical Hebrew Fundamentals Units: 3.00

Focus is on reading prose portions with comprehension in biblical texts. Certain extra-biblical second Temple literature may also be read (e.g., texts from the Dead Sea Scrolls).

NOTE This course replaces the second semester of HEBR 191.

Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)

Requirements: Prerequisite HEBR 192 or permission of the Instructor. Exclusion HEBR 191. Equivalency HEBR 191.

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

HEBR 292 Intermediate Biblical Hebrew Units: 3.00

Readings in biblical Hebrew prose and poetry.

Requirements: Prerequisite (HEBR 191 or HEBR 193) or permission of the Instructor.

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

HEBR 294 Intermediate Modern Hebrew I Units: 3.00

An extensive grammar review with practice in speaking, writing and translation, based on the reading of texts by modern Hebrew writers. HEBR 295, when offered, is a direct continuation of HEBR 294.

Requirements: Prerequisite HEBR 190 or permission of the Instructor.

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

HEBR 295 Intermediate Modern Hebrew II Units: 3.00

For a complete description, see HEBR 294.

Requirements: Prerequisite HEBR 294 or permission of the Instructor.

Offering Faculty: School of Religion

HEBR 301 Topics in Hebrew Units: 3.00

Specialized study, as circumstances permit, of a particular author, genre, theme, movement, literary form or some combination of these elements. Course details to be announced on website.

Requirements: Prerequisite HEBR 294 or permission of the Instructor. Note Visit the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures website for more information about this course.

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

HEBR 393 Reading Modern Hebrew Literature Units: 3.00

Selections from current Israeli media including music, newspapers and television, as well as from modern Hebrew prose and poetry (e.g., Ahad Haam, Bialik, Tchernichowski, Agnon, Amichai, Oz, Yehoshua). The selections are studied in Hebrew; written assignments may be submitted in English.

Course Equivalencies: HEBR293, HEBR393

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

HEBR 502 Directed Reading Hebrew Units: 3.00

Directed Hebrew reading of material not covered in other courses, appropriate to the student's level.

Requirements: Prerequisite Permission of the Instructor or the Program Director.

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

Jewish Studies (JWST)

JWST 301 Topics in Jewish Studies I Units: 3.00

A topic of current interest in Jewish Studies not covered in other available courses. Seminars offered by regular and visiting faculty on topics related to their own research or interest. Consult the Jewish Studies website.

Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above.

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

JWST 302 Topics in Jewish Studies II Units: 3.00

A topic of current interest in Jewish Studies not covered in other available courses. Seminars offered by regular and visiting faculty on topics related to their own research or interest. Consult the Jewish Studies website.

Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above.

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

JWST 501 Directed Reading in Jewish Studies I Units: 3.00

Directed reading on topics in Jewish Studies not covered in other courses available to the student.

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

JWST 502 Directed Reading in Jewish Studies II Units: 3.00

Directed reading on topics in Jewish Studies not covered in other courses available to the student.

Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science