

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/>)

Departmental Office: Theological Hall, Room 211

Telephone: 613-533-2106

E-Mail Address: jewish.studies@queensu.ca

Director of Jewish Studies & Academic Adviser: Dustin Atlas
(jewish.studies@queensu.ca)

Program Assistant: Allison Gowanlock (ajg12@queensu.ca)

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/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/religious-studies/religious-studies-major-arts-ba-honours/>), Joint Honours (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/arts-science/schools-departments-programs/religious-studies/religious-studies-medial-arts-ba-honours/>), or Minor (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/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/arts-science/academic-regulations/#text>), may be counted toward a Minor

in Jewish Studies (<https://queensu-ca-public.courseleaf.com/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.