Jewish Studies Program — Spring 2017 Courses

FYSE 124.01 CRN 21891
First Year Seminar: Where is Religion?
Shari Rabin  T, Th 1:40-2:55pm (Open only to first-year students)
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 210)

Everything happens somewhere. This course will analyze those “somewheres” within American religious history, from churches to prisons, mosques to mikvehs. We will use particular controversies – involving Judaism and other religious traditions – in order to understand how diverse religious spaces have been shaped by political conflict and how space has been significant to discussions of religion in American public life.

HBRW 102.01 CRN 20767
Elementary Modern Hebrew
Oren Segal  MWF 10:00-10:50am and W 9:00-9:50am
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 210)

An introduction of fundamental language structures with emphasis on acquisition of basic language skills: reading and listening comprehension, oral and written expression, including speaking. Prerequisite: HBRW 101.

HBRW 202.01 CRN 20768
Intermediate Modern Hebrew
Oren Segal  MWF 11:00-11:50am and W 12:00-12:50pm
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 210)

The object of this course is the development of basic proficiency through practice in the use of basic language skills emphasized in previous courses, and the acquisition of new vocabulary. Prerequisite: HBRW 201.

HONS 381.03 CRN 21443
Holocaust Memory  (Open only to Honors students)
David Slucki  MW 2:00-3:15pm
10 Greenway, Room 200

This course examines different controversies, tensions, and debates surrounding the Holocaust since the 1940s. It will examine ways that the Nazi persecution of the Jews has been interpreted and reinterpreted by survivors, by Jewish communities, by European, American, and Israeli societies, and by scholars across a range of disciplinary backgrounds. Beginning with controversies around Jewish resettlement in the aftermath of the Holocaust, this course will look at a range of issues that arose in the decades after the Holocaust. We will examine the controversy surrounding restitution and reparations in the 1950s, debates around various forms of justice from the 1940s through the 1990s, historiographical debates about the origin and nature of Nazism and Nazi antisemitism, and controversies about different ways that the Holocaust has come to be remembered and represented. Moreover, we will locate controversies around the Holocaust within the broader historical context and wider historical debates that shaped these debates.

JWST 210.01 JWST 210.02
Jewish History I: Ancient to Modern
CRN 21842 CRN 22102
T, Th 12:15-1:30pm and T, Th 1:40-2:55pm
Joshua Shanes
Jewish Studies Center, Arnold Hall (Room 100)

A survey of the social, economic, religious and political experience of the Jewish people in the pre-modern world (from its biblical origins through 1700). The course begins its focus just before the destruction of the second Temple (70 C.E.), and continues through the medieval period - paying equal attention to the Jewish experience in the Christian and Moslem worlds - and ends in the seventeenth century, in northwestern Europe, where the transformations of Jewish life in the modern era were already beginning.

JWST 300.01 CRN 23520
Special Topic: Women in the Hebrew Bible
Oren Segal  MW 2:00-3:15pm
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 210)

An examination of the Hebrew Bible as a literary text, concentrating specifically on stories which focus on female characters. The course explores the sexual politics of Biblical narratives, from both a literary and a gender studies perspective.

JWST 300.02 CRN 23521
Special Topic: Religious Leadership in Modern and Contemporary Judaism
Adam Ferziger  MW 3:30-4:45pm
Arnold Distinguished Visiting Professor
Jewish Studies Center, Levin Library (Room 210)

The integration of Jews into general society and the decline in Jewish religious observance in modern times have, paradoxically, made religious leaders more central to Jewish life. This course explores novel religious leadership roles and religious leaders who impacted the historical trajectory of Judaism from early modern to contemporary times. Topics will include: Jewish messianism, the Hasidic rebbe, the rise of the Reform rabbinate, rabbinical training, female religious leadership, the musician as religious leader, religious leadership in the State of Israel, New Age Judaism, and post-denominationalism.
### JWST 300.03 CRN 23522  Special Topic: Nazi Medicine  
Ted Rosengarten  
Tuesdays 5:30-8:00pm  
Zucker/Goldberg Chair of Holocaust Studies  
Jewish Studies Center, NEW LOCATION: JSC 237  
This course explores the biomedical vision at the heart of Nazi thought: the program of “human selection” that sought to remake the demography of Europe by placing the “health” of the state over the individual; the “cleansing” of the German medical profession; so-called medical experimentation as a tool of political and social conquest; and the pursuit of personal gain over the exercise of medical ethics.

### JWST 300.04 CRN 23909  Special Topic: Nazi Medicine  
Ted Rosengarten  
Mondays 5:30-8:15pm  
Zucker/Goldberg Chair of Holocaust Studies  
Jewish Studies Center, NEW LOCATION: JSC 237  
This course explores the biomedical vision at the heart of Nazi thought: the program of “human selection” that sought to remake the demography of Europe by placing the “health” of the state over the individual; the “cleansing” of the German medical profession; so-called medical experimentation as a tool of political and social conquest; and the pursuit of personal gain over the exercise of medical ethics.

### JWST 310.01 CRN 21051  History of Israel  
Joshua Shanes  
T, Th 9:25-10:40am  
Jewish Studies Center, Arnold Hall (Room 100)  
A history of the modern state of Israel from its conception in the Zionist movement to the present. Topics will include the political and cultural development of the nation, its relationship to religion and to the Jewish Diaspora, and its conflicts with the surrounding Arab states and with the Palestinians.

### JWST 315.01 CRN 23523  Southern Jewish History  
Shari Rabin  
T, Th 10:50am -12:05pm  
Jewish Studies Center, Arnold Hall (Room 100)  
This course explores the history of Jews in the southern United States from colonial times until the present. Students will learn about Jews’ economic, social, and cultural activities, using them as a case study to explore intersections between race and religion in the region. We will explore some of the key events of southern Jewish history, with a focus on how Jews have confounded, complicated, and conformed to the region’s “peculiar” norms and categories.

### JWST 330.02 CRN 23524  Representations of the Holocaust  
Rob Kohn  
T, Th 1:40-2:55pm  
TBA by Germanic Studies  
The topic of memory, especially in its relation to the Holocaust, has gained critical importance in the German-speaking context in the last few decades. Instead of merely repeating the maxim to “never forget,” cultural memories of the Holocaust have shaped the discourses about the past, addressing issues such as guilt/responsibility, victims/victimization, trauma, and memory. In this class we will read important works of literature and memoir (in English translation) to understand the German and Austrian debates about cultural memory, responsibility, and trauma since 1945. Authors to be read and discussed include Ruth Klüger, Robert Schindel, Peter Weiss, W.G. Sebald, Art Spiegelman, and Binjamin Wilkomirski.

### Revised 12.08.16/eri