

JEWISH STUDIES

218 Milbank Hall
212-854-2597

Chair: Beth A. Berkowitz, Professor of Religion and Ingeborg Rennert Chair of Jewish Studies

Mission

The program in Jewish Studies enables undergraduates to acquire a thorough knowledge of the most important aspects of Jewish culture, civilization, and history in an interdisciplinary setting. The purpose of the program is to help the student identify resources for constructing rigorously detailed and methodological majors.

The program begins from the assumption that a meaningful major can be most profitably framed in one of the existing departments—such as, but not limited to, American Studies, Ancient Studies, Anthropology, Art History, Asian and Middle Eastern Cultures, Classics, Comparative Literature, English, History, Music, Religion, Sociology, and Women's Studies. The program director would then certify that the subject matter of that major contains enough interest in Jewish subjects and is rigorous enough in methodology.

Faculty at Barnard and Columbia who teach courses in Jewish Studies Include:

Chair: Beth A. Berkowitz, Professor of Religion and Ingeborg Rennert Chair of Jewish Studies

Professors: Gil Anidjar (Religion), Elisheva Carlebach (History), Yinon Cohen (Sociology), Jeremy Dauber (German), Zohar Goshen (Law), Achsah Guibbory (English), Gil Hochberg (MESAAS), Ira Katznelson (Political Science and History), Jose Moya (History), Seth Schwartz (History), Michael Stanislawski (History)

Associate Professor, Gil Eyal (Sociology), Rebecca Kobrin (History)

Assistant Professors: Clémence Boulouque (Religion), Tina Fruehauf (Music)

Lecturer: Naama Harel (Lecturer in Hebrew), Agnieszka Legutko (Lecturer in Yiddish)

Requirements for the Combined Major

- RELI UN2306 Intro to Judaism
- Five additional courses in Jewish Studies
- Total of a minimum of 18 credits

A complete major in a relevant department is required for a combined major in Jewish Studies. Where courses in Jewish Studies also satisfy departmental major requirements, the student must complete at least three courses in Jewish Studies over and above what is required for the other major. Students are encouraged to consult the offerings of other relevant departments and frame a major by centering on the methodological requirements of that major and utilizing the advising capacities of that department. Students, especially those who plan to continue in graduate Jewish Studies of any kind, are strongly encouraged to seek competence in Hebrew and other languages which were used by Jews in their particular area of concentration. Where possible, the courses in Jewish Studies should be taken across the major areas of Jewish history: Ancient (biblical); Hellenistic and Talmudic; Medieval; and

Modern. Besides the six courses specifically in Jewish Studies, students must submit a Senior Thesis or project in the area of Jewish Studies, written in the major department.

For a complete list of faculty and courses visit the [Columbia University Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies](#).

Requirements for the Minor

- RELI UN2306 Intro to Judaism
- Four additional courses in Jewish Studies

A Jewish Studies minor comprises five courses in Jewish Studies (minimum 15 credits). The five courses must include RELI UN2306 Intro to Judaism as well as at least one seminar. Students are encouraged to distribute their Jewish Studies courses across different disciplines, historical eras, and geographical regions.

Eligible courses include those listed each semester by the Columbia University Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies or that contain a majority of Jewish Studies content (to be determined by the Jewish Studies Chair based on the course syllabus). Departments that normally host Jewish Studies courses include the Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies, Germanic Languages, History, MESAAS, Political Science, Religion, Sociology, and Women's and Gender Studies. Please consult the [Columbia University Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies](#) for eligible courses.

Three of the five courses must be taken at Barnard/Columbia. Students are encouraged to study Jewish languages such as Hebrew or Yiddish, but only two of the five courses required for the minor may be fulfilled by language courses. All eligible courses must be offered by an accredited academic institution.

Students interested in minoring in Jewish Studies should contact the Chair of Jewish Studies at Barnard. Although Barnard policy allows for students to sign up for the minor through the end of senior year, the Program in Jewish Studies encourages students to sign up early and to consult with the Chair regarding selection of courses and completion of requirements.

Courses That Satisfy the Jewish Studies Major

For a complete list of faculty and courses updated by semester, visit the Columbia University Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies (<http://www.ijjs.columbia.edu>).
