

Special Concentration in Jewish Studies

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[www.iijs.columbia.edu/](http://www.iijs.columbia.edu/) supportingourstudents

**For more information on the special concentration in Jewish studies, please contact:**

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Special Concentration in Jewish Studies

What is Jewish Studies?

Jewish Studies is an interdisciplinary field that explores Judaism not only as a religion but also as a civilization and culture. The discipline ranges from the study of Jews and Judaism in antiquity to the present day via investigations of Jewish history, religion, language, and literature.

## The Special Concentration

* A special concentration in Jewish studies is available for undergraduate students at Columbia College and the School of General Studies.
* It is **not** a standalone concentration. In order to graduate, a student must complete a concentration or major in addition to the requirements of the special concentration.
* It enables students to take classes in a wide range of departments across the university,

including History, Sociology, MESAAS, Germanic Languages and Literature, and Religion.

* It is designed to provide Columbia students with the interdisciplinary knowledge necessary to study Jewish civilization both broadly and deeply.

## How to Undertake a Special Concentration in Jewish Studies

Please contact program director Dr. Isabelle Levy, [icl2001@columbia.edu,](mailto:icl2001@columbia.edu) to discuss the program with respect to your specific interests.

Students should always consult with their advisors at Columbia College or the School of General Studies to ensure that they are making satisfactory progress toward general core requirements while pursuing the special concentration.

* + Course Planning Form
  + Special Concentration Declaration Form
  + Opportunities for Students Outside the Classroom
  + Information on Study Abroad

## Beyond the Classroom

In addition to coursework, students are encouraged to take advantage of the many resources available at Columbia. The Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies holds special events for undergraduates throughout the year and students are encouraged to join. Email [iijs@columbia.edu](mailto:iijs@columbia.edu) to receive news and updates.

# Undergraduate Requirements for a Special Concentration in Jewish Studies

For a special concentration in Jewish studies, students are required to complete a minimum of 21 points. Within these points, at least one course must be taken from three of the focus areas listed below. Credits for language courses may constitute at most 10 points, and language study is strongly recommended. A minimum of 18 points must be taken in residence or as part of an approved study abroad program (unless equivalent courses are not offered within the College, as determined by the faculty advisor).

Focus Areas:

1. Bible and Rabbinics/Ancient Judaism

ReligionV3512 The Bible and Its Interpreters Religion W4537 Talmudic Narrative

Religion W4520 Patriarchal/Rabbinic Authority in Antiquity Religion V3501 Hebrew Bible

Religion V3508 Judaism in the Time of Jesus Religion V3561 Classics of Judaism

Religion V2510 Jews and Judaism in Antiquity Religion W4535 Ancient Jewish Texts Religion V3850 Life after Death

1. Medieval Judaism

History W3657 Medieval Jewish Cultures

History W3616 Jews/Christians in the Medieval World Religion W4510 The Thought of Maimonides

Religion V3870 Inquisitions, Christians/Empire Religion W4515 Jews in the Later Roman Empire History W4180 Conversion in Historical Perspective

1. Modern Judaism

History W3604 Modern Jewish History History W3630 American Jewish History History W4602 Jews in 19th Century France

Religion V3571 Judaism, Jewishness, Modernity Middle East W3542 Introduction to Israeli Literature Yiddish W3500 Survey of Yiddish Literature

Yiddish W3800 Readings in Yiddish Literature

Yiddish G4200 America in Yiddish, Yiddish in America Yiddish G4550 Yiddish Theater

History W4546-­‐ Spinoza-­‐Sabbatai: Jews in Early Europe

1. Israeli Society

Middle East W3542 Introduction to Israeli Literature Middle East G4542 The Culture of Israeli Cinema Middle East W3541 Zionism: A Cultural Perspective Middle East G4521 Post War Israel

History W3633 – Zionism & the State of Israel Sociology G4407 Dynamics of Israeli Society Sociology V2310 Israeli Society

Middle East G4524 Hebrew Love

Religion W4513 Homeland, Diasporas, Promised Land

1. Gender and Judaism

History W3640 Jewish Women and Family 1000-­‐1800 Religion V4502 Jewish Rites: Gender & Power Religion V3570 Women/Judaism: Folklore or Religion History W443 Women in Jewish Mystical Movements

Religion W4504 The Patriarchal and Matriarchal Stories in Genesis

1. Jewish History and Culture

Music G4125 Jewish Music: Uniqueness and Diversity

Art History W3827 Tracing Identities: Jewish Art from Antiquity to the Present Religion V3585 The Sephardic Experience

Religion W4503 Readings from Sephardic Diaspora Religion V2505 Judaism

Religion W4511 Jewish Ethics

Yiddish W3500 Survey of Yiddish Literature Yiddish G4550 Yiddish Theater

History W3657 Medieval Jewish Cultures

History W4645 Spinoza to Sabbatai Zevi: Jews in Early Modern Europe Middle East G4542 The Culture of Israeli Cinema

Middle East W3542 Introduction to Israeli Literature

1. Jewish Literature

Yiddish W3500 Survey of Yiddish Literature Yiddish W3800 Readings in Yiddish Literature Religion V3561 Classics of Judaism ReligionV3512 The Bible and Its Interpreters Religion W4537 Talmudic Narrative

Religion W4535 Ancient Jewish Texts

Religion W4510 The Thought of Maimonides

Middle East W3542 Introduction to Israeli Literature Middle East G4524 Hebrew Love

Religion W4504 The Patriarchal and Matriarchal Stories in Genesis Middle East G4523 Introduction to Hebrew Literature

1. Jewish Language

Middle East W1510 1st Year Modern Hebrew: Elem I Middle East W1511 1st Year Modern Hebrew: Elem II Middle East W1512 2nd Year Modern Hebrew: Inter I Middle East W1513 2nd Year Modern Hebrew: Inter II Middle East W1514 2nd Year Modern Hebrew: Upper Inter I

Middle East W1515 2nd Year Modern Hebrew: Upper Inter II Middle East W4510 3rd Year Modern Hebrew I

Middle East W4511 3rd Year Modern Hebrew II

Middle East W4512 4th Year Modern Hebrew: Readings Middle East W1516 Int Hebrew: Intensive Grammar Rev Yiddish W1101 Elementary Yiddish I

Yiddish W1201 Intermediate Yiddish I Yiddish W1102 Elementary Yiddish II Yiddish W3333 Advanced Yiddish I Yiddish W1202 Intermediate Yiddish II