INTERDISCIPLINARY MINOR IN JEWISH STUDIES

For students interested in Jewish identity, thought, history, language, and culture, with a particular focus on the legacy of the Holocaust, the history of the state of Israel and Jewish life in the Middle East and North Africa, worldwide Jewish experience, and the ever-present threat of antisemitism.

Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

1. Analyze current events in the Middle East with an understanding of their deep, broad Jewish historical and cultural context.
2. Demonstrate working proficiency in a language important to the Middle East, Israel, or the Jewish diaspora, such as Hebrew, Arabic, Russian, German, or Spanish, with a Jewish lens, as well as an ability to work with relevant primary sources in that language, including Yiddish, Ladino, or Judeo-Arabic.
3. Critique stereotypes and identify different forms of antisemitism from around the world, both historically and in the present.
4. Examine Israeli, Jewish, and Jewish-American history and identity, including the legacy of the Holocaust and Jewish traditions of the Middle East and North Africa.
5. Evaluate Israeli and Jewish diaspora culture, cinema, literature, music, and television from historical sources and the present.
6. Explore historical and cultural relationships between Jewish communities and other communities, including Christian, Muslim, Arab, Black, Latinx, and Indigenous communities.

Requirements Effective Fall 2025

Additional coursework may be required due to prerequisites.

Students must satisfactorily complete the total credits required for the minor. Minors and interdisciplinary minors require 12 or more upper-division (300- to 400-level) credits.

Code	Title	Credits
Lower-Division Courses		
Select a minimum of 3 credits from the following courses:		3
ETST 100	Introduction to Ethnic Studies (GT-SS3)	
ETST 257	Critical Understanding of Antisemitism	
LGER 251	The Holocaust in Literature and Film	
PHIL 171	Religions of the West (GT-AH3)	
PHIL 173	Philosophy of Traditional Judaism	
Language Requirement		
Select a minimum of 6 credits from the following courses: [1]		6
LARA 201	Second-Year Arabic II (GT-AH4)	
LARA 200	Second-Year Arabic I (GT-AH4)	
LFRE 200	Second-Year French I (GT-AH4)	
LFRE 201	Second-Year French II (GT-AH4)	
LGER 200	Second-Year German I (GT-AH4)	
LGER 201	Second-Year German II (GT-AH4)	
LGER 300	Reading and Writing for Communication-German	
LHEB 100	First-Year Hebrew I	
LHEB 101	First-Year Hebrew II	
LRUS 200	Second-Year Russian I (GT-AH4)	
LRUS 201	Second-Year Russian II (GT-AH4)	
LSPA 200	Second-Year Spanish I (GT-AH4)	
LSPA 201	Second-Year Spanish II (GT-AH4)	
Upper-Division Courses		
Select a minimum of 6 credits from the following courses:		6
HIST 338	The Holocaust in Historical Perspective	
HIST 438	The Modern Middle East	
HIST 467	Modern Jewish History	
LGER 455	Inside Nazi Germany-Taught in English	
LGER 456	German-Jewish Identity - Taught in English	
Upper-Division Electives		
Select a minimum of 6 credits from the following courses: [2]		6
HIST 324	Imperial Russia	
HIST 328	Modern Europe, 1815-1914	
HIST 331	The Soviet Union	
HIST 431	Ancient Israel	
HIST 432	Sacred History-Hebrew Bible & New Testament	
HIST 433	Muhammad and the Origins of Islam	
HIST 435	Jihad in Islamic History	
HIST 436	The Holy Land--Ancient to Modern	
HIST 439	Environmental History of the Middle East	
HIST 469	The Crusades	
LGEN 465C	Studies in Foreign Film: Europe	
LGEN 465D	Studies in Foreign Film: Africa	
LGEN 465E	Studies in Foreign Film: Global	
LGER 336	Issues in Swiss and Austrian Culture	
LGER 434	Advanced German Culture	
PHIL 303	Medieval Philosophy	
PHIL 335	Islam-Cosmology and Practice	
PHIL 355	Philosophy of Religion	
PHIL 356	Islamic Philosophy	
PHIL 379	Mysticism East and West	
PHIL 463	Seminar in Religious Studies	
POLS 436	Comparative Foreign Policy	
POLS 449	Middle East Politics	
Program Total Credits:		**21**

[1] Other languages may be substituted here with the permission of the minor advisor if the student has a strong justification.

[2] Students may count upper-division courses from other fields here as electives if not already used towards another requirement in the minor. Additional courses with a focus on Jewish Studies or related topics may be counted towards the minor with permission of advisor.