

Jewish Studies

Music 30839

Discovering Jewish Music

Marsha Bryan Edelman, Ed.D.

From the desert to the Temple to today, music has reflected the history, values, and culture of the Jewish community. By listening to folk, sacred, art and popular selections, students in this course will have an opportunity to explore the full spectrum of Jewish music.

Thought 30750

Introduction to Classical Judaism

Joseph Davis, Ph. D.

This course provides a graduate-level introduction to Classical Judaism, covering the Biblical, Rabbinic, and Medieval periods. After surveying the history and major texts of the Classical period, the course will concentrate on training students to analyze classical Jewish texts in depth, first examining traditional Jewish legal texts (Halachah) and then texts of classical Jewish thought and values (Aggadah).

Sociology 40901

New Directions in the American Jewish Community

Carol Harris-Shapiro, Ph.D.

This course will provide an overview of the critical issues facing American Jewish community, using a sociological framework to analyze significant trends in American Jewish life. Students will become familiar with the structure and function of Jewish communal organizations and the challenges and changes the organized Jewish community faces in the 21st century, such as intermarriage, anti-Semitism, and new patterns of Jewish religious and ethnic identity. In the course, students will explore how Jewish organizational policies and decisions can powerfully affect the Jewish future in the United States. (Graduate students or by permission of instructor)

History 30533

Ashkenazi Roots: East European Jewish History

Michael Steinlauf, Ph.D.

This is a one-semester survey of the unique civilization that Jews built in the lands of Eastern Europe, a civilization from which nearly all American and European Jews and half of all Israeli Jews are descended. The course will begin with the first Jewish settlements in Eastern Europe during the Middle Ages and end on the eve of the Holocaust. It will examine traditional Jewish life-ways, Jewish-Gentile relations and the rise of Hasidism, the Jewish Enlightenment, the development of modern Jewish societies, political movements, and literature. This course is not open to students who completed History 30534 and/or 30535.

History 30516

Jews on Trial

Katherine Beller, Ph. D.

This course will discuss a selection of trials that concerned Jews, beginning with the trial of Jesus in the first century to that of Adolf Eichmann in the twentieth century. Our goal will be to use trial records to discover insights into the mentalities of the day rather than the crime per se. We will also try to understand the trial from the Jew's perspective, discussing in particular his choice of action in the particular circumstance.

Thought 40716 / Education 40224

Teaching Moral Issues in Jewish Studies

Tzvika Kanarek, Ph.D.

This course examines models which attempt to solve moral contradictions in ancient Jewish literature and the Holy Scriptures such as Abraham sacrificing Isaac and the obligation to destruct the Amaleki people. We confront these issues in the light of philosophers like Yeshayahu Leibowitz, Efraim Aurbach and others. This course presents methods of sensitizing our students as teachers or learners to moral values in the bible.

Rabbinics 30615***Judaism & Christianity****Ruth Sandberg, Ph.D.*

This course explores the common roots of ancient Rabbinic Judaism and early Christianity in the first five centuries CE. We study both the theological similarities between the two movements and the ways in which they developed into distinctly different religious traditions. Topics to be covered include: reward and punishment; heaven and hell; immortality of the soul; resurrection; martyrdom; and the messiah. The Jewish background of Jesus and Paul is discussed also. While the course concentrates primarily on the ancient period, we also briefly discuss the strained relationship between Judaism and Christianity in the medieval world and where that relationship is today.

Jewish Education***Education 40224 / Thought 40716******Teaching Moral Issues in Jewish Studies****Tzvika Kanarek, Ph.D.*

This course examines models which attempt to solve moral contradictions in ancient Jewish literature and the Holy Scriptures such as Abraham sacrificing Isaac and the obligation to destruct the Amaleki people. We confront these issues in the light of philosophers like Yeshayahu Leibowitz, Efraim Aurbach and others. This course presents methods of sensitizing our students as teachers or learners to moral values in the bible.

Jewish Early Childhood Education***Education 40223A******Building a Jewish Life: Concepts and Curriculum in Jewish Early Childhood Education****Lyndall Miller, M.A.Ed., M.A.J.Ed., M.S.Ed.*

This course focuses on pedagogic approaches that convey Jewish concepts to young children in the most developmentally appropriate and personally meaningful manner. The course will also consider the roles of the classroom environment, the school community, and parent education in successfully transmitting and maintaining a passion for Jewish learning.

Education 40230***Spirituality and Ritual in the Jewish Early Childhood Classroom: Shabbat and Daily Practice****Lyndall Miller, M.A.Ed., M.A.J.Ed., M.S.Ed.*

The expectation of finding spiritual meaning in ritual practices is founded in the early years. In this course, current theories of faith and spiritual development will be used as a basis for understanding appropriate classroom practices. Ritual will be examined as an important vehicle for spiritual experience and expression. Themes and practices of Shabbat, as well as making daily rhythms, will be used to provide authentic examples of how these theories can be applied effectively.

Jewish Non-Profit Management (Graduate Credit Only)***Communal Service 40921******Financial Management****Peter Lucash, Ph.D.*

This course tackles the important and challenging task of financial management. Students will learn how to use financial information to make business decisions and as a critical management tool. This is a practical course designed for those without prior knowledge of finance or accounting. It focuses on the core concepts in a straightforward and relevant manner, including financial statements, income and cash flow, cash management, pricing, budgeting and financial projections.

Communal Service 40917***Strategic Planning for Non-Profit Managers in the Jewish Community****Ronni Ticker, M.B.A., M.A.J.S*

Thinking and planning strategically are essential for anyone in a leadership position and for those who aspire to assume that role in the future. This course covers the entire strategic planning process from gathering data, formulating your vision and mission, defining your objectives and goals to writing and communicating your plan. The course will incorporate case studies from the Jewish communal world.