

# **Institute for Israel and Jewish Studies**

## **Spring 2014 Courses**

### **IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**

#### **HIST W1600 Jews, from Babylonia to Bloomberg**

Call Number: 13597 Points: 3

Day/Time: MW 11:40-12:55 Location: TBD

Instructor: Seth Schwartz

This undergraduate lecture course will introduce students to the broad sweep of Jewish history, from 600 BCE to the present. The focus will be on politics, society and culture, with particular attention to the interplay and tension between integration and separation, and such metahistorical questions as whether it is valid to posit a continuous Jewish history at all.

#### **HIST W4607 Rabbis for Historians**

Call Number: 78031 Points: 4

Day/Time: R 2:10pm-4:00pm Location: TBD

Instructor: Seth R Schwartz

This course introduces the central historical issues raised by ancient Palestinian and Babylonian rabbinic literature through exploration of some of the crucial primary texts and analysis of the main scholarly approaches to these texts.

#### **HIST W4645 Jews and Early Modern Europe**

Call Number: 26977 Points: 4

Day/Time: M 11:00am-12:50pm Location: TBD

Instructor: Elisheva Carlebach

A seminar on the historical, political, and cultural developments in the Jewish communities of early-modern Western Europe (1492-1789) with particular emphasis on the transition from medieval to modern patterns. We will study the resettlement of Jews in Western Europe, Jews in the Reformation-era German lands, Italian Jews during the late Renaissance, the rise of Kabbalah, and the beginnings of the quest for civil Emancipation.

### **IN THE INSTITUTE FOR ISRAEL AND JEWISH STUDIES**

#### **JWST W4150 Jewish Language in New York and Beyond**

Call Number: 92949 Points: 3

Day/Time: TBD Location: 112 Knox Hall

Instructor: Daniel Kaufman

In this course, we examine the world of Jewish languages with a special focus on lesser known languages such as Juhuri, Bukharian, as well as Jewish varieties of Arabic and Iranian languages. Better known Jewish languages such as Yiddish, Ladino and Jewish English or "Yinglish" will also be given attention. Students will take a hands-on approach to the study of the lesser known languages, using digital audio/video recordings to bolster existing documentation.

### **IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MIDDLE EASTERN, SOUTH ASIAN, AND AFRICAN STUDIES**

*Section 001*

**MDES W1511 1st Year Modern Hebrew Elem II**

Call Number: 72622 Points: 5

Day/Time: MTWR 11:40am-12:45pm Location: TBD

Instructor: Rina Kreitman

*Section 002*

**MDES W1511 1st Year Modern Hebrew Elem II**

Call Number: 60324 Points: 5

Day/Time: MTWR 11:40am-12:45pm Location: TBD

Instructor: Illan Gonen

Prerequisite: MDES W1510, or the equivalent, based on performance on the placement test. Continued introduction to Hebrew, with equal emphasis on all languages skills. (See MDES W1510.)

**MDES W1513 2nd YR MOD HEBREW: INTER II**

Call Number: 64670 Points: 5

Day/Time: MTWR 1:10pm-2:15pm Location: TBD

Instructor: Rina Kreitman

*Section 002*

**MDES W1513 2nd YR MOD HEBREW: INTER II**

Call Number: 60324 Points: 5

Day/Time: MTWR 11:40am-12:45pm Location: To be announced

Instructor: Illan Gonen

Prerequisites: MDES W1512 Equal emphasis is given to all language skills. Irregular categories of the Hebrew verb, prepositions and syntax are taught systematically. Vocabulary building. Daily homework includes grammar exercises, short answers, reading, or writing short compositions. Frequent vocabulary and grammar quizzes. (Students completing this course fulfill Columbia College and Barnard language requirement)

**MDES W4511 3rd Year Modern Hebrew II**

Call Number: 16705 Points: 4

Day/Time: TR 9:00am-10:50am Location:TBD

Instructor: Nehama R Bersohn

**MDES W1518 Hebrew for Heritage Speakers**

Call Number: 22975 Points: 4

Day/Time: MTWR 11:00am-11:50am Location: TBD

Instructor: Nehama R Bersohn

Hebrew for Heritage Speakers I forms part of a year-long sequence with Hebrew for Heritage Speakers II. The course is intended for those who have developed basic speaking and listening skills through exposure to Hebrew at home or in day-school programs but do not use Hebrew as their dominant language and have not reached the level required for exemption from the Columbia language requirement. Heritage speakers differ in the degree of their fluency, but their vocabulary is often limited to topics in daily life and many lack skills in reading and writing to match their ability to converse. The

course focuses on grammar and vocabulary enrichment, exposing students to a variety of cultural and social topics in daily life and beyond. By the end of the semester students are able to read and discuss simple texts and write about a variety of topics. Successful completion of the year-long sequence prepares students to enroll in third-year modern Hebrew.

**MDES W3541 Zionism: A Cultural Perspective**

Call Number: 14386 Points: 3

Day/Time: MW 2:40pm-3:55pm Location: TBD

Instructor: Dan Miron

**IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION**

**RELI V3516 Introduction to Talmud Text Study**

Call Number: 05169 Points: 3

Day/Time: TR 10:10am-11:25am Location: TBD

Instructor: Beth A Berkowitz

Prerequisites: Basic Hebrew grammar and vocabulary. This course is designed for students with knowledge of Hebrew to acquire the skills for reading and interpreting the Babylonian Talmud, the classic work of Jewish law and lore, in its original language. Students will master technical skills along with theories and methods for conceptualizing the Talmud as a text. Prerequisite: basic Hebrew grammar and vocabulary.

**IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY**

**SOCI W3285 Israeli Society**

Call Number: 87029 Points: 3

Day/Time: TR 10:10am-11:25am Location: TBD

Instructor: Yinon Cohen

The purpose of the course is to acquaint students with Israeli society. The first part of the course will set the historical, social, political and demographic background which is essential for understanding current processes in Israel. The second part of the course will focus on the main social conflicts and cleavages in contemporary Israel.

**SOCI G6160 Israeli Society – Spec. Topics**

Call Number: 15775 Points: 3

Day/Time: W 10:10am-12:00pm Location: TBD

Instructor: Yinon Cohen

This semester the seminar will focus on migration patterns to and from Israel. The seminar has two main parts. The first focuses on immigration patterns to Palestine/Israel from the late 19th century until the present. We will discuss Jewish immigration in the pre-state period, Arab forced migration in 1948, Jewish immigration to Israel until the 1967 war, and migration patterns from the late 1960s until the present. The second part of the course discusses emigration from Israel since 1948, which is viewed as a major social problem. The focus will be on the number of emigrants, their composition, the causes for emigration, return migration, and on the question of the brain drain from Israel.

## IN THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN'S STUDIES

### **WMST BC3122 Contemporary Jewish Women Writers**

Call Number: 00295 Points: 3

Day/Time: M 4:10pm-6:00pm Location: TBD

Instructor: Irena Klepfisz

The course covers Jewish women's work from 1990 to the present and includes fiction by American-born writers about women in Jewish Orthodox communities and memoirs and novels by Jewish women immigrants from the former Soviet Union, Morocco, Iran and Egypt.

## IN THE DEPARTMENT OF GERMANIC STUDIES - YIDDISH

### *Section 001*

#### **YIDD W1101 Elementary Yiddish I**

Call Number: 84031 Points: 4

Day/Time: MW 2:10pm-4:00pm Location: TBD

Instructor: TBD

### *Section 002*

#### **YIDD W1101 Elementary Yiddish I**

Call Number: 16846 Points: 4

Day/Time: MW 6:10pm-8:00pm Location: TBD

Instructor: TBD

Introduction to the fabulous world of Yiddish language, literature, and culture. Using games, new media, and music, we will develop speaking, listening, writing, and reading skills, and will have exciting field trips during the semester.

#### **YIDD W1202 Intermediate Yiddish II**

Call Number: 65735 Points: 4

Day/Time: TR 1:10-3:00pm Location: TBD

Instructor: Agnieszka Legutko

This year-long course is a continuation of Elementary Yiddish II. As part of the New Media in Jewish Studies Collaborative, this class will be using new media in order to explore and research the fabulous world of Yiddish literature, language, and culture, and to engage in project-oriented activities that will result in creating lasting multi-media online presentations. In addition to expanding the command of the language that has been spoken by the Ashkenazi Jews for more than a millennium, i.e. focusing on developing speaking, reading, writing and listening skills, and on the acquisition of more advanced grammatical concepts, students will also get some video and film editing training, and tutorials on archival research. The class will continue to read works of Yiddish literature in the original and will venture outside of the classroom to explore the Yiddish world today through exciting field trips to Yiddish theater, Yiddish-speaking neighborhoods, YIVO, Yiddish Farm, and so on. And we will also have the Yiddish native-speaker guest series. Welcome back to Yiddishland!

**YIDD W3800 Readings in Yiddish Lit**

Call Number: 87148 Points: 3

Day/Time: T 4:10pm-6:00pm Location: TBD

Instructor: Agnieszka Legutko

A Serious Man, the 2009 movie by the Coen Brothers opens with a Yiddish folk tale featuring a dybbuk. Dybbuks, golems, magicians, and monsters haunt not only Yiddish literature but also the contemporary cinema, as illustrated by such recent films as The Unborn and The Possession. Why are we so attracted to dybbuks, spirit possession, magic and monsters in the twenty-first century? This course will focus on magic, monsters, dybbuks, and demons in Yiddish literature as well as in film, theater, and popular culture. We will approach the supernatural motif from the perspective of gender, body, and performance studies, and will explore the questions of memory, trauma, and identity.