



THE GEORGE FELDENKREIS
PROGRAM IN JUDAIC STUDIES
College of Arts and Sciences

Judaic Studies Program

Spring 2027



Haim Shaked, Ph.D. Director
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The best way to reach Dr. Shaked is by email

<https://judaicstudies.as.miami.edu/>



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Why Major in Judaic Studies?

Intellectual Sophistication

As a program and a major/minor that encourages interdisciplinary teaching and research, Judaic Studies courses are taught by scholars working at the cutting edge of their fields.

Academic Flexibility

The interdisciplinary nature of the Judaic Studies means that you are encouraged to take courses in a diverse range of departments and disciplines, such as English, Political Science, History, Religious Studies, International Studies, and Geography. By specializing in Judaic Studies, you retain the opportunity to continue to explore different fields even as you advance toward your degree.

Individual Attention

Judaic Studies courses are typically small in size so you can be sure of receiving personal attention from your professors. Academic advising is done by the Director of the Program, Dr. Haim Shaked, who meets individually with all Judaic Studies majors and minors and is always available by appointment at 305-284-6882 or email: hshaked@miami.edu.

Study Abroad

The JUS Program is working to develop summer Study Abroad options as well as semester-long Study Abroad programs, in Israel and in several European countries.

Library Resources

For *library assistance* in Judaic Studies topics, please contact Ms. Kineret Ben-Knaan. For the Judaic Studies Research Guide, please go to:

<https://guides.library.miami.edu/judaicstudies>

The Program

The George Feldenkreis Program in Judaic Studies is a broad, flexible, interdisciplinary program designed for undergraduates to gain an understanding of Jewish civilization and its diverse cultural experiences. The program, which is non-theological in orientation, is an academic exploration of the multi-faceted, socio-historical, 4,000-year record of the Jewish people. Courses taught and combined with the program courses highlight the variety of cultural, political, social, and religious experiences of Jews in different times and places.

The program is structured to provide an in-depth liberal arts education that will constitute a foundation for advanced academic study, professional careers in a variety of fields, and a more complex and rich understanding of the world. Judaic Studies courses meet distribution requirements for Humanities and Social Sciences in the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Engineering, the School of Communication, the School of Business, and the Frost School of Music.

Courses Counting Towards Judaic Studies Major/Minor

English

ENG 205	Jewish Literature (M) (F/S)
ENG 363	Jewish American Literature (M) (F/S)
ENG 364	Sephardic Literature (F/S)
ENG 368	Representations of Arabs and Jews in Israeli and Palestinian Literature and Film (F/S)
ENG 384	The Bible as Literature (A) (F/S)

Geography

GEG 382	Political Geography of the Middle East (S)
GEG 385	Jewish Geography (AO)

History

HIS 282	The History of Zionism (M) (AO)
HIS 284	History of World War II <i>combined w/ JUS 410</i> (S)
HIS 338	Holocaust in Historical Perspective (M) <i>combined w/ JUS 388</i> (S)
HIS 340	History of Modern Germany since 1815 (M) (S)
HIS 341	History of Nazi Germany (M) (F/S)
HIS 544	Studies in Modern European History (M): <i>Nazi Germany: The Peacetime Years 1933-1939</i> (S)

International Studies

INS 324	History of Zionism (AO)
INS 325	Israel: The Making of a State (AO)
INS 352	Panoramic View of the Middle East (F/S/Su)

Judaic Studies

JUS 231	Jewish Civilization (M) (F/S/Su)
JUS 234	Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus (AO)
JUS 250	The Holocaust Through Film, Memoir, and Testimony (AO)
JUS 301	Studies in Judaica: <i>Sephardi and Chat GPT – AI as a Digital Frontier</i>

JUS 324	History of Zionism (M) (AO)
JUS 325	Israel: The Making of a State (AO)
JUS 338	History of the Holocaust (M) <i>combined w/ INS 310, REL 405 and HIS 338</i> (F)
JUS 340	History of Modern Germany since 1815 (AO)
JUS 352	Panoramic View of the Middle East (M) (AO)
JUS 360	Hollywood and Popular Culture: The American Jewish Experience (M) (S)
JUS 365	Literature of the Holocaust (M) (AO)
JUS 375	Religion & Democracy in Israel (M) (F)
JUS 380	Holy Bones, Sacred Stones: Archaeology of Early Judaism
JUS 401	Studies in Judaica: Persuasion, Propaganda, and Genocide <i>or</i> Religion and Sacred Space in an Era of Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality (A/M) (F/S)
JUS 410	Special Topics (F/S): <i>combined w/ HIS 284</i>
JUS 410	Special Topics: <i>combined w/ HIS 544</i>
JUS 410	Special Topics: <i>combined w/ JUS 301</i>
JUS 410	Special Topics: <i>combined w/ POL 387</i>
JUS 410	Special Topics: <i>combined w/ POL 348</i>
JUS 411	Special Topics (AO)
JUS 421	Internship in Judaic Studies (F/S)
JUS 498	Senior Thesis (A/M) (F/S)
JUS 499	Senior Thesis (A/M) (F/S)

Modern Languages

HEB 101	Elementary Hebrew I (F)
HEB 102	Elementary Hebrew II (S)
HEB 201	Intermediate Hebrew I (F)
HEB 202	Intermediate Hebrew II (S)

GER 310 German Studies in Translation (S)
 GER 370 The Holocaust in History, Film,
 and Memorial Culture (AO)

Political Science

POL 348 United States Relations with the
 Middle East (M) (S)
 POL 387 Politic of the Middle East (M) (S)
 POL 388 Politics of Israel (M) (F)
 POL 586 Conflict in the Middle East and
 Africa (M) (F)
 POL 593 International Relations of the
 Middle East (M) (S)

Religious Studies

REL 103 One God: Judaism, Christianity,
 and Islam (A) (F/S/Su)
 REL 111 Introduction to the Bible, Old
 Testament (A) (F/S)
 REL 231 Jewish Civilization and Intro to
 Judaism, Jews, Jewishness from
 Abraham to Wonder Woman (M)
 (F)
 REL 234 Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus –
 An Archeological Odyssey (AO)
 REL 311 Prophecy and Prophetic
 Literature in the Hebrew Bible
 (A) (F)
 REL 312 The Torah and Ancient Law (A)
 (F/S)
 REL 314 The Rise of Judaism (AO)
 REL 324 The Bible and Modern Film
 (A/M) (Su)
 REL 334 The American Jewish Experience:
 Hollywood and Popular Culture
 (M) (S)
 REL 375 Democracy and Religion in Israel
 and Palestine (M) (F)
 REL 380 Holy Bones, Sacred Stones:
 Archaeology of Early Judaism (A)
 (AO)
 REL 406 Special Topics in Religious Issues
 and Problems – Topic Varies*
 Discuss with JUS Advisor* (AO)
 REL 409 Special Projects in Religious
 Issues or Problems – Topic

Varies* Discuss with JUS Advisor*
 (M) (AO)
 REL 505 Seminar in Ancient Studies –
 Topic Varies* Discuss with JUS
 Advisor* (A) (AO)
 REL 510 Seminars in Hebrew Bible &
 Ancient Judaism (A) (AO)

Theatre Arts

THA 301 Theater and the Holocaust (M)
 (AO)

Legend	
A	Fulfills "Ancient" requirement
M	Fulfills "Modern" requirement
A/M	Depends on Topic
F	Fall Session

University of Miami Faculty Teaching Courses in or for JUS

Dr. Hermann Beck* <i>History</i> 603 Ashe, L.C. 4662 hbeck@miami.edu (305) 284-5947	Kineret Ben-Knaan <i>JUS Librarian</i> Richter Library 1300 Memorial Drive kbenknaan@miami.edu (305) 284-3077	Dr. Dexter E. Callender, Jr.* <i>Religious Studies</i> 506 Ashe, L.C. 4672 dec@miami.edu (305) 284-3695
Dr. Shai Cohen* <i>Modern Languages and Literature 5202</i> University Dr shxc2208@miami.edu	Dr. Henry Green <i>Religious Studies</i> 501 Ashe, L.C. 4651 hgreen@miami.edu (305) 284-4375	Dr. William S. Green <i>Religious Studies</i> 240 Ashe, L.C. 4628 wgreen@miami.edu (305) 284-2006
Mr. Avi Hoffman <i>Theatre Arts</i> avihoffman33@gmail.com	Dr. Bradford McGuinn* <i>Political Science</i> 1300 Campo Sano, Suite 215 bmcguinn@miami.edu (305) 284-8353	Dr. Haim Shaked <i>International Studies</i> <i>The Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies</i> 105 Merrick, L.C. 2018 hshaked@miami.edu (305) 284-6882
Dr. Ira Sheskin* <i>Geography and Sustainable Development</i> 1300 Campo Sano, Suite 115 isheskin@miami.edu (305) 284-6693	Ms. Golda Retchkiman <i>Judaic Studies</i> <i>1306 Stanford Drive- Whitten University Center</i> gxr673@miami.edu (305) 213- 3099	Dr. Emmy Waldman* <i>English & Creative Writing</i> 321 Ashe exw577@miami.edu

****Members of the JUS Advisory Committee***

THE JUDAIC STUDIES MAJOR

(30 Credits; 10 Courses)

Students considering a major or minor in Judaic Studies are encouraged to make an appointment with Dr. Haim Shaked, via email at hshaked@miami.edu or call (305) 284-6882 *prior* to registering for the semester.

- JUS 231 (Jewish Civilization: Society, Culture, and Religion).
- Any course in Jewish or Israeli Literature offered by the English Department.
- A course in Hebrew at the 200-level or higher (which can be used simultaneously to fulfill the College of Arts and Sciences Language requirement).
- One course in Ancient Jewish History and Society and one course in Modern Jewish History and Society. Courses will be designated appropriately by the Program Director each semester.
- 15 more credits (5 courses) in classes listed in the Judaic Studies Degree Audit or combined sections approved for JUS credit, 9 credits of which must be completed at the 300-level or higher.
- Honors in Judaic Studies consist of the above plus an Honors Thesis and one additional elective at the 300-level or higher.
- A grade of "C-" or better must be attained in each course taken for the major with an overall GPA of 2.0.

THE JUDAIC STUDIES MINOR

(15 Credits; 5 Courses)

Students considering a major or minor in Judaic Studies are encouraged to make an appointment with Dr. Haim Shaked, via email at hshaked@miami.edu or call (305) 284-6882 *prior* to registering for the semester.

Regular Concentration

- One or more of the following 3 courses:
 - JUS 231 (Jewish Civilization: Society, Culture, and Religion)
 - Any course in Jewish Literature offered by the English Department
 - GEG 385 (Jewish Geography)
- Up to four courses in ancient/modern Jewish History, Society, Culture, and Religion (to be designated as “ancient” or “modern” and published by the JUS Program Director each semester). Students are strongly encouraged to take at least one course in the “ancient,” and at least one course in the “modern” categories.
- Students are strongly encouraged to take HEB 101 as one of the above four courses.

Hebrew Language Concentration

- One or more of the following 3 courses:
 - JUS 231 (Jewish Civilization: Society, Culture, and Religion)
 - Any course in Jewish Literature offered by the English Department
 - GEG 385 (Jewish Geography)
- At least two of the HEB 101, 102, 201 or 202 courses, taken at UM or via transfer of HEB credits.
- Any additional JUS course(s), or course(s) combined with JUS, that are needed to complete a total of 15 JUS credits.
- Native Hebrew speakers require the advance approval of the JUS Undergraduate Advisor before they enroll in this concentration.
- Completing the JUS Minor with Hebrew Language Concentration, including HEB 201 and/or 202 will be counted as fulfilling the requirement of a foreign language.

General Comments

- A grade of “C-” or better must be attained in each course taken for the Minor, with an overall GPA of 2.0.
- Both JUS Minor concentrations will be listed in the student’s transcript as a “Minor in Judaic Studies.”
- Each of the JUS Minor concentrations are eligible to qualify as a cognate in either “Arts and Humanities” or “People and Society”. Students are encouraged to contact the JUS Undergraduate Advisor, who will make the determination based on whether at least three courses of the JUS Minor count toward either “Arts and Humanities” or “People and Society”.

JUDAIC STUDIES COURSES AT A GLANCE

Spring 2027

NUMBER	COMBINED with	TITLE	DAYS	TIME	INSTRUCTOR
JUS 301-5T	REL 406-5T, ARC 589-5T, ARC 689-5T,	Studies in Judaica: Sacred Space	Th	5:05pm – 7:50pm	Dennis H Hector, William Scott Green, Kim Grinfeder
JUS 301-K	ENG 365-K	Studies in Judaica: Literature of the Holocaust	Mo, We	6:35pm – 7:50pm	Emmy Waldman
JUS 301-P	REL 111-P	Studies in Judaica: Introduction to the Bible (Tanakh/OT)	Tu, Th	11:00am – 12:15pm	Dexter E. Callender
JUS 301-Q	GEG 382-Q, INS 310-Q	Studies in Judaica: Political Geography of the Middle East	Tu, Th	12:30pm – 1:45pm	Ira M. Sheskin
JUS 301-Q2	ENG 364-Q, REL 405-Q, HIS 396-Q, LAS 350-Q, AMS 337-Q2	Studies in Judaica: The American Sephardi Experience: From the Constitution to AI	Tu, Th	12:30pm – 1:45pm	Shai Cohen
JUS 301-R	REL 406-R, MCY 540-R, MCY 640-R	Studies in Judaica: Music & Religion	Tu, Th	2pm – 3:15pm	William Scott Green, Melvin L. Butler
JUS 301-S	REL 311-S	Studies in Judaica: Prophecy and Prophetic Literature in the Hebrew Bible	Tu, Th	3:30pm – 4:45pm	Dexter E. Callender
JUS 360-1T	REL 334-1T	Hollywood & Popular Culture: The American Jewish Experience	Tu	5:05pm – 7:50pm	Henry A. Green
JUS 401-1G	REL 409-1G	Studies in Judaica: Ethnic Cleansing, Human Rights, and Freedom of Religion	Mo	2:30pm – 5:15pm	Henry A. Green
JUS 401-4J	REL 406-4J, JUS 410-4J, POL 596-4J,	Studies in Judaica: Law and Freedom	We	5:05pm – 7:50pm	William Scott Green, Hilarie Bass

	BSL 498-4J				
JUS 410-R	POL 387-R	Special Topics: Politics of the Middle East	Tu, Th	2:00pm – 3:15pm	Bradford R. McGuinn
JUS 410-S	POL 348-S	Special Topics: United States Relations with the Middle East	Tu, Th	3:30pm – 4:45pm	Bradford R. McGuinn
JUS 421-01	N/A	Internship in Judaic Studies	TBA	TBA	Haim Shaked
JUS 498	N/A	Senior Thesis	TBA	TBA	Haim Shaked
JUS 499	N/A	Senior Thesis	TBA	TBA	Haim Shaked
HEB 102-O	HEB 642-O	Elementary Hebrew II	Tu, Th	9:30am – 10:45am	Shai Cohen
HEB 202-P	HEB 652-P	Intermediate Hebrew II	Tu, Th	11:00am – 12:15pm	Shai Cohen
MLL 394-T	ARB 394-T, ITA 394-T, SPA 394-T FRE 394-T GER 394-T POR 394-T CHI 394-T JPN 394-T	MLL Internship	Tu, Th	5:05pm – 6:30pm	Shai Cohen
HIS 284-S	N/A	The Second World War	Tu, Th	3:30pm – 4:45pm	Hermann Beck
HIS 544-4G	N/A	Modern European History: The Foreign Policy of Nazi Germany, 1933-1941	We	2:30pm – 5:15pm	Hermann Beck

Spring 2027 Course Descriptions

Courses are listed in alphanumerical order starting with the course designation and number (not by course title). **Listings include** JUS courses from other departments included within the Judaic Studies degree audit.

JUDAIC STUDIES PROGRAM

JUS 301

Studies in Judaica: Sacred Space

Combined with: ARC 689-5T / ARC 589-5T

Instructor(s): William Scott Green & Denis H. Hector

Section: 5T

An inter-disciplinary seminar, SACRED SPACE explores the multiple and layered intersections of religion and architecture, through a close study of contemporary and historic religious buildings across culture, time and place. Students and Faculty investigate if, how, and to what extent architecture and the sacred require one another.

JUS 301

Studies in Judaica: Literature of the Holocaust

Combined with: ENG 365-K

Instructor(s): Emmy Waldman

Section: K

From secret sketches smuggled out of internment camps to today's explosion of non-fiction graphic literature, graphic narrative has emerged as a crucial site for witnessing genocides, past and present. Once derided as worthless fish-wrap, comics today risk representing the "unrepresentable." This course explores how visual-verbal texts that unfold sequentially have transformed the ways we think and talk about the Holocaust, trauma and its intergenerational transmission, (post)memory, and the ethical possibilities of "art after Auschwitz." Beginning with primary witness accounts and early visual records created during the war (Charlotte Salomon's painted song-play *Life? or Theater?* and Alfred Kantor's camp sketchbooks), and progressing through the longform works of Art Spiegelman, Miriam Katin, Amy Kurzweil, Berenice Eisenstein, and others, we will trace how survivors and their descendants mobilize the resources of the graphic to capture historical trauma at the limits of representability.

JUS 301

Studies in Judaica: Introduction to the Bible (Tanakh/OT)

Combined with: REL 111-P

Instructor(s): Dexter E. Callender

Section: P

An exploration of the origins of the Tanakh/Old Testament within its ancient historical and cultural world and how it has been interpreted across Jewish, Christian, and other communities from antiquity to the present. We will examine major social, cultural, and theological themes through close readings of biblical and related texts and consider how these texts continue to shape contemporary discussions.

JUS 301

Studies in Judaica: Political Geography of the Middle East

Combined with: GEG 382-Q / INS 310-Q

Instructor(s): Ira M. Sheskin

Section: Q

Geography of the Middle East with emphasis on current political topics.

JUS 301**Studies in Judaica: The American Sephardi Experience: From the Constitution to AI****Combined with: ENG 364-Q / REL 405-Q / HIS 396-Q / LAS 350-Q / AMS 337-Q2****Instructor(s): Shai Cohen****Section: Q2**

Explores Sephardic contributions to the founding of the United States through historical sources and an international exhibition, while teaching students to apply AI and digital humanities tools to research, cultural heritage, and public history projects.

JUS 301**Studies in Judaica: Music & Religion****Combined with: REL 406-R / MCY 540-R / MCY 640-R****Instructor(s): William Scott Green & Melvin L. Butler****Section: R**

Music and Religion are fundamental aspects of human existence, evidence of which goes back some 30,000 years. This seminar course will explore musical and religious experiences in human history and the use of music within major religious traditions. It will include specific study of some of the major monuments of sacred music of the western classical tradition.

JUS 301**Studies in Judaica: Prophecy and Prophetic Literature in the Hebrew Bible****Combined with: REL 311-S****Instructor(s): Dexter E. Callender****Section: S**

Prophecy in ancient Israel and Judah and the prophetic literature of the Hebrew Bible in relation to its ancient near-eastern historical, religious, and social context.

JUS 360**Hollywood and Popular Culture: The American Jewish Experience****Combined with: REL 334-1T****Instructor(s): Henry A. Green****Section: 1T**

Analysis and interpretation of Hollywood and popular culture with a focus on the image of the Jew and the Jewish experience. The tension between maintaining an ethnic identity and assimilating in the face of modernity is examined from the roaring twenties to Gen Z. Using the documentary film, *The Tribe* (Barbie), the course as a window to the complex industry in which ownership, production, and marketing are intertwined with the film.

JUS 401**Studies in Judaica: Ethnic Cleansing, Human Rights, and Freedom of Religion****Combined with: REL 409-1G****Instructor(s): Henry A. Green****Section: 1G**

Over the last 70 years, millions of people have been displaced from North Africa and the Middle East: Copts (Egypt), Jews (from North Africa and the Middle East), Kurds and Yazidis (Iraq), Palestinians (Israel), and Syrians. The course examines the reasons why these minorities and populations have been displaced. Highlighting the International Declaration of Human Rights in the wake of the Holocaust (1951), the course requires students to document the testimonies of these refugees. The narratives include life in their countries of origin, their story of leaving and their experience of resettling in a new country. Core themes such as racism, religion, human rights, transnational identity, exile, diaspora, migration and lack of inclusiveness and equity, are central to the course.

JUS 401

Studies in Judaica: Law and Freedom**Combined with: REL 406-4J / JUS 410-4J / POL 596-4J / BSL 498-4J****Instructor(s): William Scott Green & Hilarie Bass****Section: 4J**

This discussion-based seminar examines how American law shapes and has shaped people's freedom. Together, we will explore, from varied perspectives, key legal decisions that have both enhanced and constrained the exercise of the "liberty" promised in the preambles to the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution. The course will address topics such as speech, religion, privacy, and equal rights. Course members may suggest other topics as well.

JUS 410**Special Topics: Politics of the Middle East****Combined with: POL 387-R****Instructor(s): Bradford R. McGuinn****Section: R**

Comparative analysis of the political development of the Middle East in terms of nations and as a region. Particular stress is on the relationships within the region and with other regions of the world.

JUS 410**Special Topics: United States Relations with the Middle East****Combined with: POL 348-S****Instructor(s): Bradford R. McGuinn****Section: S**

Evolution of American relations with the Middle East. Analysis of the motivations and calculations, including domestic and external sources of policy-making and implementation. Emphasis on post-World War II period, with particular attention to the current administration.

JUS 421**Internship in Judaic Studies****Instructor(s): Haim Shaked****Section: 01**

Prescribed study and supervised work with practitioners in Judaic services.

JUS 498**Senior Thesis****Instructor(s): Haim Shaked****Section: 01**

Partial requirement for Departmental Honors in Judaic Studies. Thesis to be a documented essay in any area of Judaic Studies written under the direction of a member of the faculty.

JUS 499**Senior Thesis****Instructor(s): Haim Shaked****Section: 01**

Partial requirement for Departmental Honors in Judaic Studies. Thesis to be a documented essay in any area of Judaic Studies written under the direction of a member of the faculty.

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

HEB 102**Elementary Hebrew II**

Combined with:
Instructor(s): Shai Cohen
Section: O

Continuation of HEB 101. Closed to native speakers.

HEB 202
Intermediate Hebrew II
Combined with:
Instructor(s): Shai Cohen
Section: P

Continuation of 201 with oral presentations, compositions, and grammar review. Class conducted in Hebrew. Closed to native speakers.

MLL 394
MLL Internship
Combined with: ARB 394-T / ITA 394-T / SPA 394-T / FRE 394-T / GER 394-T / POR 394-T / CHI 394-T / JPN 394-T
Instructor(s): Shai Cohen
Section: T

Internships are intended to provide students with an opportunity to apply analytical, creative, community and professional based knowledge developed in other courses. Internships can take place in the University or outside the University. They involve UM-faculty supervision as well as supervised on-site experience. Internships may not be supervised by a member of the student's immediate family. One person may not serve as both the faculty sponsor and the on-site/UM experience supervisor. Students need to fill out the internship application form. MLL 394 counts as the course in English allowed in the target language concentration. Normally 27 internship hours are required per credit earned. (The on-site supervisor or faculty supervising the work experience done at UM will supply documentary evidence of hours worked to Faculty supervisor.) A maximum of three semester hours of internship credit may be counted toward the student's degree program. Permission of MLL faculty member is required.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

HIS 284
The Second World War
Instructor(s): Dr. Hermann Beck
Section: S

This lecture course offers a comprehensive history of the Second World War, including a detailed analysis of its diplomatic origins, the military and political course of events, and the consequences of this world-wide conflagration -- the Cold War. The course begins with an examination of the diplomatic roots of the war and then concentrates on the sequence of military events, as well as the economic, scientific, and psychological dimensions of the conflict. Topics of discussion include: The first phase of the war from the German attack on Poland to Operation Barbarossa; collaboration and resistance in Nazi-occupied Europe; the war of extermination on the eastern front; the connection between the Holocaust and the war in the East; the conflict in the Far East; D-Day and the dramatic conclusion of the war in Europe; the end of the Grand Coalition and the origins of the Cold War; and the war's political, social, and cultural impact on subsequent generations.

HIS 544
Modern European History: The Foreign Policy of Nazi Germany, 1933-1941
Instructor(s): Hermann Beck
Section: 4G

This seminar focuses on the foreign policies of Nazi Germany (1933-1941) and the origins of the Second World War.