Jewish Studies

Overview

UC Berkeley has long been a national leader in Jewish Studies, especially notable for the innovative scholarship promoted in its graduate program. The Center for Jewish Studies provides a strong new focus and a vivid presence for the many varied activities associated with Jewish Studies on the Berkeley campus. It oversees the Designated Emphasis in Jewish Studies for graduate students and the undergraduate minor in Jewish Studies. Additionally, the center is home to UC Berkeley's two annual endowed lecture series, sponsors conferences and public lectures, offers a congenial setting for graduate student colloquia, and serves as an attractive meeting place for the many visiting scholars in the field who come to UC Berkeley each year.

Campus Partners

The Berkeley Institute for Jewish Law and Israel Studies (http://www.law.berkeley.edu/JLILES.htm) is an interdisciplinary initiative to expand Jewish and Israel Studies offerings at UC Berkeley coordinated by faculty in Political Science, Sociology, Economics, Comparative Literature, History, and Music, as well as in the Law, Journalism, and Business Schools.

The Magnes Collection of Jewish Life and Art (https://magnes.berkeley.edu) was established in 2010 at the Bancroft Library after the transfer of the Judah L. Magnes Museum to UC Berkeley. The Magnes is one of the world's preeminent Jewish collections in a university setting. It offers highly innovative and accessible resources to researchers on campus, enables hands-on learning for students interested in Jewish Studies students, offers a venue for important programming, and provides fellowships for students working on Jewish culture.

The UC Berkeley Judaica collection (http://jewishstudies.berkeley.edu/affiliates-resources/judaica-collection) supports the research of students involved in the graduate Jewish Studies Designated Emphasis and the undergraduate minor and the instructional activities of faculty and students in a number of interdisciplinary fields. These fields include Near Eastern languages and literature; Talmudic studies, including the Babylonian and Palestinian Talmuds and subsequent texts and commentaries; rabbinic, medieval, and modern Jewish history throughout the world; modern Jewish thought; and comparative literature, including works in Hebrew, Yiddish, English, and other languages.

Undergraduate Program

Jewish Studies (http://guide.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/degree-programs/jewish-studies): Minor

Graduate Program

Jewish Studies (http://guide.berkeley.edu/graduate/degree-programs/jewish-studies): Designated Emphasis (DE)

Above photo courtesy of The Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life

Jewish Studies

Expand all course descriptions [+]Collapse all course descriptions [-]
JEWH 296 Jewish Studies DE Dissertation Research and Writing Credit 1 - 12 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2011, Fall 2010, Spring 2010
The course is offered to graduate students in the Designated Emphasis (DE) in Jewish studies to provide course credit for conducting dissertation research and dissertation writing, only after the student has successfully advanced to candidacy.
Jewish Studies DE Dissertation Research and Writing Credit: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Advancement to doctoral candidacy
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-12 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Jewish Studies/Graduate
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.
Instructor: Kronfeld
Jewish Studies DE Dissertation Research and Writing Credit: Read Less [-]

JEWH 299 Individual Study and Research - Jewish Studies 1 - 5 Units
Terms offered: Spring 2014, Fall 2012, Fall 2011
Topics and instructors will vary depending upon area of study. Special individual study for qualified graduate students only. Individual study and research, including fieldwork, in consultation with instructor on subject matter not covered in scheduled course offerings.
Individual Study and Research - Jewish Studies: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Graduate standing and consent of instructor
Repeat rules: Course may be repeated for credit without restriction.
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-5 hours of independent study per week
Summer: 8 weeks - 1.5-9 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Jewish Studies/Graduate
Grading: Letter grade.
Individual Study and Research - Jewish Studies: Read Less [-]

JEWH 602 Jewish Studies DE Exam Preparation 1 - 8 Units
Terms offered: Fall 2012, Fall 2011, Spring 2011
The course is offered to graduate students in the Designated Emphasis (DE) in Jewish studies to provide opportunities for directed qualifying exam preparation prior to advancement to candidacy.
Jewish Studies DE Exam Preparation: Read More [+]
Rules & Requirements
Prerequisites: Advancement to doctoral candidacy
Hours & Format
Fall and/or spring: 15 weeks - 1-12 hours of independent study per week
Additional Details
Subject/Course Level: Jewish Studies/Graduate examination preparation
Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.
Jewish Studies DE Exam Preparation: Read Less [-]