MINOR IN JEWISH STUDIES

Program Learning Outcomes for the Minor in Jewish Studies

Upon completing the minor in Jewish Studies, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of key Jewish religious traditions, texts, and figures throughout history, from the ancient to the contemporary, as well as the place of those traditions, texts, and figures within specific historical, geographical, or sociopolitical contexts.

2. Demonstrate knowledge of Jewish history and culture during different time periods and in different geographical locations.

3. Demonstrate the ability to understand and apply theories and methods from multiple disciplines—including religious studies, literature, history, film, and sociology—to address key issues or undertake research in the field of Jewish studies; synthesize theories and methods from multiple disciplines to address questions within the field of Jewish studies.

4. Demonstrate the ability to read and interpret primary and secondary texts critically, including ancient as well as modern literature, religious texts, film, and modern scholarship; demonstrate the ability to use these texts to develop and support evidence-based research questions and arguments in discussions, verbal presentations, and in research papers.

5. Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively in writing and orally at the college level; this includes demonstrating the ability to communicate in a critical, scholarly manner by developing evidence-based research questions and arguments, using and citing evidence to support argumentation, and writing and speaking clearly and correctly.

Requirements for the Minor in Jewish Studies

Students pursuing the minor in Jewish Studies must complete:

- A minimum of 6 courses (18-21 credit hours, depending on course selection) to satisfy minor requirements.

- A minimum of 3 courses (9 credit hours) taken at the 300-level or above.

- A maximum of 3 courses (9 credit hours) from study abroad or transfer credit. For additional program guidelines regarding transfer credit, see the Policies tab.

- A maximum of 2 courses from Hebrew (HEBR) course offerings.

- A maximum of 2 courses from Religion (RELI) course offerings.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this minor. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the minor's academic advisor, or where applicable, the Program Director. (Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the minor's Official Certifier [https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/]). Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

### Summary

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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### Minor Requirements

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<td>3-4</td>
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### Core Requirement

Select 1 course from the following:

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### Elective Requirements

Select 1 elective course from Language and Literature (see course list below) 3-4

Select 1 elective course from History and Culture (see course list below) 3-4

Select 1 elective course from Thought, Philosophy, and Ethics (see course list below) 3

Select 2 additional elective courses (see course lists below) 6

Total Credit Hours 18-21

### Course Lists to Satisfy Requirements

#### Elective Requirements

To fulfill the remaining Jewish Studies minor requirements, students must complete a total of 5 additional courses (15-17 credit hours, depending on course selection) from the following categories as listed below. At least 1 course (3 credit hours) must be completed from each of the three categories. If a course is listed in more than one category, students can elect a category for which the course counts, yet each course can apply to only one category. Two additional electives (6 credit hours) must be selected from any of the approved Jewish Studies coursework to total 5 elective courses (15 credit hours).

### Language and Literature

Select at least 1 course from the following:

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<td>ISRAEL: LANGUAGE AND CULTURE II</td>
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<tr>
<td>JWST 317</td>
<td>JEWISH GRAPHIC NOVEL</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<td>JWST 318 / SWGS 318</td>
<td>ISRAELI WOMEN WRITERS</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>JWST 348 / SWGS 348</td>
<td>SEX AND GENDER IN MODERN JEWISH CULTURE</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>JWST 351 / FILM 351</td>
<td>HOLOCAUST REPRESENTATION IN LITERATURE, ART, AND FILM</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGL 265</td>
<td>JEWISH-AMERICAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>FWIS 177</td>
<td>BIZARRE BIBLICAL STORIES</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>GERM 325 / HUMA 325</td>
<td>MODERN GERMAN WRITERS: KAFKA</td>
<td>3-4</td>
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Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.
GERM 329 / HUMA 329 LITERATURE OF THE HOLOCAUST AND EXILE
GERM 351 / HART 387 HOLOCAUST MEMORY IN MODERN GERMANY
HEBR 125 / RELI 125 INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW I
HEBR 126 / RELI 126 INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW II
RELI 213 THE PROPHET JEREMIAH: THE BIBLICAL BOOK AND ITS RECEPTION IN JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY
RELI 243 THE BOOK OF GENESIS
RELI 318 THE BIBLE: A BRIEF INTELLECTUAL HISTORY
RELI 339 APOCALYPSE THEN AND NOW
RELI 381 THE MESSIAH
RELI 382 LOST JUDAISMS: THE APOCRYPHAL WRITINGS
RELI 383 THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS
RELI 388 THE PSALMS AND THEIR POETIC AFTERLIFE

History and Culture

Select at least 1 course from the following:

FWIS 124 WITNESSING THE HOLOCAUST
FWIS 199 JEWS ON FILM: CINEMATIC REPRESENTATIONS OF JEWISH LIFE
GERM 336 NATIONAL SOCIALISM AND FILM
GERM 351 / HART 387 HOLOCAUST MEMORY IN MODERN GERMANY
GERM 425 VIENNA AND ITS PEOPLE
HIST 205 / MDEM 205 MEDIEVAL MEDITERRANEAN WORLD
HIST 316 JEWS AND CHRISTIANS IN THE MEDIEVAL ISLAMIC WORLD
HIST 324 / MDEM 324 COEXISTENCE IN MEDIEVAL SPAIN
HIST 357 / MDEM 357 JEWS AND CHRISTIANS IN MEDIEVAL EUROPE
HIST 374 JEWISH HISTORY, 1500-1948
HART 435 / HIST 443 / MDEM 435 MULTICULTURAL EUROPE, 1400-1700
JWST 301 JEWISH FOOD: RELIGION, CULTURE, AND CONSUMPTION FROM THE BIBLE TO BAGELS
JWST 325 ARCHIVAL RESEARCH AND HISTORICAL METHODS: JEWISH HOUSTON
JWST 348 / SWGS 348 SEX AND GENDER IN MODERN JEWISH CULTURE
JWST 351 / FILM 351 HOLOCAUST REPRESENTATION IN LITERATURE, ART, AND FILM
MDEM 377 / HART 377 MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS

Select at least 1 course from the following:

RELI 104 / MDEM 103 INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH MYSTICISM
RELI 108 INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM
RELI 122 THE BIBLE AND ITS INTERPRETERS
RELI 215 / FILM 215 MYSTIC CINEMA: KABBALAH IN FILM
RELI 302 PEOPLE OF THE BOOK: JUDAISM AND SCRIPTURE
RELI 383 THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS
RELI 385 / HIST 381 GOD, TIME AND HISTORY
RELI 392 JERUSALEM: HOLY CITY IN TIME AND IMAGINATION
SOCI 363 AFRICAN AMERICAN-JEWISH RELATIONS: RACE, RELIGION, POLITICS, AND POPULAR CULTURE

Thought, Philosophy, and Ethics

Select at least 1 course from the following:

GERM 322 / HUMA 322 MARX, FREUD, EINSTEIN: FOREBEARERS OF MODERNITY
HART 435 / MDEM 435 MULTICULTURAL EUROPE, 1400-1700
JWST 348 / SWGS 348 SEX AND GENDER IN MODERN JEWISH CULTURE
MDEM 116 / RELI 116 MYSTICISM THROUGHOUT THE AGES
RELI 104 / MDEM 103 INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH MYSTICISM
RELI 122 THE BIBLE AND ITS INTERPRETERS
RELI 302 PEOPLE OF THE BOOK: JUDAISM AND SCRIPTURE
RELI 318 THE BIBLE: A BRIEF INTELLECTUAL HISTORY
RELI 363 JEWISH PHILOSOPHY: GREAT THINKERS AND THEMES IN JEWISH THOUGHT
RELI 381 THE MESSIAH
RELI 385 / HIST 381 GOD, TIME AND HISTORY

Policies for the Minor in Jewish Studies

The courses used to meet the Jewish Studies minor are open to all students at Rice from all backgrounds. Our classes meet student interests in Jewish experience and its importance for history, literature, art, politics, law, and philosophy.

Program Restrictions

Students pursuing the minor in Jewish Studies should be aware of the following program restriction:

• As noted in Majors, Minors, and Certificates (https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/majors-minors-certificates/), i.) students may declare their intent to pursue a minor
only after they have first declared a major, and ii.) students may not major and minor in the same subject.

**Transfer Credit**

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see [Transfer Credit](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit/). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. The Office of Academic Advising maintains the university's official list of transfer credit advisors on their website: [https://oaa.rice.edu](https://oaa.rice.edu). Students are encouraged to meet with their academic program's transfer credit advisor when considering transfer credit possibilities.

**Program Transfer Credit Guidelines**

Students pursuing the minor in Jewish Studies should be aware of the following program-specific transfer credit guidelines:

- No more than 3 courses (9 credit hours) of transfer credit from U.S. or international universities of similar standing as Rice may apply towards the minor.
- Requests for transfer credit will be considered by the program director (and/or the program's official transfer credit advisor) on an individual case-by-case basis.

**Distribution Credit Information**

The determination of distribution eligibility is done as part of the new course creation process ([https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess/](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess/)). As part of an annual roll call ([https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit/](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit/)) coordinated each Spring by the Office of the Registrar, course distribution eligibility is reviewed and reaffirmed by the Dean's Offices of each of the academic schools.

Faculty and leadership in the academic schools are responsible for ensuring that the courses identified as distribution-eligible meet the criteria as set in the General Announcements ([https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text)). Students are responsible for ensuring that they meet graduation requirements ([https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text)) by completing coursework designated as distribution at the time of course registration.

Distribution courses from Jewish Studies (JWST) are broad in theme and scope and prompt students to consider the ways in which the study of Jewish history, culture, and religious practice inform the general study of the Humanities. Like the field of Jewish Studies itself, these courses are interdisciplinary in nature and offer students tools for making critical arguments about what Jewish history and culture can teach us about broader historical and cultural questions. Most of these courses are introductions to basic elements of the study of Judaism and Jewish culture.

**Additional Information**

For additional information, please see the Jewish Studies website: [https://jewishstudies.rice.edu](https://jewishstudies.rice.edu).

**Opportunities for the Minor in Jewish Studies**

**Academic Honors**

The university recognizes academic excellence achieved over an undergraduate's academic history at Rice. For information on university honors, please see [Latin Honors](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/) (summa cum laude, magna cum laude, and cum laude) and [Distinction in Research and Creative Work](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/). Some departments have department-specific Honors awards or designations.

**Additional Information**

For additional information, please see the Jewish Studies website: [https://jewishstudies.rice.edu](https://jewishstudies.rice.edu/)

See [https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life](https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life) for tables of fellowships, prizes, and internships/practica that may be relevant to this minor.