

JEWISH STUDIES, MINOR

College of Letters & Science

Minor

Sven-Erik Rose, Ph.D., Program Director; term ends June 30, 2026.

Department Office

2216 Social Sciences & Humanities Building; 530-752-9241; Jewish Studies (<http://jewishstudies.ucdavis.edu>); Faculty (<https://jewishstudies.ucdavis.edu/core-faculty/>)

The Program in Jewish Studies offers students the opportunity to explore Jewish history, communities, literature, religion, and culture in a comparative perspective and multicultural framework. Courses include Hebrew language instruction as well as the study of classical and modern Jewish texts in translation.

The interdisciplinary minor in Jewish Studies provides an introduction to the study of Jewish culture, thought, history, and literature. Students learn a broad range of methodologies and critical concepts in these areas and gain insight into the relationship between Jewish identities, histories, and representations and those of the cultures in which Jews throughout the world have lived.

The Program in Jewish Studies will be of special interest to students in History, Religious Studies, Comparative Literature and Sociology as well as other fields in the Humanities & Social Sciences.

Advising

Jewish Studies Advising Contact (theadvisingcenter@ucdavis.edu)

Code	Title	Units
Choose one:		4
HIS 011	History of the Jewish People in the Modern World	
JST 010	Introduction to Jewish Cultures	
RST 012	Emergence of Judaism, Christianity & Islam	
RST 021	The Bible & Its Interpreters	
RST 023	Introduction to Judaism	
Choose four:		16
COM 147	Modern Jewish Writers	
ENL 171A	The Bible as Literature: The Old Testament (Discontinued for winter 2026) **	
GER/JST 116	Readings in Jewish Writing & Thought in German Culture	
GER 117	After the Catastrophe: Jews & Jewish Life in Post-1945 Germany	
GER 127	Major Writers in German (When course covers a Jewish writer)	
GER 141	The Holocaust & its Literary Representation	
HIS 011	History of the Jewish People in the Modern World	
HIS 110	Themes in World History (When topic is Antisemitism & Islamophobia)	
HIS 112A	Topics in Pre-Modern Jewish History	
HIS 112B	Topics in Modern Jewish History	
HIS 112C	History of Jews in the Muslim World	

HIS 113	History of Modern Palestine/Israel
HIS 142A	History of the Holocaust
HIS 142B	The Memory of the Holocaust
JST 101	Topics in Jewish Thought
JST 110	Selected Topics in Jewish Literature
JST 111	Israeli Writing Since 1960
JST 112	Readings in Jewish Writing & Thought in German Culture
JST 120	Cinema & the American Jewish Experience
JST 121	Oral History & Jewish Life
RST 012	Emergence of Judaism, Christianity & Islam
RST 102	Christian Origins
RST 123	Sex & Gender in the Bible
RST 124	Topics in Judaism
RST 125	Dead Sea Scrolls, Apocrypha, & Pseudepigrapha
RST 126	The Formation of the Rabbinic Tradition
RST 130	Topics in Religious Studies (When topic is Doom: The End of the World & After)
RST 135	The Bible & Film
RUS 120	Topics in Russian Literature & Culture (When topic is Jews in Russian Literature & Culture)
POL 135	International Politics of the Middle East
POL 136	The Arab-Israeli Conflict
POL 179	Special Studies in Comparative Politics (When topic is Israeli Politics)
SOC 174	American Jewish Identities & Communities

Total Units **20**

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Course(s) discontinued; see your advisor for course options.