

College of Arts and Sciences

Jewish Studies

B.A. in Jewish Studies

Admission to the Program

Formal admission to the major requires a grade point average of 2.00 (on a 4.00 scale) and the approval of the director of the program.

University Requirements

- A total of 120 credit hours
- 6 credit hours of college writing
- 3 credit hours of college mathematics or the equivalent by examination

General Education Requirements

- A total of ten courses, consisting of one foundation course and one second-level course in an approved sequence from each of the five curricular areas
- No more than 6 credit hours may be taken in the same discipline

Major Requirements

- 39 credit hours with grades of C or better

Course Requirements

- HEBR-216 Hebrew, Intermediate Modern I (3)
- HEBR-217 Hebrew, Intermediate Modern II (3)
or equivalent proficiency in Hebrew as approved by the Jewish Studies faculty.

Note: HEBR-116/HEBR-117 Hebrew, Elementary Modern I/II are prerequisites for the language requirement but do not count toward the major.

- HIST-245 Modern Jewish Civilization (3)
 - JWST-205 Ancient and Medieval Jewish Civilization 2:2 (3)
 - JWST-481 Senior Thesis in Jewish Studies I (3)
 - JWST-482 Senior Thesis in Jewish Studies II (3)
 - One course in Jewish literature
 - One course in Jewish thought
 - One course in contemporary Jewish life
 - 12 additional credit hours in Jewish Studies
- Eighteen of the total 39 hours must be at the 300 level or above. Related courses from other university departments may be used with approval of the program director.

University Honors Program

All University Honors students must complete at least 12 credit hours of advanced-level (300-level and above) Honors courses including a 3 to 6 credit hour Honors Senior Capstone Project. Students may graduate with University Honors in the major if they complete at least 12 advanced-level Honors courses including the Senior Capstone Project in the department. Each department has three levels of University Honors requirements: Level I Options (100-200-level Honors classes); Level II Options (300-level and above Honors classes); and Level III Options (Honors Senior Capstone). The department Honors coordinator advises students in the University Honors Program regarding departmental options. For more information, go to www.american.edu/academic.depts/honors/.

Minor in Jewish Studies

- 18 credit hours with grades of C or better and at least 12 credit hours unique to the minor; 9 of the 18 credit hours must be at the 300 level or above

Course Requirements

- HIST-245 Modern Jewish Civilization (3)
- JWST-205 Ancient and Medieval Jewish Civilization 2:2 (3)
- One course in Jewish literature
- One course in Jewish thought
- One course in contemporary Jewish life
- One additional course in Jewish studies

Minor in Israel Studies

The minor in Israel Studies is an interdisciplinary program that draws on faculty and courses related to Israel from across the campus. Students take three core courses focused on the history and civilization of Israel and the relationships between Israel and the Arab world. They then take 9 additional credit hours in approved elective course work. Students in the minor are encouraged to study abroad in Israel and to take Hebrew language courses.

Admission to the Program

Formal admission to the minor requires a grade point average of 2.00 and approval of the program director.

Requirements

- 18 credit hours with grades of C or better with at least 12 credit hours unique to the minor and at least 9 credit hours at the 300 level or above

Course Requirements

Core (9 credit hours)

- HIST-245 Modern Jewish Civilization (3)
- HIST-343 History of Israel (3)
- SIS-365 Arab-Israeli Relations (3)

Electives (9 credit hours)

- 9 credit hours from the following with approval of the program director:
 - HIST-344 Topics in Jewish History (3) (approved topics)
 - JWST-320 Topics in Jewish Culture (3) (approved topics)
 - JWST-390 Independent Reading (1-6)
 - JWST-490 Independent Study (1-6)
 - JWST-491 Internship (1-6)
 - SIS-400 Senior Seminar in International Relations (3):
Israeli Identity
- Study abroad in Israel is highly recommended and with approval of the program director courses taken abroad may fulfill minor requirements