



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

Judaic Studies Program

Spring 2025



Haim Shaked, Ph.D.

Director and Student Advisor

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TBA

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<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 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://sp.library.miami.edu/subjects/JudaicStudies#tab-0>

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 365 Literature of the Holocaust (M) (F/S)
 ENG 384 Bible as Literature (A) (F/S)
 ENG 364 Sephardic Literature
 ENG 368 Representation of Arabs and Jews in Israeli and Palestinian Literature and Film

Geography

GEG 382 Geography of the Middle East (M) (S)
 GEG 385 Jewish Geography (M) (A/O)

History

HIS 282 History of Zionism (M) (AO)
 HIS 284 History of World War II combined w/ JUS 410 (S)
 HIS 338 Holocaust in Historical Perspective (M) combined w/ JUS 338 (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): Nazi Germany: The Peacetime Years 1933-1939 (F/S)

International Studies

INS 324 History of Zionism (M)(AO)
 INS 325 Israel: The Making of a State (M)(AO)
 INS 352 Panoramic View of the Middle East (M)(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: Sephardi and Chat GPT – AI as a Digital Frontier in Cultural Heritage combined w/ JUS 410 (F/S)
 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 or Religion and Sacred Space in an Era of Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality (A/M) (F/S)
 JUS 410 Special Topics (F/S): combined w/HIS 544
 JUS 410 Special Topics: combined w/ JUS 301
 JUS 410 Special Topics: combined w/ POL 387
 JUS 410 Special Topics: combined w/ POL 348

JUS 324 History of Zionism (M)(AO)
 JUS 325 Israel: The Making of a State(AO)
 JUS 338 History of the Holocaust (M) combined w/ INS 310, REL 405 and HIS 338 (F)

JUS 340 History of Modern Germany Since 1815(AO)
 JUS 352 Panoramic View of the Middle East (M)(AO)

JUS 410 Special Topics: combined w/HIS 284
 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 Politics 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 Archaeological 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
S	Spring Session
Su	Summer Session
AO	Offered by Announcement Only

University of Miami Faculty Teaching Courses in or for JUS

<p>Dr. Hermann Beck* <i>History</i> 603 Ashe, L.C. 4662 hbeck@miami.edu (305) 284-5947</p>	<p>Kineret Ben-Knaan <i>JUS Librarian</i> Richter Library 1300 Memorial Drive kbenknaan@miami.edu (305) 284-3077</p>	<p>Dr. Dexter E. Callender, Jr.* <i>Religious Studies</i> 506 Ashe, L.C. 4672 ec@miami.edu (305) 284-3695</p>
<p>Dr. Shai Cohen* <i>Modern Languages and Literature</i> 5202 University Dr scx2208@miami.edu</p>	<p>Dr. Henry Green <i>Religious Studies</i> 501 Ashe, L.C. 4651 hgreen@miami.edu (305) 284-4375</p>	<p>Dr. William S. Green <i>Religious Studies</i> 240 Ashe, L.C. 4628 wgreen@miami.edu (305) 284-2006</p>
<p>Mr. Avi Hoffman <i>Theatre Arts</i> avihoffman33@gmail.com</p>	<p>Dr. Bradford McGuinn <i>Political Science</i> 1300 Campo Sano, Suite 215 bmcguinn@miami.edu (305) 284-8353</p>	<p>Mr. Arnold Mittelman <i>Theatre Arts</i> amittelman@bellsouth.net amittelman1@icloud.com</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>Dr. Ira Sheskin* <i>Geography and Sustainable Development</i> 1300 Campo Sano, Suite 115 isheskin@miami.edu (305) 284-6693</p>	<p>Dr. Golda Retchkiman <i>International Studies</i> 1306 Stanford Drive- Whitten University Center gxr673@miami.edu (305) 213- 3099</p>

*Members of the JUS Advisory Committee

THE JUDAIC STUDIES MAJOR

(30 Credits; 10 Courses)

- 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. Students who complete HEB 201 need only complete 6 credits 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.

Judaic Studies Minor (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.

Judaic Studies Minor (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”.

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.

Judaic Studies Courses at a Glance

Spring 2025

NUMBER	COMBINED with	TITLE	DAYS	TIME	INSTRUCTOR
JUS 201	N/A	Israel: Origins, Culture and Society	TBA	TBA	Dr. Haim Shaked
JUS 231	N/A	Jewish Civilization: Society, Culture and Religion	TBA	TBA	Dr. Haim Shaked
JUS 338	INS 310-R/REL 405-02/ HIS 338-1R	History of the Holocaust	Tue	2:00pm-4:45pm	Dr. Haim Shaked & Dr. Golda Retchkiman
COM 406-4J	JUS 401	Persuasion, Propaganda and Genocide	Wed	5:05pm-7:50pm	Dr. William Scott-Green
ARC 586-5T	JUS 401	Religion and Sacred Space in an Era of Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality	Thu	5:05pm-7:50pm	Dr. William Scott-Green & Dr. Denis Hector & Dr. Kim Grinfeder
JUS 410-Q	HIS 396/JUS 301/LAS 350/SPA 310/MLL 322/ENG 364	Sephardi and ChatGPT: AI as a Digital Frontiers in Cultural Heritage	TTh	12:30pm-1:45pm	Dr. Shai Cohen
POL 387	JUS 410	Politics of the Middle East	TTh	2:00pm-3:15pm	Dr. Bradford McGuinn
POL 348	JUS 410	United States Relations with the Middle East	TTh	3:30pm-4:45pm	Dr. Bradford McGuinn
JUS 421	N/A	Internship in Judaic Studies	TBA	TBA	Dr. Haim Shaked
JUS 498	N/A	Senior Thesis	TBA	TBA	Dr. Haim Shaked
JUS 499	N/A	Senior Thesis	TBA	TBA	Dr. Haim Shaked
HIS 284	JUS 410	The Second World War	TTh	3:30pm-4:45pm	Dr. Hermann Beck
HIS 544	JUS 410	Studies in Modern European History	Wed	2:30pm-5:15pm	Dr. Hermann Beck
REL 101	N/A	Introduction to Religion	ONL	ONL	TBA
HEB 102	N/A	Elementary Hebrew II	TTh	9:30am-10:45am	Dr. Shai Cohen
HEB 202	N/A	Intermediate Hebrew II	TTh	11:00am-12:15pm	Dr. Shai Cohen

Judaic Studies

Spring 2025 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.

DEPARTMENT OF JUDAIC STUDIES

JUS 201

Israel: Origins, Culture and Society

Instructor: Dr. Haim Shaked

Section: 01

The emergence of modern Israel from the inception of Zionism to the present. It will include the structure of the old and new Yishuv (Italics), Immigrations to Eretz Yisrael, British Mandatory rule in Palestine, relationships with great powers, sociological associations and cleavages, Israel-Diaspora relation, American Jewry in Israel, and religion and state in Israel.

JUS 231

Jewish Civilization: Society, Culture and Religion

Instructor: Dr. Haim Shaked

Section: 01

Introduction to Jewish civilization from Abraham to present.

JUS 338

History of the Holocaust

Combined with: INS 310 / REL 405 / HIS 338

Instructor: Dr. Haim Shaked and Dr. Golda Retchkiman

Section: 1R

Focus on the roots, events and results of the Nazis nearly successful annihilation of Jewish men, women, and children living under the Swastika. We will study Hitler's political aims, his Aryan superiority mythology, his domestic and foreign policies, and his conquests. We will also investigate how Germans, admired for their culture, became instruments of mass murder. Also included in this survey are the heroism of Jewish resisters and gentile rescuers who stood in direct opposition to the silence of the Christian churches and inactivity of the nearly all nations in the face of the Jewish disaster.

JUS 410

Special Topics: Sephardi and ChatGPT – AI as a Digital Frontiers in Cultural Heritage

Combined with JUS 301/HIS 396/ LAS 350/ SPA 310/ MLL 322/ ENG 364

Instructor: Dr. Shai Cohen

Section Q

Designed to enable students interested in some phase of Judaic Studies to study extensively in that field of interest.

JUS 421
Internship in Judaic Studies
Instructor: Dr. Haim Shaked
Section:01

Prescribed study and supervised work with practitioners in Judaic services.

JUS 498
Senior Thesis
Instructor: Dr. 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: D.r 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: HEB 642
Instructor: Dr. Shai Cohen
Section: 0

Continuation of [HEB 101](#). Closed to native speakers

HEB 202
Intermediate Hebrew II
Combined with: HEB 652
Instructor: Dr. Shai Cohen

Section: P

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

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

REL 101

Introduction to Religion

Combined with: REL 101-Y/Y1 (Online)

Instructor: TBA

An overview of religious perspectives concerning ultimate reality, humankind, and the world, with special attention to major Asian and Abrahamic religions.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

HIS 284

The Second World War

Combine with: JUS 410

Instructor: Dr. Herman Beck

Section: S

The Second World War: Analysis of its origins, the military and political course of events, and its consequences, such as the cold war.

HIS 544

Studies in Early Modern European History

Combined with: HIS 633/ JUS 410

Instructor: Herman Beck

Section: 4G

Selected topics in European history after the French Revolution. Subtitles describing the topics to be offered will be shown in parentheses in the printed class schedule, following the title.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

POL 387

Politics of the Middle East

Combined with: INS 310/ JUS 410

Instructor: Dr. Bradford 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.

POL 348

United States Relations with the Middle East

Combined with: INS 310/ JUS 410

Instructor: Dr. Bradford 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.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS

COM 406

Special Topics in Communications

Combined with: REL 406

Instructor: Dr. William Scott Green

Section: 4J

Course subject matter varies according to announced special topic. See class schedule for details.

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE

ARC 586

Special Problems

Combined with: CIM 689 / CIM 489

Instructor: Dr. William Scott Green/ Dr. Denis Hector/ Dr. Kim Grinfeder

Section: 5T

Group or individual investigations of significant architectural issues, offered by special arrangement only.