

Minor Program

Judaism in Modernity: At least one JwSt 3xxx course on any aspect of Jewish civilization in the period since 1492 C.E.

Language policy:

- Up to 10 credits of either/both Biblical and Modern Hebrew courses (3xxx or higher) may count toward the minor.
- If shown to be relevant to the student's study of Jewish history and culture, courses in other languages may be substituted (3xxx or higher), by petition to the Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS).
- If students wish to study a second language in addition to completing four semesters of study in one language, introductory courses (1xxx or 2xxx) in that additional language may count toward the minor if relevant to Jewish Studies, and with approval of the DUS. This provision applies to students who have studied modern Hebrew but wish to add biblical, or vice versa.

Students majoring or minoring in related disciplines, such as Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Anthropology, Classical and Near Eastern Archeology, classical Civilization, and Religious Studies may find that coursework taken to satisfy requirements in these other disciplines may count toward a degree in Jewish Studies as well. Students in other, less closely related programs such as American Studies, English, History, Philosophy and Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies frequently find complementary coursework applicable to Jewish Studies as well. See the Director of Undergraduate Studies or your CLA adviser to explore how a degree in Jewish Studies can fit into your academic program.

Scholarship Opportunities for Majors and Minors:

Jewish Studies has over \$3000 in annual scholarships to award to help students perusing a Jewish Studies Major or Minor.

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Center for Jewish Studies

Major and Minor Program

Center for Jewish
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UNIVERSITY
OF MINNESOTA

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Jewish Studies Program

The Jewish studies major allows students of all backgrounds to study a discipline that spans four millennia of thought, history, culture, language, and religious practice in a context framed by critical thought, reflection on values, and the close analysis of sources. The Center for Jewish Studies is an interdisciplinary program that concerns itself with the academic study of the historical, cultural, linguistic, ethnic, geographic, and religious diversity of the full range of peoples who identify themselves as Jewish. Both a major and minor are available. Visit the Jewish Studies Website at www.jwst.umn.edu.

As a specially designated interdepartmental major, Jewish Studies invites students to learn new methodologies in the analysis of literacy, visual, social and material culture, drawn from across the university curriculum. Students are exposed to the academic study of the foundational texts of Judaism and the diversity of its forms of cultural expression. Students choose from a broad array of courses in the Bible, rabbinic texts, Jewish history, Jewish literature, Jewish philosophy, Hebrew and other languages, religion and comparative anthropology, art history, music and more. The program has links with the Departments of American Studies, Classical and Near Eastern Studies, English, French and Italian, Gender,

Women and Sexuality Studies, German, History, Music, Political Science, and Spanish and Portuguese. The University's Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies offers courses related to the study of the Nazi Holocaust, its aftermath, and other attempts at genocide.

Major Program

Students may choose between two tracks:

Track 1: The Bible and the Foundation of Ancient Judaism. This track is for students who have a particular interest in the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible and in the literature and culture of the ancient rabbis. It would offer excellent preparation for graduate study of Religion, Near Eastern Studies, and admission to seminary, or for admission to graduate professional schools, including law school.

Track II: The Diversity of Jewish Civilization—Religion, History and Culture. This track is for students who wish to focus on modern Judaism or on the development of Jewish culture across the centuries or in different geographical locations, or on the connections between Jewish history and culture and the broader categories of gender, ethnicity, race, class, politics, community boundaries, and

society.

The major in Jewish studies requires at least 30 credits of upper-division coursework (3xxx-5xxx). Students prepare for either track by completing one gateway course, either JWST 1034/3034 or JWST 1201/3201, and two semesters of Biblical or Modern Hebrew for Track II. Please visit the Jewish Studies Website at www.jwst.umn.edu for a detailed list of major requirements in both tracks.

Minor Program

Requirements (credits and grading policy):

Completing the minor requires a total of 5 courses (min 14 credits 3xxx or higher), taken on an A-F basis, with grades of C– or better and a 2.0 GPA.

Ancient and Medieval Foundations: At least one course on the ancient religious foundations of Jewish civilization, either “the Bible: Context and Interpretation” (JwSt 3201) or “Introduction to Jewish History and Civilization” (3034).

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