

## Jewish Studies Winter 2017 Courses

CLASS NUMBER	CLASS NAME	DISTRO	INSTRUCTOR	TIME
CLS 278-0-20 (also JWSH_ST 278-0-2)	Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation: The Pen and the Sword: Israeli Literature of War	VI	Y. Dekel	MW 3:30pm-4:50pm
CLS 278-0-21 (also JWSH_ST 278-0-1)	Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation: Tales of Love and Darkness	VI	M. Moseley	TTH 3:30pm-4:50pm
Hebrew 111-2-20	Hebrew 1		E. Tzelgov	MTWTh 11am-11:50am
Hebrew 121-2-20	Hebrew 2		E. Tzelgov	MTWTh 1pm-1:50pm
Hebrew 216-2-20	Hebrew 3: Topics in Hebrew Literature	VI	E. Tzelgov	TTh 9:30am-10:50am
History 300-0-26	Historical Background to the Establishment of the State of Israel	IV	E. Rekness	MW 9:30am-10:50am
History 300-0-36	Jews and Muslims in the Islamic Middle Ages	IV	J. Lassner	W 4pm-6:50pm
History 348-1-1	Jews in Poland, Ukraine and Russia	IV	Y. Petrovsky-Shtern	MW 2pm-3:20pm
History 392-0-24 (also History 395-0-24)	Origins of Zionism		Y. Petrovsky-Shtern	MW 3:30pm-4:50pm
History 492-0-20	Jews in Medieval Europe		D. Shyovitz	T 2pm-4:50pm
JWSH_ST 210	Overview of Jewish Studies	V	C. Sufrin	W 5:30pm-7:30pm
JWSH_ST 278-0-1 (also CLS 278-0-21)	Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation: Tales of Love and Darkness	VI	M. Moseley	TTH 3:30pm-4:50pm
JWSH_ST 278-0-2 (also CLS 278-0-20)	Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation: The Pen and the Sword: Israeli Literature of War	VI	Y. Dekel	MW 3:30pm-4:50pm
JWSH_ST 350	Representing the Holocaust in Literature and Film	VI	P. Lassner	MWF 10:00am-10:50am T 6:30pm-9:30pm
Religion 339-0-20 (also POLI-SCI 390-0-24)	Religion and Politics in the State of Israel		J. Ringel	TTh 12:30pm-1:50pm
POLI_SCI 390-0-24 (also Religion 339-0-20)	Religion and Politics in the State of Israel		J. Ringel	TTh 12:30pm-1:50pm
POLI_SCI 395-0-24	The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict		W. Pearlman	T 9am-11:50am

For more information on the Jewish Studies Program:

**Website:** [www.jewish-studies.northwestern.edu](http://www.jewish-studies.northwestern.edu)

**Email:** [jewish-studies@northwestern.edu](mailto:jewish-studies@northwestern.edu)

**Visit:** Crowe 5-163, 1860 Campus Dr.

## COMPARATIVE LITERARY STUDIES

### **278-0-20 (also JWSH\_ST 278-0-2):**

#### **Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation: The Pen and the Sword: Israeli Literature of War**

Yael Dekel, MW 3:30pm-4:50pm

See JWSH\_ST 278-0-2

### **278-0-21 (also JWSH\_ST 278-0-1):**

#### **Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation: Tales of Love and Darkness**

Marcus Moseley, TTH 3:30pm-4:50pm

See JWSH\_ST 278-0-1

## HEBREW

### **111-2-20: Hebrew 1**

Eran Tzelgov, MTWTh 11am-11:50am

This is a course in elementary modern Hebrew. The course is designed to develop all four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) and an explicit knowledge of Hebrew grammar. Class work centers on learning new vocabulary and grammatical structures. These are introduced and exercised orally in anticipation of dealing with written dialogues and essays. Drills in the texts and on audio files expand and reinforce the new material. Independent lab work is part of the coursework.

### **121-2-20: Hebrew 2**

Eran Tzelgov, MTWTh 1pm-1:50pm

This is an intermediate level course in Hebrew. The purpose of the course is to enlarge the student's vocabulary and to reinforce and expand his/her knowledge of Hebrew grammar in order to improve conversational and writing skills as well as the ability to handle literary texts (from Biblical to modern).

### **216-2-20 Hebrew 3: Topics in Hebrew Literature**

Eran Tzelgov, TTh 9:30am-10:50am

This is an advanced level course in Hebrew. Contemporary Hebrew poetry will be read, discussed and analyzed orally and in writing. We will discuss questions such as what a poem is, and specifically what a political poem is, who defines a poem and who holds the keys to the Modern Hebrew canon and as such who is excluded from it.

Northwestern students should have completed and received credit for Hebrew 121-3. New students must have permission of the instructor.

## HISTORY

### **300-0-26: Historical Background to the Establishment of the State of Israel**

Elie Rekhess, MW 9:30am-10:50am

The course first traces the events and causes which led to the rise of Zionism, the Jewish national movement in Europe. It explores the ideological thought of the founding fathers and summarizes the political platforms of the main currents in the Zionist movement. It then proceeds to discuss the implementations of the Zionist ideology, namely, the immigration to Palestine and the development of a Jewish national community (Yishuv) there. The next part deals with Britain's promises to the Jews and the Arabs and the establishment of the British Mandate in Palestine. It then details the strategies of the Yishuv's nation-building process in the 1920's and the 1930's in the educational, cultural, economic, social and political spheres. Special emphasis is laid on the land question. Concurrently, the course focuses on the origins of the Israeli-Arab conflict since the 1920's, surveying its ideological roots and violent confrontational aspects. The latter part of the course discusses the impact of the Second World War and the Holocaust, the United Nation's attempts to resolve the dispute and the UN 1947 Resolution to partition Palestine.

### **300-0-36: Jews and Muslims in the Islamic Middle Ages**

Jack Lassner, W 4pm-6:50pm

This course deals with the important but often misunderstood relationship between Jews and Muslims in the milieu of the Islamic Middle Ages. Focus will be on cross-cultural and political relations. Among the subjects discussed: The formation of Muslim attitudes towards the Jews and Judaism; the social and political condition of minorities in medieval Islamic lands; the cultural symbiosis that characterized Jewish-Muslim relations at the time; and the manner in which Jewish creativity in that milieu affected the development of modern Judaism.

### **348-1-1: Jews in Poland, Ukraine and Russia**

Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern, MW 2pm-3:20pm

Who are European Jews, how and when did they arrive to East Europe, and why did they move en mass to the United States ten centuries later? Why do Americans consider them too traditional and conservative while Russians and Poles view them as too leftist and liberal? Using the tension between history and memory as a thinking tool, this course explores how East European Jews perceived historical upheavals such as wars, revolutions and pogroms, how they built a robust civilization in and of itself active over 700 years, how they interacted with Christians, and how imperial politics in the Russian Empire and Austria-Hungary shaped Jewish identities that guide Jewish mentality to date. This course traces the itinerary of East European Jews from the times of the medieval Kievan Rus to the early twentieth-century revolutionary upheavals taking a close look at Jews in Poland and the Russian Empire, which also include Lithuania and Ukraine. It challenges cultural myths, provides substantial European context and integrates Jewish history within a framework of a broader imperial and national histories.

**392-0-24 (also History 395-0-24): Origins of Zionism**

Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern, MW 3:30pm-4:50pm

What does the “national home” for the Jewish people, mention in the 1917 Balfour Declaration, imply? Why Jewish nationalists decided to choose Palestine to establish the Jewish state? Why did they prefer the elitist Hebrew to their contemporary spoken German, Russian, or Yiddish? How did they plan to deal with the Arab population in the contemporary Palestine? Focusing on Europe and the Middle East between the 1850s and the 1930s, this course explores the rise of the Jewish Diaspora nationalism, known as Zionism, discusses the forging of modern Jewish political identities, showcases the early stages of the Jewish resettlement in the land of Israel and delves into the causes of modern Middle Eastern conflicts. The course considers Zionism against the backdrop of rising European nationalisms and links Jewish nationalism to the modernization of Jewish life, to new trends in Judaism, to the nineteenth and twentieth century cultural myths, to the emerging racial antisemitism and new types of mass violence, and to the demise of multi-ethnic empires. Students will consider the contribution to Zionist movement of such figures as Theodor Herzl, Ahad ha-Am, Eliezer ben Yehuda, and Zeev Jabotinsky. Explore how diverse groups of national-minded individuals transformed themselves into an ambitious modern political movement, which helped create the State of Israel and shaped contradictions that plague this state to date.

**492-0-20: Jews in Medieval Europe**

David Shyovitz, T 2pm-4:50pm

Graduate level course; see CAESAR for description.

## JEWISH STUDIES

**210: Overview of Jewish Studies**

Claire Sufrin, W 5:30pm-7:30pm

Jewish Studies encompasses the study of Judaism, Jewish history, Jewish culture and the lives of contemporary Jews. This course offers an introduction to the field through seminar-style discussions with members of NU's Jewish Studies faculty. Students will become familiar with the methodologies scholars use to research, understand, and analyze Jewish culture while gaining knowledge of specific topics in Jewish Studies. Open to students of all backgrounds interested in a better understanding of the academic study of the humanities.

**278-0-1 (also CLS 278-0-21):**

**Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation: Tales of Love and Darkness**

Marcus Moseley, TTH 3:30pm-4:50pm

The course aims to explore the poetic, the ideological and the gender implications of the interwoven themes of eros and isolation in Hebrew Literature from the turn of the 19th century to the present day. In doing so, we shall study the migration of these themes along with Hebrew Literature itself from Europe to Palestine and ultimately the State of Israel. Has the rebuilding of the national “Home” brought the uprooted man his long

lost masculinity? And how did the female writer incorporate/become incorporated by the “Talush” narrative? How do we account for the longevity of this sad and pathetic figure? This course provides an excellent introduction to Modern Hebrew Literature per se: we shall read classic texts by M.Y. Berdichevsky, Y.H. Brenner, S.Y. Agnon, alongside contemporary texts by A.B Yehoshua and David Grossman and others.

**278-0-2 (also CLS 278-0-20):**

**Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation: The Pen and the Sword: Israeli Literature of War**

Yael Dekel, MW 3:30pm-4:50pm

In this course we will take a close look at Israeli works of fiction and poetry, in English translation. We will ask: What is the role of literature in political conflict, and in a state of war? Students will not only learn about the historical context of Israeli literature post-1948, but will be introduced to the meta-literary questions of political discourse and minor literature. We will problematize notions of national narrative and national literature, discussing and analyzing the main issues with which this literature engages, such as the national subject, gender, self and other, identity and counter identity. We will read texts from a variety of times and contexts written by, inter alia: S. Yizhar, Amos Oz and Dalia Ravikovitch. In addition, the course will introduce the case of Palestinian authors writing in Hebrew, through texts by Anton Shammas, Salman Masalha and Sayed Kashua.

**350: Representing the Holocaust in Literature and Film**

Phyllis Lassner, MWF 10:00am-10:50am and T 6:30pm-9:30pm

This course explores the Holocaust as it is expressed in various genres: fiction, poetry, and testimony; fictional, autobiographical, and documentary film; and presentation by a Holocaust survivor. Working as a small group, we will examine artistic and ethical questions about representing the reality of the Holocaust and questions about how we make meaning from its horrific events and the roles of memory, language, and history. Because of the painful nature of the material, the course emphasizes small group work. Discussion and writing assignments will encourage students to share their responses so that we begin to understand different portrayals of victimization and survival as well as relationships between ourselves and our readings and films. Course readings and Professor Lassner supply the historical contexts necessary to approach our subject.

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

**Religion 339-0-20 (also POLI-SCI 390-0-24): Religion and Politics in the State of Israel**

Joseph Ringel, TTh 12:30pm-1:50pm

This course discusses the relationship between religion and politics in Israel. We will explore the theoretical/ideological background and historical development of that relationship; the advantages and disadvantages of that system; the various religious groups and parties represented in the political system; and how that relationship affects government policies regarding both domestic issues and foreign policy, including a section on religious violence and peace-making. We will likewise delve into broader questions as to the applicability of the Israeli model to other part of the world, to what extent the Israeli model represents broader trends in the Middle East specifically and in the world at large, and the complex nature of the relationship between democracy and religion (or between religion and politics in a democracy). This course

will utilize academic literature from a variety of fields, including anthropology, political science, religion, and history, and employs literature from interdisciplinary fields, including Jewish Studies, Islamic Studies, and Middle Eastern and North African studies. By the end of the course, it is hoped that you will understand the ways in which religion and politics in Israel impact each other, the cultural and historical context of how those interactions developed, the impact that relationship has, and how the study of religion and politics in Israel is relevant to our lives in the US.

Note that this course is a 300-level course, and as such, has a heavy writing component, which fits the format and subject of the course better than quizzes or exams. The point is to think about and synthesize the material. The grade will be based on 4 papers, each of which will be do at the end of every second week, as well as class participation. These include 2 response papers (about 5 pp. each), a term paper (about 10 pp.), and a final paper (about 5 pp.). In terms of reading requirements, students will be required to use Robert D. Lee's *Religion and Politics in the Middle East: Identity, Ideology, Institutions, and Attitudes* (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2014; ISBN: 9780813348735) and to complete the readings listed in the syllabus, which will include articles and relevant sections of books that will be posted on CAESAR/CANVAS. Though there are no registration requirements for this class, newer students not used to the system should keep these requirements in mind. The course will consist of both a lecture as well as ample time for fun interactive learning and class discussion and participation.

## POLITICAL SCIENCE

### **390-0-24 (also Religion 339-0-20): Religion and Politics in the State of Israel**

Joseph Ringel, TTh 12:30pm-1:50pm

(See Religion 339-0-20)

### **395-0-24: The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict**

Wendy Pearlman, T 9am-11:50am

This course explores the history and politics of the Israeli- Palestinian conflict. We will study the conflict's development from its origins until the present, as well as a range of perspectives on topics such as the sources of violence, the rise and fall of the peace process, United States policy toward the conflict, and the nature of internal politics for both Israelis and Palestinians. The course is divided into two parts, the first focusing on understanding history and the second on analyzing politics.