

## IPAF 4900: Research Experience Opportunity

**Project Title: Troubling Orthopraxies: Jewish Divorce in Canada**

**Term: Summer 2022/Fall 2022/Winter 2023**

**Supervisors: Betina Appel Kuzmarov (Law and Legal Studies) and Deidre Butler (Religion)**

**Unit: Law and Legal Studies**

**Description of project:**

Our central research question is: What is the experience of Jewish religious divorce in Canada? This project hinges on investigating three linked questions that are being answered by our ethnographic research: 1. How are women, men and children actually experiencing the religious divorce process? 2. What does this tell us about the legal processes and cultural practices of religious divorce? and 3. How does Jewish divorce in Canada function as a site where gender, identity, and religious politics are contested? To answer these questions we engage a broad and inclusive series of stakeholders: rabbis, religious decisors, activists, married and divorced individuals and their adult children.

**Number of students required: 1 to 3**

**Research duties:**

Transcription of Research Interviews - 20 Hours

Production of a Literature Review -25 Hours

Reflective Journal and Discussion with Supervisors-20 hours

The successful candidate(s) will be required to track their time spent on research activities. This can be recorded in the reflective journal for discussion with Supervisors.

**Learning and reflection activities:**

Student will prepare a reflective journal. Entries must be recorded once per week for discussion with supervisors at weekly meetings. Student will also prepare a literature review that will reflect their learning for the term. The Supervisors will provide the topic for the literature review but students will be responsible for compiling the relevant bibliography and conducting the review of the literature. Supervisors will provide detailed instruction as to the structure and style of the literature review

**Learning outcomes:**

Students will gain:

1. A strong knowledge of the civil and religious processes around Jewish divorce in Canada.
2. Ability to transcribe research interviews.
3. Knowledge and ability to produce a literature review.
4. Oral and written presentation skills.
5. Refine their critical thinking skills, particularly the ability to conceptualize and complete independent research.

**Evaluation Criteria:**

Research Journal: 40% (weekly – best 10/12 entries. Worth 2% each). Due Weekly.

Literature Review: 60%. Due on the last day of classes.

**Skills or knowledge required:**

A working knowledge of Judaism (completion of Intro to Western Religions and/or Intro to Judaism) as well as basic familiarity with religious terminology around divorce is an asset. Working knowledge of feminist and/or legal theory and familiarity with Social Science and Humanities databases required. Student should demonstrate the ability to write well and take initiative. Students will be required to complete Tri-Council ethics training.

**Any required health and safety training: N/A****Other considerations:****Application instructions:**

*Participants are selected on the basis of merit and fit with the research project. Please submit a CV, transcript, and cover letter indicating why you are interested in and qualified for this research experience to the undergraduate administrator of the unit listed above. The application deadline is normally April 30th (for IPAF 4900 opportunities in the summer or fall term), August 15th (for fall and winter term opportunities) and November 15th (to take IPAF 4900 in the winter or summer term). Only students with a GPA of 9.5 or higher and at least third year honours standing will be considered.*

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*To find out more about IPAF 4900, please visit: <http://carleton.ca/fpa/ipaf-main/>*

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