

**The College of the Humanities  
(Religion Program)  
RELI 2110A - JUDAISM**

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**Lectures:** Tues. and Thurs. 1735-2025

**Office Hours:** Thursdays 1700-1730 and by appointment

**Course description**

This 2000 level course explores Judaism as a lived religious tradition. We begin with the premise that Judaism is defined by the teachings, beliefs and practices that form the core of Jewish communal life. From this point of view, Judaism is both historical and evolving; rooted in tradition, responding to changing contexts, looking towards its own future. Practiced by Jews in community all around the world, Judaism is a dynamic and richly diverse tradition that includes a range of teachings and practices. This diversity can be a challenge for students who are at the early stages of studying Judaism. One way into this problem is to begin where Jewish communities begin in defining their own identity: Jews understand themselves as standing in relationship to, and in continuity with, a historical past, practices and traditions. We will examine Jewish practices as they relate to the calendar and life cycle. We will examine the response of Judaism to history, culture conflicts and geographic change

**Course Evaluation:**

**The final grade of this course is based on the followings:**

10% creating questions on readings and lectures

90% 3 short answer tests (2 will be take-home\*, the last will be an electronically graded multiple-choice test to be given during the final exam period)

\* Due dates: May 31st and June 14<sup>th</sup>. Unless special arrangements were made, late take home tests will be fined by a fraction of a grade (i.e., A to A-) for each day.

## Evaluation at a Glance

Element	Weight	Due Date (lesson #	Description
<p><b>You make up the Questions and Answers.</b>  <b>These assignments will be submitted to our Blackboard (WebCT). Information on its use will be available in the first class.</b></p>	10%	May 17 (1-2) May 31 (3-5) June 7 (6-7) June 14 (8-9) June 21 (10-11)	<p><b>For each lecture:</b> You are to generate <b>4</b> short questions with their correct answer. (Example: Q: “What is the TaNaKh? A: The TaNaKh is the Hebrew scriptures. Made up of Torah (The Five Books of Moses – Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deutoronomy); Neviim (The books of the Prophets) Joshua, Judges, Samuel I &amp; II, Kings I &amp; II, the Major Prophets (Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Isaiah) and the 12 Minor Prophets; and the <b>Khtuvim</b> (the Writings) which include the Psalms, Proverbs, Job, the five scrolls (Song of Songs, Ruth Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, Esther) Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah and Chronicles I &amp; II.</p> <p><b>For the Readings:</b> You are to generate <b>6</b> short questions and their correct answer. You Must <u>reference the location of the answer</u> (Example: Q: Identify Yehuda HaNasi (Judah the Prince) A: Rabbi Judah the Prince (c135-210) edited the oral tradition in written form (known as the Mishnah ) at about 200 C.E. (Trepp 333,339)</p> <p><b><u>If you work in a group you must multiply the number of Q&amp;As by the number of people in the group. (ex. a group of 3 must submit 30 questions and answers per class date)</u></b></p>
<b>2 Short answer Tests</b>	60%	1st May 31 (Will cover classes 1-4) 2nd June 14 (Will cover classes 5-8)	Take-home short answer. Based on readings and lectures. The questions will be taken from the Q&A above, as well as, those made up by the instructor. <b><u>ALL YOUR SOURCES MUST BE REFRANCED and YOU MUST WORK ALONE</u></b>
<p><b>“Final Exam”</b>  <b>3rd Test</b></p>	30%	At school during final exam period (Will cover the last 3 <sup>rd</sup> of the course)	Based on readings and lectures. The questions will be taken from the Q&A above, as well as those made up by the instructor.

## Texts

### Required Texts:

Leo Trepp, A History of the Jewish Experience 2nd Edition

Abraham J. Heschel, The Shabbat: Its Meaning for Modern Man.

Online resources: see syllabus & webCT: URLs for online content, links and citation information to look up, print or download full text journal articles.

### Recommended Reading:

Milton Steinberg, As a Driven Leaf (This book is a novel about a renegade Talmudic Sage, Elisha Ben Abuyah, caught in a personal struggle between his own faith and the compelling culture of Rome, circa 70CE)

Also see syllabus for additional recommended readings.

## Course Calendar

Day	Topic	Required Reading <i>Other Readings of interest NOT Required</i>
<b>May 11, 2010</b> (Tuesday)	Introduction and Problem of Definition, The Torah (Five Books of Moses), Nevi'im (The Prophets), Ketuvim (the Writings)	<b>Trepp: Introduction and Chapters 1, 2, 3 &amp; 22</b>  <b>“Yehezkel Kaufmann’s View of the Religion of Israel” J Am Acad. Relig. 1961; XXIX: 52-58</b>  <a href="http://www.cs.umd.edu/~mvz/bible/doc-hyp.pdf">http://www.cs.umd.edu/~mvz/bible/doc-hyp.pdf</a>
<b>May 13, 2010</b> (Thursday)	(Complete Tuesday’s session), The Jewish Calendar, the Shabbat, The Book of Jonah and Yom Kippur.	<b>Trepp: Chapters 25, 26, &amp; 28</b> <b>Heschel, The Shabbat: Its Meaning for Modern Man (Please read by the 25<sup>th</sup>)</b> <b>The Book of Jonah (any translation)</b> <b>Yosef Leibowitz chapter on Jonah (handout)</b>
<b>May 18, 2010</b> (Tuesday) <b>Please Note: Today will be a short class it is Erev (the Eve of) Shavuot</b> <b><u>Today’s class will end at 7:30 PM.</u></b> <b><u>NO CLASS ON THUR. 5/20 SHAVOUT.</u></b> <b>Please note: <u>May 21</u></b> <b>Last day for registration and course changes.</b> <b><u>May 24<sup>th</sup></u> Statutory holiday; university closed</b>	Second Temple & The Hellenistic period, The Jews and the Romans The Oral Law <b>THE CLASS WILL HAVE A GUEST TEACHER PROF. D. BUTLER. (The Class will view: <i>The Power of the Word 586 BCE – 72 CE in the program HERITAGE, Civilization and the Jews by Abba Eban</i>)</b>	<b>Trepp: Chapters 4, 5, 6, 21, 23</b>  <a href="http://www.ccel.org/j/josephus/works/ant-18.htm">http://www.ccel.org/j/josephus/works/ant-18.htm</a> (Please read chapter 1)  <a href="http://www.ccel.org/j/josephus/works/war-7.htm">http://www.ccel.org/j/josephus/works/war-7.htm</a> (Please read Chapters 8-9)  Please read I Maccabees I:1-57  Eusebius, History of the Church writes about the final siege of the Jews see: <a href="http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf201.iii.ix.vi.html?highlight=bar,cochba#highlight">http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf201.iii.ix.vi.html?highlight=bar,cochba#highlight</a>  <a href="http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/TalmudPage.html">http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/TalmudPage.html</a> (for the 25 <sup>th</sup> )  <b>Recom. Reading: Milton Steinberg, <i>As a Driven Leaf</i> (PLEASE READ BY MAY 25)</b>
<b>May 25, 2010</b> (Tuesday)	(Complete last week’s loose ends) The Major and Minor Holidays	<b>Trepp: Chapters 27, 29</b>

<p><b>May 27, 2010</b> (Thursday) <b><u>FIRST TEST DUE</u></b> <b><u>MAY 31</u></b> May 31, last day for full fee adjustment when withdrawing from course.</p>	<p>Jewish Prayer, Medieval Jewish Thought</p>	<p><b>Trepp: Chapters 24, 7</b></p>
<p><b>June 1, 2010</b> (Tuesday)</p>	<p>Middle Ages Kosher Laws</p>	<p><b>Trepp: Chapters 8, 9 and 30 (pp.448-51)</b></p>
<p><b>June 3, 2010</b> (Thursday)</p>	<p>From Birth to Death</p>	<p><b>Trepp: Chapter 30</b></p>
<p><b>June 8, 2010</b> (Tuesday)</p>	<p>When Europe left the “Dark Ages” Jewish Mysticism</p>	<p><b>Trepp: Chapters 10, 11, 32</b></p>
<p><b>June 10, 2010</b> (Thursday) <b><u>2<sup>ND</sup> TEST DUE JUNE 14TH</u></b> Last date to withdraw <b>June 11</b></p>	<p>Jewish denominations, Enter America</p>	<p><b>Trepp Chapters 12, 13, 16, 17</b> <a href="http://judaism.about.com/od/denominationsofjudaism/Branches_of_Judaism.htm">http://judaism.about.com/od/denominationsofjudaism/Branches_of_Judaism.htm</a> <a href="http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/reform_practices.html">http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/reform_practices.html</a> <a href="http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/reformstate.html">http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/reformstate.html</a> <a href="http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/Orthodox.html">http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Judaism/Orthodox.html</a></p>
<p><b>June 15, 2010</b> (Tuesday)</p>	<p>Russian Jewry and Zionism</p>	<p><b>1Trepp Chapters 14, 15, 18</b> <b>Natan Sharansky “The Political Legacy of Theodor Herzl”</b> <a href="http://www.azure.org.il/magazine/magazine.asp?id=270">http://www.azure.org.il/magazine/magazine.asp?id=270</a> <b>EJ article “Zionism” or</b>  <i>Recom. Reading Arthur Herzberg The Zionist Idea pp. 15-100</i></p>
<p><b>June 17, 2010</b> (Thursday)</p>	<p>The Holocaust and its aftermath Review and loose ends</p>	<p><b>Trepp Chapters 19, 20, 31, 33-35</b> <b>EJ article “Faith after the Holocaust”</b></p>

## REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

### COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

### PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They range from a mark of zero for the plagiarized work to a final grade of “F” for the course, and even suspension from all studies or expulsion from the University.

### GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B- = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A- = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. No academic credit
WDN	Withdrawn from the course
ABS	Absent from the final examination
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

### WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from EARLY SUMMER courses is **JUNE 11, 2010**. The last day to withdraw from FULL SUMMER and LATE SUMMER courses is **JULY 30, 2010**.

### REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of a disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

**Pregnancy obligation:** write to your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: [http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student\\_guide.htm](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student_guide.htm)

**Religious obligation:** write to your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details visit the Equity Services website: [http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student\\_guide.htm](http://www.carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/student_guide.htm)

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but are not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you **only** require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the last official day to withdraw from classes in each term. For more details visit the PMC website: [http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/acad\\_accom.html](http://www.carleton.ca/pmc/students/acad_accom.html)

You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation>

### PETITIONS TO DEFER

Students unable to complete a **final** term paper or write a **final** examination because of illness or other circumstances beyond their control or whose performance on an examination has been impaired by such circumstances may apply in writing within five working days to the Registrar’s Office for permission to extend a term paper deadline or to write a deferred examination. The request must be fully and specifically supported by a medical certificate or other relevant documentation. Only deferral petitions submitted to the Registrar’s Office will be considered.

### ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Classics and Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar’s Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608	500 Unicentre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-1125	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Library
Learning Commons 520-1125	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Library