

# Judaism

**Summer 2009**  
**Tuesday –Thursdays 1805-2055**  
**Mackenzie (ME) 3356**

**Undergraduate Administrator**  
**Barb Truscott 613-520-2100**  
[barb\\_truscott@carleton.ca](mailto:barb_truscott@carleton.ca)

**Instructor: Rabbi Ely Braun**  
[Ely\\_Braun@Carleton.Ca](mailto:Ely_Braun@Carleton.Ca)  
 Office: Paterson Hall 329C  
 Office hours: Thursdays 1700-1800  
 Home Phone:613-721-7629

## 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 changes.

## Goals: The student will:

- ❑ Develop key concepts necessary for the academic study of religion in general and Judaism in particular.
- ❑ Deepen their knowledge and understanding of the history, teachings, and practices of Judaism.
- ❑ Explore the rich textual traditions of rabbinic Judaism focusing on its role in contemporary Jewish life.
- ❑ Gain an appreciation for communal diversity within the Jewish tradition.
- ❑ Develop critical reading, writing and thinking skills.

## Required Texts:

- ❑ Leo Trepp, A History of the Jewish Experience 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition
- ❑ Abraham J. Heschel, The Shabbat: Its Meaning for Modern Man.
- ❑ Online resources: see syllabus & web ct: 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.

*There are no pre-requisites for this course*

## Course Requirements:

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)

## Evaluation at a Glance

Element	Weight	Due Date (lesson #)	Description
<p><b>You make up the Questions and Answers.</b></p> <p><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 19 (1-2) June 2 (3-5) June 9 (6-7) June 18 (8-9) June 25 (10-11)	<p><b><u>For each lecture:</u></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); <b>Neviim</b> (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><u>For the Readings:</u></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)  <u>If you work in a group you must multiply the number of Q&amp;A by the number of people in the group. (ex. a group of 3 must submit 30 questions and answers per class date)</u></p>
<p><b>2 Short answer Tests</b></p>	60%	1 <sup>st</sup> June 2 (Will cover classes 1-4)  2 <sup>nd</sup> June 16 (Will cover classes 5-8)	<p>Take-home short answer. Based on readings and lectures. The questions will be taken from the Q&amp;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>
<p><b>"Final Exam"</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Test</b></p>	30%	At school during final exam period (Will cover the last 3 <sup>rd</sup> of the course)	<p>Based on readings and lectures. The questions will be taken from the Q&amp;A above, as well as those made up by the instructor.</p>

## Things you need to know: 2000 level Lecture

**Contact me :** I am happy to make appointments outside of office hours. Please email me to make an appointment. Although I usually check email daily, I may not do so on weekends and it may take 2-3 days during busy periods. Please put your full name subject heading and include a number where I may call you or ways to contact you for a reply.

**Course requirements:** You must complete all required assignments of the course in order to be eligible to pass the course.

**Submitting work protocol:** Assignments must be handed in before the class break on the day that they are due or, if they are requested to be submitted online (the Q&A), by midnight of the day that they are due. Please do not hand in any work without keeping a backup copy. ("papers get lost" "dogs eat assignments" etc.)

**Late policy:** The late policy of this class is designed to be fair to students who handed their work in on time. Late assignments will be penalized at a rate of one grade per class meeting (i.e. a B will be a B- if it handed in by the beginning of the next class meeting) unless they are accompanied by a signed medical excuse. Assignments will not be accepted after the graded assignment is returned to the class.

**Absent from class and require accommodation to submit work: Talk to me!**

### Citations:

**Learn About plagiarism:** It is the responsibility of every student to know what constitutes plagiarism and avoid it. There is a great deal of information about what plagiarism is and how to avoid it on the Carleton university Library web site and class web site.

*Failure to cite sources is a form of plagiarism. Please see the University regulations below.*

Check for plagiarism in your own work: Re-read all written assignments to ensure that they include proper citations for quotes and paraphrases and do not too closely paraphrase the original text when you put material in your own words. See the web site for links to online guides about paraphrasing. You may always contact me and ask my opinion about your work. It is always safer to have an extra citation that perhaps is not absolutely necessary than to be missing one. **When in doubt, cite.**

**Style:** Because Religious Studies is an interdisciplinary discipline different citation styles are normally acceptable in my classes.

**Type of citation:** You may use footnotes or parenthetical citation.

**List of Works Cited:** Always include a list of works cited at the end of the assignment. Works Cited include only those sources you have cited.

### Things I need to know: (Contact me by email or come speak with me)

- You don't understand what is expected of you.
- English is not your first language.
- You have a learning disability.
- You are doing poorly in the course and want to improve.
- You don't understand the material.
- You have a problem that is making you do poorly in the course.
- If you are going to ask for a deferral for this course from the Registrar.

## Class Schedule

Day	Topic	Required Reading	Other Readings of interest <u>NOT Required</u>
May 12, 2009 (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> "Yehezkel Kaufmann's View of the Religion of Israel" J Am Acad. Relig. 1961; XXIX: 52-58 <a href="http://www.cs.umd.edu/~mvz/bible/doc-hyp.pdf">http://www.cs.umd.edu/~mvz/bible/doc-hyp.pdf</a>	
May 14, 2009 (Thursday)  <b>Please note: May 18th Statutory holiday; university closed</b>	(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, <u>The Shabbat: Its Meaning for Modern Man</u> (Please read by the 19<sup>th</sup>)</b> <b><u>The Book of Jonah</u> (any translation)</b> <b>Yosef Leibowitz chapter on Jonah (handout)</b>	
May 19, 2009 (Tuesday)	Second Temple & The Hellenistic period, The Jews and the Romans	<b>Trepp: Chapters 4, 5</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 1:1-57 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>	Milton Steinberg, <u>As a Driven Leaf</u>
May 21, 2009 (Thursday) <b>Please note: May 22 Last day for registration and course changes</b>	The Oral Law, The Major and Minor Holidays	<b>Trepp: Chapters 6, 21, 23, 27, 29</b>  <a href="http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/TalmudPage.html">http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/TalmudPage.html</a>	
May 25-29 No classes June 2, 2009 (Tuesday) <b>1<sup>ST</sup> Test Due</b>	Jewish Prayer, Medieval Jewish Thought	<b>Trepp: Chapters 24, 7</b>	

<b>June 4, 2009 (Thursday)</b>	Middle Ages Kosher Laws	<b>Trepp: Chapters 8, 9 and 30 (pp.448-51)</b>	
<b>June 9, 2009 (Tuesday)</b>	From Birth to Death	<b>Trepp: Chapter 30</b>	
<b>June 11, 2009 (Thursday)</b> <u>last date to withdraw June 12</u>	When Europe left the "Dark Ages" Jewish Mysticism	<b>Trepp: Chapters 10, 11, 32</b>	
<b>June 16, 2009 (Tuesday)</b>  <u>2<sup>nd</sup> Test Due</u>	Jewish denominations, Enter America	<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>	
<b>June 18, 2009 (Thursday)</b>	Russian Jewry and Zionism	<b>Trepp 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"</b>	Arthur Herzberg <u>The Zionist Idea</u> pp. 15-100
<b>June 23, 2009 (Tuesday)</b>  <b>June 25, 2009</b>	The Holocaust and its aftermath  Review and loose ends	<b>Trepp Chapters 19, 20, 31, 33-35</b> <b>EJ article "Faith after the Holocaust"</b>	

## 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+ = 77-79 (9)	C+ = 67-69 (6)
A = 85-89 (11)	B = 73-76 (8)	C = 63-66 (5)
A - = 80-84 (10)	B - = 70-72 (7)	C - = 60-62 (4)
D+ = 57-59 (3)	D = 53-56 (2)	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	“Failed, no Deferral” – assigned when the student is absent from the final exam and 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 12, 2009. The last day to withdraw from Full Summer and Late Summer courses is July 31, 2009.

### REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

#### 1. For Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities needing academic accommodations are required to contact a co-ordinator at the Paul Menton Centre (ext. 6608) to complete the necessary *letters of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss their needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first in-class or CUTV test. This is to ensure sufficient time is available to make the necessary accommodation arrangements. Deadlines for submitting forms for formally scheduled exam accommodation: June 12, 2009 for June examinations and July 31, 2009 for August examinations.

#### 2. For Religious Obligations

Students requesting academic accommodation on the basis of religious obligation should make a formal, written request to their instructors for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements. Such requests should be made during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist, but no later than two weeks before the compulsory event. Accommodation is to be worked out directly and on an individual basis between the student and the instructor(s) involved. Instructors will make accommodations in a way that avoids academic disadvantage to the student.

Students or instructors who have questions or want to confirm accommodation eligibility of a religious event or practice may refer to the Equity Services website for a list of holy days and Carleton’s Academic Accommodation policies, or may contact an Equity Services Advisor in the Equity Services Department for assistance. (613-520-5622)

#### 3. For Pregnancy:

Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact an Equity Advisor in Equity Services (613-520-5622) to complete a *letter of accommodation*. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first academic event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

#### 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 520-6632	4 <sup>th</sup> floor Library