Near Eastern and Judaic Studies Graduate Learning Goals and Outcomes

Ph.D. in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies

Knowledge
- Acquire a broad familiarity with the central historical and conceptual questions in the field of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies.
- Understand the principal tenets and religious practices of one or more of the religious traditions currently taught in the department: ancient Near Eastern religions, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
- Understand how scholars employ diverse sources and methodologies to study the past or contemporary issues.
- Read texts in their original languages to appreciate language as a shaper and reflection of the people and cultures that are being studied.

Core Skills
- Demonstrate proficiency in research languages of one’s specialization including one of the following languages (Arabic, Hebrew, Yiddish).
- Develop critical analytical skills to synthesize, contextualize, and evaluate scholarly arguments using one or more disciplinary approaches (i.e., literary criticism, philology, etc.).
- Develop the ability to situate primary texts, documents, traditions, ideas, artistic productions, and other data in the context of the relevant Jewish and Ancient Near East traditions, as well as the context of surrounding cultures, and to assess their meaning.
- Demonstrate ability to conduct research (conceptualize, plan, and execute) and write a significant piece of scholarship that contributes to one or more scholarly discourses within the subfields of Near Eastern and Judaic studies.
- Develop expertise in pedagogy and teaching.

Social Justice
- Learn to appreciate diversity and transformations in religious and cultural traditions.
- Contribute to greater understanding in the service of a more peaceful and just society.
M.A. in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies

Knowledge

- Acquire a broad familiarity with the central historical and conceptual questions in the field of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies.
- Understand the principal tenets and religious practices of one or more of the religious traditions currently taught in the department: ancient Near Eastern religions, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
- Understand how scholars employ diverse sources and methodologies to study the past or contemporary issues.

Core Skills

- Demonstrate proficiency in one research language (Hebrew, Arabic, Yiddish).
- Develop analytical skills to synthesize, contextualize, and evaluate scholarly arguments using one or more disciplinary approaches (i.e., literary criticism, philology, etc.).
- Develop the ability to situate primary texts, documents, traditions, ideas, artistic productions, and other data in their contexts and assess their meaning.

Social Justice

- Learn to appreciate diversity in religious and cultural traditions and contribute to greater understanding in the service of a more peaceful and just society.