### For Undergraduate Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 112A</td>
<td>The Book of Genesis</td>
<td>Tzvi Abusch</td>
<td>MW 2:30-3:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 114A</td>
<td>Death, Memorial, and Immortality in Biblical Literature</td>
<td>Jacqueline Vayntrub</td>
<td>TTh 3:30-4:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 117B</td>
<td>Dead Sea Scrolls</td>
<td>Jacqueline Vayntrub</td>
<td>TTh 5:30-6:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 132B</td>
<td>Against the Apocalypse: Jewish Responses to the Holocaust</td>
<td>Laura Jockusch</td>
<td>MWFTh 11:00-12:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 140B</td>
<td>Early Modern Jewish History</td>
<td>Eugene Sheppard</td>
<td>MW 2:30-3:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 142A</td>
<td>Modern History of East European Jewry</td>
<td>ChaeRan Freeze</td>
<td>TF 9:30-10:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 150A</td>
<td>The Jews in Weimar and Nazi Germany</td>
<td>Laura Jockusch</td>
<td>MWTh 10:00-10:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 155A</td>
<td>Maimonides: A Jewish Thinker in the Islamic World</td>
<td>Jonathan Decter</td>
<td>TTh 2:30-3:20</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEJS 160A</td>
<td>Liberal Judaism through the Lens of the Prayer Book</td>
<td>David Ellenson</td>
<td>T 6:30-9:20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 160B</td>
<td>The Zionist Idea: Sources, Advocates and Critics</td>
<td>David Ellenson</td>
<td>TTh 5:15-6:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 162A</td>
<td>American Judaism</td>
<td>Jonathan Sarna</td>
<td>MW 3:30-4:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 174A</td>
<td>Subversive Poetics and Pickassian Modernism</td>
<td>Ilana Szobel</td>
<td>MWTh 3:30-4:50</td>
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</tbody>
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### For Both Undergraduate and Graduate Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FYS 18A</td>
<td>Understanding Evil and Human Destiny</td>
<td>Reuven Kimelman</td>
<td>TF 9:30-10:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEJS 130A</td>
<td>American Judaism: From Sunday Schools to Birthright</td>
<td>Jonathan Krasner</td>
<td>MW 3:00-4:50</td>
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</tbody>
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### Visiting, Part-time Faculty

- Walker Robins – Israel Studies

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A review of biblical Hebrew grammar followed by a survey of the major genres of the Hebrew Bible (e.g., Torah, history, prophecy, psalms, wisdom). Texts are read in Hebrew; the course is taught in English. Emphasis on literary and grammatical aspects of the texts.

Reuven Kimelman

A survey of the Jewish experience and thought, focusing on the varieties of Jewishness. Students learn about the religious thought of the Jewish people through the ages, from the biblical period through the modern era, with emphasis on the varieties of Jewish thought, including its classical forms, its medieval patterns, and its modern options.

Neu Kimelman

An in-depth study of the Hebrew text of Genesis, with particular attention to the meaning, documentary sources, and Near Eastern background of the accounts of creation and origins of human civilization in chapters one to eleven, and of the patriarchal narratives, especially those about Abraham.

Prerequisite: HBRW 122a or b, NEJS 10a, or permission of the instructor.

Laura Jockusch

Provides an overarching survey of the history (economic, sociopolitical, and religious) of the Jewish communities in Eastern Europe from the middle of the thirteenth century until World War II, with emphasis placed on the Jews of Poland and Russia.

Jacqueline Vayntrub

Examines Jewish history and culture in early modern Europe: mass conversions on the Iberian peninsula, migrations, reconversions back to Judaism, the printing revolution, the Reformation and Counter Reformation, ghettos, gender, family, everyday life, material culture, communal structure, rabbinical culture, mysticism, magic, science, messianic movements, Hasidism, mercantilism, and early modern challenges to Judaism.

Ilan Szobel

An exploration of poetics and identity in modern Hebrew literature.

Jacqueline Vayntrub

Designed to introduce students to some of the Western classics that deal with the impact of evil on human destiny. Suffering, justice, and death are studied in their relationship with God, the world, and history.

Laura Jockusch

Explores the history of the German Jewish community in the years 1918-1945, a period characterized by the dramatic change from the solid social, professional and cultural integration of the Jews into German society to their disfranchisement, discrimination, and ultimate destruction.

Ilana Szobel

A study of the life, world, and thought of Moses Maimonides, the most significant Jewish intellectual of the Islamic world. This course traces his intellectual output in philosophy and Judaism, from its beginning in Islamic Spain to the mature works produced in Morocco and Egypt, in the context of the Arabic-Islamic milieu. Half of the course is dedicated to studying his Guide of the Perplexed, a Judeo-Arabic work that engages the demands of revealed religion and philosophical rationalism.

David Ellenson

A comprehensive survey of the history (economic, sociopolitical, and religious) of the Jewish communities in Eastern Europe from the middle of the thirteenth century until World War II, with emphasis placed on the Jews of Poland and Russia.

Jonathan Sarna

An exploration of poetics and identity in modern Hebrew literature.

Ilana Szobel

A study of the life, world, and thought of Moses Maimonides, the most significant Jewish intellectual of the Islamic world. This course traces his intellectual output in philosophy and Judaism, from its beginning in Islamic Spain to the mature works produced in Morocco and Egypt, in the context of the Arabic-Islamic milieu. Half of the course is dedicated to studying his Guide of the Perplexed, a Judeo-Arabic work that engages the demands of revealed religion and philosophical rationalism.

David Ellenson

A comprehensive survey of the history (economic, sociopolitical, and religious) of the Jewish communities in Eastern Europe from the middle of the thirteenth century until World War II, with emphasis placed on the Jews of Poland and Russia.

Laura Jockusch

An exploration of poetics and identity in modern Hebrew literature.

Ilana Szobel

An exploration of poetics and identity in modern Hebrew literature.

Ilana Szobel
NEJS 183B: Global Jewish Literature
Ellen Kellman (MWTh 1-1:50)
May not be taken for credit by students who took NEJS 171a in prior years. Introduces important works of modern Jewish literature, graphic fiction, and film. Taking a comparative approach, it addresses major themes in contemporary Jewish culture, interrogates the “Jewishness” of the works and considers issues of language, poetics, and culture significant to Jewish identity.

NEJS 184B: Disability in Israeli Literature, Film, and the Arts
Ilana Szobel (TTh 2-3:20)
Explores representations of disability within Hebrew and Israeli culture. By focusing on literature, film, dance, and visual art, it pursues various applications of physical, mental, and emotional disability experiences and theories to Zionist, Jewish-Israeli narratives and rhetoric.

NEJS 186A: Introduction to the Qur’an
Suleyman Dost (MWTh 11-11:50)
Traces the history of the Qur’an as text, its exegesis, and its role in inter-religious polemics, law, theology, and politics. Examines the role of the Qur’an in Islamic teachings and its global impact.

NEJS 195A: Muhammad: From Early Muslim Accounts to Modern Biographies
Suleyman Dost (MW 2-3:20)
Studies the life of Muhammad based upon the earliest biographical accounts and the academic analyses in both Islamic and non-Islamic sources, accompanied by an examination of his legacy in different aspects of Islam, such as Shi’ism and Sufism.

IMES 104A: Islam: Civilization and Institutions
Carl El-Tohgui (MWTh 12-12:50)
Provides a disciplined study of Islamic civilization from its origins to the modern period. Approaches the study from a humanities perspective. Topics covered will include the Qur’an, tradition, law, theology, politics, Islam and other religions, modern developments, and women in Islam.

NEJS FACULTY:
Tzvi Abusch – Languages and cultures of ancient Mesopotamia
Guy Anetbi – Hebrew language
Bermadette Brooten – Christian studies
Jonathan Decker – Medieval Judaism; Sephardic Jewry
Chair, NEJS
Suleyman Dost – Classical Islam
David Ellenson – Israeli Studies
Carl Sharif El-Tohgui – Arabic & Islamic Studies
Director of Arabic Language Program
Sharon Feiman-Nemser – Jewish education
Sylvia Barak Fishman – Contemporary Jewry and American Jewish sociology and literature
Cheeran Freeze – East European history
Director of Graduate Studies
Sara Hascal – Hebrew language
Laura Jockusch – Modern Jewish history/Holocaust studies
Ellen Kellman – Yiddish language and literature
Reuven Kimelman – Talmud, Midrash & Liturgy
Jonathan Krisner – Jewish education
Undergraduate Advising Head
Jon Levisohn – Jewish education
Yehudah Mirsky – Israeli studies
Sharon Rivo – Jewish film
Jonathan D. Sarna – American Jewish history
Eugene Sheppard – Modern Jewish history and thought
Esther Shorr – Hebrew language
Ellen Smith – Museum, visual & material culture
Ilana Szobel – Modern Hebrew literature
Jacqueline Vayntrub – Hebrew Bible
David Wright – Languages and literatures of the Ancient Near East

For course prerequisites & limits, please consult the 2017-2018 Brandeis University Bulletin:
www.brandeis.edu/registrar/bulletin/provisional/

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Lown 211, MS 054
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Waltham, MA 02454-9110
Fax: (781) 736-2070
Phone: (781) 736-2950

NEJS 200A: Elementary Akkadian
Staff (TBD)
May not be taken for credit by students who took NEJS 101a in prior years. Introduction to Akkadian grammar and lexicon and cuneiform script. This course is for beginning students of Akkadian.

NEJS 202A: Akkadian Mythological/Religious Texts I
Tzvi Abusch (MW 5-6:20)
Prerequisite: NEJS 200b or the equivalent.

NEJS 231A: Graduate Proseminar in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies
Jon Levisohn (W 5-7:50)
This graduate seminar, required for master’s and doctoral students, explores theoretical and critical texts of the humanities and social sciences and their connection to diverse fields within Near Eastern and Judaic Studies.