

An interdepartmental program

Courses of Study:  
Minor

## History of Ideas

### Objectives

Santayana put it well: “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.” To understand the significance of our beliefs and commitments—even to understand the significance of the questions and problems that beset us—we need to trace their sources and their history. Because ideas are expressed in social and political institutions as well as in philosophical, scientific, religious, and literary works, the program in the history of ideas (HOID) is distinguished by its multidisciplinary approach. Because political structures and institutions are themselves articulated in vigorous intellectual debates, we need to understand the ideas that have formed and that continue to form them. HOID proposes to provide students with the historical background of the issues and values that have shaped their interests. The program is intended to provide students with the skills and the knowledge, the guidance and the freedom to construct a focused and rigorous course of study, one that explores the historical transformation of a set of ideas and institutions across several traditional disciplines.

### How to Become a Minor

In order to declare a minor, students should meet with the undergraduate advising head of the program, who will help them to plan a course of study tailored to their intellectual needs while meeting core and elective requirements.

### Committee

**Bernard Yack, Chair**  
(Politics)

**David Engerman (on leave fall 2008)**  
(History)

**Richard Gaskins**  
(American Studies)

**Susan Lanser (on leave spring 2009)**  
(Comparative Literature; English and  
American Literature; Women’s and Gender  
Studies)

**Robin Feuer Miller (on leave 2008–2009)**  
(German, Russian, and Asian Languages and  
Literature)

**David Powelstock**  
(German, Russian, and Asian Languages and  
Literature)

**Michael Randall, Undergraduate Advising  
Head**  
(Romance Studies)

**Eugene Sheppard**  
(Near Eastern and Judaic Studies)

### Requirements for the Minor

The minor has three requirements:

**A.** Two history of ideas seminars. One such seminar will be offered each term. Topics and faculty for the seminars will change each year. All seminars will include guest presentations by invited scholars from outside Brandeis.

The seminar for fall 2008 will be PHIL 13b (The Idea of the Market), Mr. Gaskins (Legal Studies, Philosophy).

The seminar for spring 2009 will be ECS 100b (The Making of European Modernity), Mr. Randall (Romance Studies).

**B.** Three courses selected in consultation with the HOID undergraduate adviser, at least two of which will be taken in departments or programs beyond the student’s major(s). When joining the program, students will write a brief statement explaining the intellectual relationships that connect the subject matter of these three courses. Only one course from a student’s major—or one from each major, in the case of double majors—may be counted toward the total of five courses required for the minor.

**C.** Students will present a substantial research paper or project to HOID faculty and students at a spring colloquium. This paper or project may develop out of work done in a history of ideas seminar, but it can also be drawn from independent research, such as a senior thesis or independent study, or from other work that students have done since coming to Brandeis. The colloquium is designed to give students the opportunity to engage with each other about their creative work at Brandeis.

---

**Courses of Instruction**


---

**(1–99) Primarily for Undergraduate Students**


---

**HOID 98a Independent Study**

Usually offered every year.  
Staff

---

**HOID 98b Independent Study**

Usually offered every year.  
Staff

---

**History of Ideas Seminars**


---

**ECS 100b**

European Cultural Studies Proseminar:  
Making of European Modernity

---

**PHIL 13b**

The Idea of the Market: Economic  
Philosophies

A graduate program

---

## The Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program

Course of Study:  
Master of Arts

---

**Objectives**

The Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program prepares leaders to understand and confront the challenges of a rapidly changing Jewish community, and to help shape its future. Intellectually robust, and experientially varied, the program offers three separate dual-degree tracks which students complete in approximately two years (five semesters):

- MA/MBA program with the Heller School of Social Policy and Management.
- MA/MPP program with the Heller School of Social Policy and Management.
- MA/MA program with the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies.

All programs combine top-quality scholarship, professional education, and carefully selected fieldwork experiences to equip leaders with the tools necessary to help craft twenty-first-century Jewish life.

Students in the Hornstein program have the opportunity to study with outstanding scholars and practitioners whose work shapes Jewish discourse, policy, and professional practice. The curriculum integrates courses in Jewish studies, nonprofit management, and Jewish communal leadership, and highlights the roles of research, evaluation, and reflective practice in achieving professional success.

---

**How to Be Admitted to the Graduate Programs**

The general requirements for admission to the Graduate School, as specified in an earlier section of this *Bulletin*, apply to candidates for admission to the Hornstein dual-degree programs. Applicants must submit a single application to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, demonstrating professional and academic capability, and the capacity for sustaining an intensive program of study.

In addition, applicants are expected to submit results of either the Graduate Management Admission Test (for the Hornstein-Heller MBA program) or the Graduate Record Examination (for the Hornstein-Heller MPP and Hornstein-NEJS MA programs). Applicants must also submit a statement that describes their Jewish interests and future professional plans, and a sample of written material. Applicants are required to arrange for a personal interview. Contact [hornstein@brandeis.edu](mailto:hornstein@brandeis.edu) for further details.

---

**Faculty**


---

**Jonathan D. Sarna, Director**

American Jewish history. Judaism in the Americas.

**David Mersky**

Philanthropy and fundraising.

**Joseph Reimer**

Jewish educational leadership.

**Amy Sales**

Jewish institutions. Demography. Planning and evaluation.

**Len Saxe**

Jewish identity. Socio-demography. Evaluation research.

**Ellen Smith**

Visual and material culture of religion. American Jewish history.

**Lawrence Sternberg**

Jewish advocacy and community relations.

See the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies in this *Bulletin*, and the Heller School for Social Policy and Management Web site, [www.heller.brandeis.edu](http://www.heller.brandeis.edu) for related faculty.

## Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts

### Hornstein-Heller School for Social Policy and Management MA/MBA Program

#### Program of Study

This program prepares professional leaders with the full complement of business and nonprofit skills, as well as specialized knowledge of Judaic studies and contemporary Jewish life. The program blends the Heller School's management curriculum with the Hornstein program's integrated approach to Jewish leadership training. Graduates of the dual-degree program receive two master's degrees: a Master of Arts in Jewish professional leadership from the Hornstein program and an MBA from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management.

#### Degree Requirements

The dual degree requires eighty course credits comprised of specific Hornstein courses totaling approximately thirty-two credits, specific Heller courses totaling thirty-eight credits, and one four-credit Near Eastern and Judaic Studies course. The remaining credits are taken as electives. The program is usually completed in five semesters, including the summer between years one and two.

#### Supervised Professional Field Experience

Supervised professional field experience forms part of the Hornstein program. It is designed to immerse students in the best professional practices within the Jewish community, and to help students refine their practical skills, learn to turn theory into action, and become self-reflective and effective practitioners.

Field experience usually takes place in the summer and/or second year of the program and usually consists of approximately 125–250 hours of work managing a project jointly created by the student, the Hornstein faculty, and the supervisor in the field organization.

#### Foster Seminar in Israel on Contemporary Jewish Life

Students travel to Israel as a required part of the curriculum to examine contemporary issues in Israeli society and its relationship with diaspora communities.

#### Language Requirement

All students are expected to know the Hebrew alphabet prior to beginning their studies. Fluency in Hebrew at a level comparable to one year of Brandeis University training is required for graduation. Students not meeting this requirement upon entrance are required to enroll in courses in Hebrew language during their academic residency. Students may fulfill the Hebrew language requirement by passing (B– or above) a 20-level or higher Hebrew course.

#### Cocurricular Requirements

##### Hornstein Leadership Forum

Meeting regularly throughout the year, this required forum brings innovative Jewish leaders into an intimate setting with Hornstein students for conversations about what makes a Jewish leader. Leaders share their vision for the coming generation of Jewish leadership, and pose “real-life” case studies from their experiences, challenging students to think through with the leader and one another possible responses. Students are involved in the planning and coordination of the seminar.

##### Starr Colloquium

Students spend three days during their first academic year in New York City visiting the national offices of major Jewish organizations to explore aspects of the communal agenda with agency executives.

### Milender Seminar in Jewish Communal Leadership

Students participate in a three-day seminar about Jewish leadership with an outstanding leader of the Jewish communal world.

#### Residence Requirement

The residence requirement is five semesters of full-time study or the equivalent thereof in part-time study.

### Hornstein-Heller School for Social Policy and Management MA/MPP Program

#### Program of Study

This program prepares professional leaders with the full complement of policy analysis and development skills, as well as specialized knowledge of Judaic studies and contemporary Jewish life. The program blends the Heller School's public policy curriculum with the Hornstein program's integrated approach to Jewish leadership training. Graduates of the dual-degree program receive two master's degrees: a Master of Arts in Jewish professional leadership from the Hornstein program and a Master of Public Policy from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management.

#### Degree Requirements

The dual Master of Arts in Jewish Professional Leadership/Master of Public Policy in Social Policy is a rigorous, interdisciplinary degree program that provides students with the skills necessary for advanced careers in the government, nonprofit, and private sectors.

The dual degree requires eighty-two course credits comprised of specific Hornstein courses totaling approximately thirty-four credits, specific Heller courses totaling thirty-two credits, and four Near Eastern and Judaic Studies credits. The remaining credits are taken as electives. The program is usually completed in five semesters including the summer between years one and two.

Dual-degree students must meet the MPP second-year thesis requirement and will generally focus their theses on Jewish community related policy. Thesis advisers will include the instructor of the thesis seminar and a designee from the Hornstein program.

#### Supervised Professional Field Experience

Supervised professional field experience forms part of the Hornstein program. It is designed to immerse students in the best professional practices within the Jewish community, and to help students refine their practical skills, learn to turn theory into action, and become self-reflective and effective practitioners.

Field experience usually takes place in the summer and/or second year of the program and usually consists of approximately 125–250 hours of work managing a project jointly created by the student, the Hornstein faculty, and the supervisor in the field organization.

#### Foster Seminar in Israel on Contemporary Jewish Life

Students travel to Israel as a required part of the curriculum to examine contemporary issues in Israeli society and its relationship with diaspora communities.

#### Language Requirement

All students are expected to know the Hebrew alphabet prior to beginning their studies. Fluency in Hebrew at a level comparable to one year of Brandeis University training is required for graduation. Students not meeting this requirement upon entrance are required to enroll in courses in Hebrew language during their academic residency. Students may fulfill the Hebrew language requirement by passing (B– or above) a 20-level or higher Hebrew course.

---

## Cocurricular Requirements

### Hornstein Leadership Forum

Meeting regularly throughout the year, this required forum brings innovative Jewish leaders into an intimate setting with Hornstein students for conversations about what makes a Jewish leader. Leaders share their vision for the coming generation of Jewish leadership, and pose “real-life” case studies from their experiences, challenging students to think through with the leader and one another possible responses. Students are involved in the planning and coordination of the seminar.

### Starr Colloquium

Students spend three days during their first academic year in New York City visiting the national offices of major Jewish organizations to explore aspects of the communal agenda with agency executives.

### Milender Seminar in Jewish Communal Leadership

Students participate in a three-day seminar about Jewish leadership with an outstanding leader of the Jewish communal world.

### Residence Requirement

The residence requirement is five semesters of full-time study or the equivalent thereof in part-time study.

---

## Hornstein-Near Eastern and Judaic Studies Dual MA Program

### Program of Study

This program prepares future Jewish leaders to understand contemporary issues within the context of Jewish history, culture, and tradition. The program provides the knowledge, research skills, and practical tools necessary to envision and help shape twenty-first-century Jewish life. Graduates of this dual-degree program receive a Master of Arts in Jewish Professional Leadership from the Hornstein Program, and a Master of Arts from the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies.

### Degree Requirements

The dual degree requires eighty course credits, usually completed in five semesters, including the summer between years one and two. Approximately thirty-two credits are taken as Hornstein courses, thirty-six credits as NEJS courses, eight credits as electives, and the remaining four credits are earned for the final project.

In the NEJS department, students take nine graduate-level (100-level or higher) NEJS or HBRW courses (thirty-six credits), including at least one pre-modern course. In the Hornstein Program, students take approximately thirty-two Hornstein credits that focus on contemporary issues and professional perspectives. Completing the overall curriculum are four credits for a final project and eight elective credits from outside Hornstein/NEJS which students select with the input of their advisers. These electives may be taken in Heller, IBS, psychology, sociology, cultural production, or other departments or programs.

A series of required cocurricular learning experiences complements the coursework, including a seminar at national Jewish agencies in New York and seminars on and off campus with leaders of the Jewish community. Each student’s program is individualized and is created in conjunction with advisers from Hornstein and NEJS.

### Supervised Professional Field Experience

Supervised professional field experience forms part of the Hornstein program. It is designed to immerse students in the best professional practices within the Jewish community, to help students refine their practical skills, learn to turn theory into action, and become self-reflective and effective practitioners.

Field experience usually takes place in the summer and/or second year of the program and usually consists of approximately 125–250 hours of work managing a project jointly created by the student, the Hornstein faculty, and the supervisor in the field organization.

### Foster Seminar in Israel on Contemporary Jewish Life

Students travel to Israel as a required part of the curriculum to examine contemporary issues in Israeli society and its relationship with diaspora communities.

### Language Requirement

All candidates are required to demonstrate proficiency in modern Hebrew at a level comparable to two years of Brandeis training in order to graduate. Students not meeting this requirement upon entrance are required to enroll in courses in Hebrew language during their academic residency. Students may fulfill the Hebrew language requirement by passing (B– or above) a 40-level or higher Hebrew course

### Final Project

Students must complete a master’s project that reflects and integrates their study in this joint program.

## Cocurricular Requirements

### Hornstein Leadership Forum

Meeting regularly throughout the year, this required forum brings innovative Jewish leaders into an intimate setting with Hornstein students for conversations about what makes a Jewish leader. Leaders share their vision for the coming generation of Jewish leadership and pose “real-life” scenarios from their experiences, challenging students to think through with the leader and one another possible responses. Students are involved in the planning and coordination of the seminar.

### Starr Colloquium

Students spend three days in New York City visiting the national offices of major Jewish organizations to explore aspects of the communal agenda with agency executives.

### Milender Seminar in Jewish Communal Leadership

Students participate in a three-day seminar about Jewish leadership with an outstanding leader of the Jewish communal world.

### Residence Requirement

The residence requirement is five semesters of full-time study or the equivalent thereof in part-time study.

---

## Affiliated Institutes

The Hornstein program is affiliated with several Brandeis institutes and programs that promote research and continuing professional education in the field of Jewish professional leadership and Jewish education. Students have access to research projects, training, courses, and professionals associated with the following.

### Fisher-Bernstein Institute for Jewish Philanthropy and Leadership:

Brings academic expertise to the study and practice of fundraising, philanthropy, and leadership in the American Jewish community. For more information, please see [www.cmjs.org/fbi](http://www.cmjs.org/fbi).

**Genesis:** A summer program for high school students empowering teens to relate their secular interests to Judaism by integrating their studies of the arts and humanities with social and political action. It provides a laboratory for work in informal Jewish education. For more information, please see [www.brandeis.edu/genesis](http://www.brandeis.edu/genesis).

**Institute for Informal Jewish Education:** Dedicated to keeping Jewish youth involved with the North American Jewish community by strengthening the field of informal Jewish education through professional education, innovative programming, research, and advocacy. For more information, please see [www.brandeis.edu/ije](http://www.brandeis.edu/ije).

**Mandel Center for Studies in Jewish Education:** The Mandel Center is dedicated to the study and improvement of Jewish education. Through its initiatives in Jewish education, the Mandel Center contributes to a flourishing Jewish present and future. For more information, please see [www.brandeis.edu/centers/mandel](http://www.brandeis.edu/centers/mandel).

**Maurice and Marilyn Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies:** The Maurice and Marilyn Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies (CCMJS) is a multidisciplinary research center dedicated to bringing the concepts, theories, and techniques of social science to bear on the study of modern Jewish life. For more information, please see [www.cmjs.org](http://www.cmjs.org).

**Schusterman Center for Israel Studies:** The Schusterman Center for Israel Studies is dedicated to promoting exemplary teaching and scholarship in Israeli history, politics, culture, and society at Brandeis and beyond. For more information, please see [www.brandeis.edu/israelcenter](http://www.brandeis.edu/israelcenter).

**Steinhardt Social Research Institute:** Collects, analyzes, and disseminates unbiased data about the Jewish community and about religion and ethnicity in the United States. For more information, please see [www.ssri.cmjs.org](http://www.ssri.cmjs.org).

## Courses of Instruction

See the sections for the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies and the Heller School for Social Policy and Management in this *Bulletin* for additional related courses.

### (200 and above) Primarily for Graduate Students

#### HRNS 202b Jewish Identity and Learning through the Life Cycle

Jews in North America develop their identities through every stage of the life cycle. For some, this involves Jewish learning at varied times in their lives. Focuses on the development of Jewish identity through the lens of the life cycle and examines how Jewish learning changes from stage to stage. Usually offered every second year.

Mr. Reimer

#### HRNS 205f Summer Camp: The American Jewish Experience

*Meets for one-half semester and yields half-course credit.*

How did American summer camps evolve? How did Jews appropriate this form for their communal needs? How did leadership develop and what are the pressing issues of today? These questions will be examined from historical, educational, and managerial perspectives. Usually offered every year.

Mr. Reimer

#### HRNS 206b Informal Education in Jewish Settings

Theory and skills of informal education as these would be applied in different types of programs and organizations in the Jewish community. Usually offered every second year.

Mr. Reimer

#### HRNS 229a Jewish Polity and Organizational Life

*Core course required for all Hornstein students. Also open to undergraduate seniors and to graduate students from other departments with permission and signature of instructor.*

Examines the structure and function of the organized Jewish community, with special attention to key issues such as leadership, decision making, organizational culture, and the relations among the many elements of the community. Primary focus is on the American Jewish community with some attention to Israel/overseas organizations and other diaspora communities. A significant component focuses on field observation and experience. Usually offered every year.

Ms. Sales

#### HRNS 237b Organizational Theory and Behavior

*Core course required of all Hornstein students.*

Organizations, even when carefully designed to be effective and benign environments, have characteristics that sometimes confound and frustrate the most dedicated professional. Examines major theories of organization, with special attention to the implications they hold for understanding and managing what goes on. By applying different analytic frameworks to real and simulated organizational dilemmas, students gain perspectives and skills to help them productively work in communal institutions. Usually offered every year.

Staff

#### HRNS 239b History and Philosophy of Jewish Philanthropy and Fundraising

Utilizing classical texts to illuminate the history and values of tzedakah, this course explores different presentation techniques employed in the contemporary Jewish communal setting. Students learn how to bring enduring Jewish values to bear upon the different tasks involved in the process of fundraising and development in Jewish organizational life. Usually offered every second year.

Mr. Mersky

#### HRNS 240a Jewish Advocacy: History, Issues, and Trends

*Core course required of all Hornstein students.*

Using case studies, this course examines the Jewish community relations organizations in North America, their early development, changing agendas, and styles of operation. The major focus is on the current issues facing the American Jewish community and the strategies to address them. Usually offered every second year.

Staff

#### HRNS 241a Skills and Techniques in Jewish Philanthropy and Fundraising

*Core course required of all Hornstein students.*

Provides a conceptual framework and develops a community organizational approach to organizing and implementing fundraising campaigns for Jewish communal organizations. Usually offered every year.

Mr. Mersky

**HRNS 243b Financial Resource Development for the Nonprofit Agency***Prerequisite: HRNS 241a.*

Explores the strategic approach to funding the nonprofit agency in the Jewish community with an emphasis on major gifts management. Students learn the process of planning, developing, and soliciting leadership support through readings, lectures, guest speakers, simulations, and role plays. Usually offered every second year.

Mr. Mersky

**HRNS 245b Jewish Leaders as Jewish Educators**

Examines the role of the American Jewish leader as Jewish educator. In a voluntary community, continuity depends largely on education: the capacity to offer a compelling vision that wins hearts and minds. Leaders are called upon to educate their community through the stories they tell, the questions they raise and the policies they sponsor. This course examines those leadership capacities through these lenses: traditional Jewish views of leaders as educators, contemporary theories of leadership, and case studies of twentieth-century Jewish leaders. Students will also pursue the developmental question of how one becomes an effective Jewish leader/educator. Usually offered every second year.

Mr. Reimer

**HRNS 246f Statistics for Jewish Professional Leaders***Core course required of all Hornstein students. Meets for one-half semester and yields half-course credit.*

Provides an introduction to statistical thinking and analytical methods. Focus is on understanding statistical reasoning and interpreting analyses. Topics include descriptive and inferential statistics applied to understanding survey research, evaluation, and policy studies relevant to Jewish organizational leadership. Usually offered every year.

Mr. Saxe

**HRNS 247f Program Evaluation for Jewish Professional Leaders***Prerequisite: HRNS 246a or equivalent course in statistical research methods.**Meets for one-half semester and yields half-course credit.*

Provides participants with an understanding of the basic concepts of evaluation research and their application to Jewish communal policy. Emphasizes methodological issues and their application to social interventions and program delivery using exemplars from the Jewish communal sphere. Usually offered every second year.

Mr. Saxe

**HRNS 260a Jewish Community and Identity***Core course required for all Hornstein students. Also open to undergraduate seniors and to graduate students from other departments with permission and signature of instructor.*

This course approaches an understanding of Jewish identity from a social science perspective. It considers the role of Jewish identity in developing notions of peoplehood and community. Along with exploring socio-psychological theories of identity development, it considers the question of who is a Jew, the formation of Jewish identity at the individual and group level, the forces that promote or detract from strong Jewish identification, and the measurement of Jewish identity. The goal of the course is to develop a complex understanding of identity and its implications for Jewish communal work. Usually offered every year.

Ms. Sales

**HRNS 297a Hornstein Professional Field Experience***Open to Hornstein students who have completed at least one semester of course work in the program. Course yields half-course credit.*

Students work 125–250 hours under the mentorship of a leader in a Jewish nonprofit organization. Placements are carefully designed to advance professional leadership skills and match students' interests and career goals. Each student is advised by a faculty member and by the manager or fieldwork and alumni relations. Usually offered every semester.

Staff

**HRNS 300a Readings in International Jewish Community**

Staff

**HRNS 301b Readings in Jewish Education**

Mr. Reimer

**HRNS 302a Readings in Philanthropy and the Contemporary Jewish Community**

Ms. Sales

**HRNS 307a Readings on the Jews of Boston**

Ms. Smith

**HRNS 308a Readings in Jewish Organizational Behavior**

Mr. Rosen

**HRNS 309a Readings in Pluralism in Jewish Education**

Staff

**HRNS 310a Readings in Jewish Advocacy**

Mr. Sternberg

**HRNS 311a Readings in Jewish Philanthropy and Fundraising**

Mr. Mersky

**HRNS 350f Foster Seminar in Israel on Contemporary Jewish Life**

An intensive examination of contemporary issues in Israeli society and its relationship with Diaspora communities.

Ms. Smith

**HRNS 380a Proseminar: Issues, Structure, and Perspectives of the American Jewish Community**

*Required course for all Hornstein students.* An introduction to key issues in the structure and perspectives of the American Jewish community. Students will develop a shared background, language, and experiences in their first semester to serve as a foundation throughout their career—both at Brandeis and in the field. Usually offered every year.

Mr. Reimer

**HRNS 390a Independent Study**

Staff