

To Students Interested in Jewish Studies:

The Jewish Studies Program provides opportunities to take classes across many different disciplines throughout Georgia State University. These courses range from biblical and modern languages to global media culture. The following courses will be offered in the Spring of 2010. See our website for further information about the Jewish Studies program (<http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwrel/6631.html>).

## **JEWISH STUDIES COURSES SPRING 2010:**

### **HBRB 1002: Beginning Biblical Hebrew II                      TR    11:00-12:15 pm**

While formally HBRB1001 is required for this course, if you had **any amount** of exposure to Hebrew in the past you may qualify for the Spring semester course. The first semester provided the writing system, a basic vocabulary, and an initiation of grammar and syntax. If you can decode (pronounce) the Hebrew writing and have even the most basic vocabulary, come and take the placement test. In the second semester we will devote most of the time to reading selected passages from the Hebrew Bible in the original Hebrew and develop your Hebrew skills from simple decoding to actual reading, translating and interpreting the text based on its linguistic attributes. The course lays the foundation for more advanced courses focused on Biblical texts. For more information on this course, please contact Dr. Joab Eichenberg-Eilon, [jeichenbergeilon@gsu.edu](mailto:jeichenbergeilon@gsu.edu).

### **HBRM 1002: Elementary Modern Hebrew II                      MW    1:30-2:45 pm**

While formally HBRM1001 is required for this course, if you had **any amount** of exposure to Hebrew in the past you may qualify for the Spring semester course. The first semester provided students with the knowledge of the Hebrew writing system, a basic vocabulary, and simple expressions and dialogues. If you can decode (pronounce) the Hebrew writing and/or if you have even a modest vocabulary of Modern Hebrew, come and take the placement test. In the second semester we will devote most of the time to developing Hebrew communications skills: Introductions, dating, shopping, traveling, living in a Hebrew-speaking environment, etc. This course lays the foundation for higher level courses including literature. For more information on this course, please contact Dr. Joab Eichenberg-Eilon, [jeichenbergeilon@gsu.edu](mailto:jeichenbergeilon@gsu.edu).

### **HBRM 2002: Intermediate Modern Hebrew II                      MW    1:30-2:45 pm**

While formally HBRB2001 is required for this course, if you have had several years of Hebrew in a Jewish Day School or a semester or two of Modern Hebrew in another university, or if you had spent a minimum of three months in Israel, you may qualify for the Spring semester course. In the first semester the class reviewed first-year learning and deepened it in terms of vocabulary, the use of Hebrew in specific situations, as well as learning from Israeli movies. If you can read simple passages of Hebrew and make basic conversation such as introductions, shopping, traveling, etc., try the placement test. You may be surprised. In the second semester we will devote most of the time to understanding Hebrew spoken in by Israelis in normal speed and improving fluency, pronunciation and confidence in using Hebrew for communication.

For more information on this course, please contact Dr. Joab Eichenberg-Eilon, [jeichenbergeilon@gsu.edu](mailto:jeichenbergeilon@gsu.edu).

**PERS 2001: Through the Looking Glass: Perceptions and Misconceptions of Israeli-Arab Relations** **TR 9:30-10:20 am**

Contrary to common perception, Arabs and Jews, Palestinians and Israelis, Zionists and Arab Nationalists are not inherently antinomian. The escalating conflicts of the past decades caused many situations – past and present - to be overlooked, in which commonality trumped discord. The course explores past cases – including Israeli, Palestinian and other Arab peace initiatives, peace activism on both sides, polls of public opinion, and more - and considers scenarios for a future constructive solution in the Middle East. For more information on this course, please contact Dr. Joab Eichenberg-Eilon, [jeichenbergeilon@gsu.edu](mailto:jeichenbergeilon@gsu.edu).

**MES 4460/RELS 6490: Rabbinic Literature and Kabbalah** **TR 2:30-3:45 pm**

The rational and the mystical are the brick-and-mortar of Judaism. This course explores the seminal texts (in translation) and the foremost figures of both school that have given Judaism much of its characteristics after the Biblical era. What is the meaning of “the Sages said...” or “Our Rabbis taught...”? Why has Kabbalah been so fascinating to so many people – Jewish or not – over the ages? How much of today’s Judaism comes from the rabbinic and mystical traditions? Using lively texts resembling legends and at time even sci-fi, we virtually travel in time and meet ideas, symbols, values, customs and events from an entirely different sphere. For more information on this course, please contact Dr. Joab Eichenberg-Eilon, [jeichenbergeilon@gsu.edu](mailto:jeichenbergeilon@gsu.edu).

**HIST 4640/SOCI 3228: The Holocaust: Issues and Interpretations**

**TR 2:30-3:45 pm**

This course explores the Holocaust, the persecution and genocide of European Jews and other groups by Germans during World War II. Though course content covers the history of the main events of the Holocaust, its primary focus will be on historiography: students will concentrate on the ways historians have interpreted the causes, course, and consequences of the mass murder. For more information on this course, please contact Dr. Joe Perry, [jbperry@gsu.edu](mailto:jbperry@gsu.edu).

**HIST 3680: Jewish Diasporas in the Modern Era** **TR 1:00-2:40 pm**

Jewish Diasporas in the Modern Era explores the history of global Jewry during the modern period, from the Iberian expulsion until the late twentieth century. It examines how Jews have defined themselves socially and politically in a number of historical and geographical settings, as well as how Jewish cultural and religious practices have been shaped and transformed over time. For more information on this course, please contact Dr. Marni Davis, [marnidavis@gsu.edu](mailto:marnidavis@gsu.edu).

**SOCI 3212: Race and Ethnic Relations**

**TR 9:30-10:45 pm**

This course focuses on social interactions and inequalities between and within racial-ethnic groups. We also study racial-ethnic identities and conflicts mainly in the US., but with some reference to other societies too.

Topics emphasized in this course are: Racial/Ethnic Identities and Labels; Racism; Prejudice; Discrimination; Immigration; Assimilation; Pluralism; Segregation and Integration; these and related matters are examined in a broad range of areas, such as humor, sports, mass media, politics, work and economics, dating and family life. For more information on this course, please contact Dr. Charles Jaret, [cjaret@gsu.edu](mailto:cjaret@gsu.edu).

**COMM 6160/8980: Global Television**

**W 1:00-3:30 pm**

This course will critically examine the ideological, political, cultural, economic and industrial discourses of globalization as they relate to the study of television and other media. Despite television's global reach the discipline of television studies remains extremely Western-centric. However, like the medium itself, its accompanying scholarly disciplines, methods and critical writings are also undergoing a process of globalization, as models of textual analysis, cultural imperialism, and even globalization itself are challenged by current media realities. We will address issues of television industries, texts, and audiences' globalization as well as issues of identity formation (race/ethnicity/gender/class and more) in multiple cultural contexts. The goal of the seminar is to ensure that participants are able to map key issues, concepts, theories, and methodologies for future research in the area of inquiry. Students are welcome to write final research projects about a wide variety of theoretical issues pertaining to globalization and film/media in various geographical and cultural locations. For more information on this course, please contact Dr. Sharon Shahaf, [sharonsha@gsu.edu](mailto:sharonsha@gsu.edu).