

JEWISH STUDIES - BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

The Bachelor of Arts in Jewish Studies is designed to help students develop the professional skills they need to become engaged global citizens, preparing them to obtain a job after graduation, pursue graduate studies and engage in dialogues about social justice around the world. By studying the world through the lens of Jewish culture, history, literature, society, and thought from a broad, interdisciplinary perspective, our students gain fundamental critical thinking, problem solving and communication skills.

Students pursuing a BA in Jewish studies may choose one of the following two concentrations:

- Culture intensive concentration, in which students will pursue an in-depth study of Jewish culture.
- Foreign language intensive concentration, in which students will obtain advanced language skills in addition to considerable knowledge of Jewish culture.

The major in Jewish studies is open to all students of all backgrounds, Jewish and non-Jewish.

Requirements

General Requirements

In addition to the general requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences, students must complete 36 credit hours of Jewish Studies requirements, of which 18 credit hours must be in upper-division (3000- or 4000-level) courses. Of the 18 upper-division credit hours, 12 must be completed on the CU Boulder campus.

A grade of C- or better must be received in all courses used to satisfy the major requirements, with an overall average of 2.00 in the major.

No more than 6 credit hours may be taken in independent study. No pass/fail graded courses may satisfy the 36-credit-hour minimum requirement. No more than 45 credits in JWST may be applied to overall graduation requirements.

For the specific major course requirements, see the Concentration Areas tab.

Graduating in Four Years

Consult the Four-Year Guarantee Requirements for information on eligibility. The concept of "adequate progress" as it is used here only refers to maintaining eligibility for the four-year guarantee; it is not a requirement for the major.

Please speak with your advisor for specific recommendations; the following is intended to be a general outline only and there may be flexibility to this plan. To maintain adequate progress in Jewish Studies, students should meet the following requirements:

- Declare the major by the beginning of the second semester of freshman year.
- Chose to pursue either the Culture Intensive Concentration or the Foreign Language Intensive Concentration.
- For students pursuing the Foreign Language Intensive Concentration, have language study approved by Jewish Studies' Director of

Undergraduate Studies by the beginning of the first semester of freshman year. Enroll in beginning language course (or language level applicable) during the first semester of freshman year.

- Enroll in JWST 2350/GSLL 2350 the second semester of freshman year.
- Each semester, complete two Jewish Studies courses.
- The last spring semester in residence, complete the Capstone in Jewish Studies (JWST 4000).
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Concentration Areas

Students pursuing a BA in Jewish studies may choose one of the following two concentrations: culture intensive or foreign language intensive.

Culture Intensive Concentration

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		6
JWST/GSLL 2350	Introduction to Jewish Culture	
JWST 4000	Capstone in Jewish Studies (Senior Capstone)	

Fundamental Jewish Studies Requirements ¹

Select at least two of the following courses, all courses are highly recommended: 6

JWST/HIST/RLST 1818	Jewish History to 1492	
JWST/HIST/RLST 1828	Jewish History Since 1492	
JWST/GSLL 2551	Modern Jewish Literature	
JWST/RLST 3100	Judaism	
JWST/IAFS/GSLL 3600	Contemporary Jewish Societies	

Literature, Culture, and the Arts ²

Select at least two of the following courses 6

JWST/GSLL 2551	Modern Jewish Literature	
JWST/RLST 3110	Of Jewish Legends, Folktales and the Supernatural	
JWST 3120	Radical Jews	
JWST/ENGL 3310	The Bible as Literature	
JWST/GSLL 3401	The Heart of Europe: Filmmakers and Writers in 20th Century Central Europe	
JWST/GRMN 3501	The German-Jewish Experience: From the Enlightenment to the Present	
JWST 3820	Topics in Jewish Studies	
JWST 4101	Topics in Hebrew Studies	
JWST/MUSC 4122	Music in Jewish Culture	
JWST 4203	Israeli Literature: Exile, Nation, Home	
JWST/HIST 4544	History of Yiddish Culture	
JWST/ENGL 4677	Jewish-American Literature	
JWST 4900	Independent Study in Jewish Studies (On topic relevant to Literature, Culture, and the Arts)	
HUMN/GRMN 2601	Kafka and the Kafkaesque ³	

History, Politics, and Religion

Select at least two of the following courses 6

FYSM 1000	First Year Seminar (God) ⁴
JWST 1234/ ENGL 1340	Mysticism and the Jewish American Literary Tradition
JWST/HIST/RLST 1818	Jewish History to 1492
JWST/HIST/RLST 1828	Jewish History Since 1492
JWST/HIST/RLST 1830	Global History of Holocaust and Genocide
JWST/RLST 1900	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament
JWST/RLST 1910	Introduction to the New Testament
JWST/GRMN 2502	Representing the Holocaust
JWST/RLST 2600	Judaism, Christianity, and Islam: Abrahamic Religions
JWST/RLST 3100	Judaism
JWST/RLST 3150	Jerusalem: The Holy City in History, Legend, and Religious Thought
JWST/WGST 3200	Religion and Feminist Thought
JWST/RLST 3202/ WGST 3201	Women, Gender & Sexuality in Jewish Texts & Traditions
JWST/IAFS/RLST 3530	Global Seminar: Jews and Muslims - The Multiethnic History of Istanbul
JWST/IAFS/GSLL 3600	Contemporary Jewish Societies
JWST/IAFS 3610	Topics in International Affairs and Jewish Studies
JWST/IAFS 3650	History of Arab-Israeli Conflict
JWST 3681	Refugees in German Culture
JWST 3930	Internship in Jewish Studies
JWST/ANTH 4050	Anthropology of Jews and Judaism
JWST/RLST 4170	God and Politics
JWST/RLST 4180	Is God Dead?
JWST/RLST 4190	Love and Desire
JWST 4200	Religion and Reproductive Politics in the United States
JWST/RLST 4260	Topics in Judaism
JWST 4301	Venice: The Cradle of European Jewish Culture
JWST 4302/ IAFS 3520	Global Seminar: Justice, Human Rights and Democracy in Israel
JWST/HIST 4338	History of Modern Israel/Palestine
JWST/HIST 4348	Topics in Jewish History
JWST 4388	History Today: Global Intensive in Israel/ Palestine
JWST/HIST 4378	History of Modern Jewish-Muslim Relations
JWST/HIST 4454	Jewish Thought in Modern History
JWST 4524	Expulsions and Diasporas: The Jews of Spain and Portugal
JWST/HIST 4534	Modern European Jewish History

JWST/ANTH 4580 The Holocaust: An Anthropological
PerspectiveJWST 4800 Ethics, Medicine and the Holocaust:
Legacies in Health and Society

JWST/HIST 4827 Modern U.S. Jewish History since 1880

JWST/HIST 4837 Jews in the American West

JWST 4900 Independent Study in Jewish Studies (On
topic relevant to History, Religion, and
Politics)WRTG 3020 Topics in Writing (After the Holocaust) ⁴**Electives (12 credit hours from the courses listed above not
used to fulfill a requirement listed above) ³ 12***Auxiliary Courses (Optional) (maximum of 6 credit hours)*

Auxiliary courses are courses from outside the Program in Jewish Studies which may count toward a Jewish Studies major. For all auxiliary courses, all final projects must be approved for the Jewish Studies major by the Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Program in Jewish Studies. A current list of auxiliary courses eligible to be counted towards the Jewish Studies major can be found on the Program in Jewish Studies website.

Total Credit Hours 36**Foreign Language Intensive Concentration**

Code	Title	Credit Hours
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Required Courses 6

JWST/GSLL 2350	Introduction to Jewish Culture
JWST 4000	Capstone in Jewish Studies (Senior Capstone)

Language Requirement

Three years of university level language training or demonstrated equivalent proficiency in Hebrew (modern or Biblical) or another language that is to be used in the Jewish Studies capstone project (JWST 4000). Examples include Russian, French, German, Arabic or Spanish. Language must be approved by the Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Program in Jewish Studies.	0-12
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Fundamental Jewish Studies Requirements ¹

Select at least two of the following courses, all courses are highly recommended: 6

JWST/HIST/RLST Jewish History to 1492
1818JWST/HIST/RLST Jewish History Since 1492
1828

JWST/GSLL 2551 Modern Jewish Literature

JWST/RLST 3100 Judaism

JWST/IAFS/GSLL Contemporary Jewish Societies
3600*Optional but highly recommended:*

JWST 3930 Internship in Jewish Studies

Additional Requirements

12–24 remaining credit hours, of which at least eight must be upper division (3000-4000 level), taken from among the following list or other courses by approval of major advisor: 12-24

Lower Division: ²

FYSM 1000	First Year Seminar (God) ⁴
JWST 1234/ ENGL 1340	Mysticism and the Jewish American Literary Tradition
JWST/HIST/RLST 1830	Global History of Holocaust and Genocide
JWST/RLST 1900	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament
JWST/RLST 1910	Introduction to the New Testament
JWST/GRMN 2502	Representing the Holocaust
JWST/RLST 2600	Judaism, Christianity, and Islam: Abrahamic Religions
HEBR 1030	Beginning Biblical Hebrew, First Semester
HEBR 2040	Intermediate Biblical Hebrew, Second Semester
HEBR 2120	Intermediate Modern Hebrew, Second Semester
HUMN/GRMN 2601	Kafka and the Kafkaesque ⁴

Upper Division:

JWST/RLST 3110	Of Jewish Legends, Folktales and the Supernatural
JWST/RLST 3120	Radical Jews
JWST/RLST 3150	Jerusalem: The Holy City in History, Legend, and Religious Thought
JWST/WGST 3200	Religion and Feminist Thought
JWST/RLST 3202/ WGST 3201	Women, Gender & Sexuality in Jewish Texts & Traditions
JWST/ENGL 3310	The Bible as Literature
JWST/GSLL 3401	The Heart of Europe: Filmmakers and Writers in 20th Century Central Europe
JWST/GRMN 3501	The German-Jewish Experience: From the Enlightenment to the Present
JWST/IAFS/RLST 3530	Global Seminar: Jews and Muslims - The Multiethnic History of Istanbul
JWST/IAFS 3610	Topics in International Affairs and Jewish Studies
JWST/IAFS 3650	History of Arab-Israeli Conflict
JWST 3681	Refugees in German Culture
JWST 3820	Topics in Jewish Studies
JWST/ANTH 4050	Anthropology of Jews and Judaism
JWST/HEBR 4101	Topics in Hebrew Studies
JWST/MUSC 4122	Music in Jewish Culture
JWST/RLST 4170	God and Politics
JWST/RLST 4180	Is God Dead?
JWST/RLST 4190	Love and Desire
JWST 4200	Religion and Reproductive Politics in the United States
JWST 4203	Israeli Literature: Exile, Nation, Home
JWST/RLST 4260	Topics in Judaism
JWST 4301	Venice: The Cradle of European Jewish Culture
JWST 4302/ IAFS 3520	Global Seminar: Justice, Human Rights and Democracy in Israel

JWST/HIST 4338	History of Modern Israel/Palestine
JWST/HIST 4348	Topics in Jewish History
JWST/HIST 4378	History of Modern Jewish-Muslim Relations
JWST/HIST 4454	Jewish Thought in Modern History
JWST 4524	Expulsions and Diasporas: The Jews of Spain and Portugal
JWST/HIST 4534	Modern European Jewish History
JWST/HIST 4544	History of Yiddish Culture
JWST/ANTH 4580	The Holocaust: An Anthropological Perspective
JWST/ENGL 4677	Jewish-American Literature
JWST 4800	Ethics, Medicine and the Holocaust: Legacies in Health and Society
JWST/HIST 4827	Modern U.S. Jewish History since 1880
JWST/HIST 4837	Jews in the American West
JWST 4900	Independent Study in Jewish Studies
HEBR 3010	Third Year Modern Hebrew, First Semester
HEBR 3020	Third Year Modern Hebrew, Second Semester
HEBR 3030	Advanced Biblical Hebrew, Third Year, First Semester
WRTG 3020	Topics in Writing (After the Holocaust) ⁴

Auxiliary Courses (Optional) (maximum of 6 credit hours)

Auxiliary courses are courses from outside the Program in Jewish Studies which may count toward a Jewish Studies major. For all auxiliary courses, all final projects must be approved for the Jewish Studies major by the Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Program in Jewish Studies. A current list of auxiliary courses eligible to be counted towards the Jewish Studies major can be found on the Program in Jewish Studies website.

Total Credit Hours 36

- 1 Additional Fundamental Jewish Studies Requirement courses can be taken to fulfill another major requirement where allowed.
- 2 For students pursuing the Culture Intensive Concentration, language courses may count as electives, but they do not count for Literature, Culture, and the Arts.
- 3 Not subject to the 6 credit hours limit on Auxiliary courses from outside Jewish Studies.
- 4 Electives can come from JWST, HEBR, or a range of other departments.
- 5 For student pursuing the Language Intensive Concentration, the first three semesters of modern Hebrew (or any equivalent language being used in the required capstone course JWST 4000) do not count as credit hours toward the major.

Recommended Four-Year Plan of Study Culture Intensive Concentration

Through the required coursework for this track of the major, students will complete all 12 credits of the Arts & Humanities area of the Gen Ed Distribution Requirement as well as one component of the Gen Ed Diversity Requirement and may complete some of the Social Sciences area of the Gen Ed Distribution Requirement.

Year One

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
JWST Fundamental Jewish Studies course	3
Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: Lower-division Written Communication)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution/Diversity course (example: Social Sciences/US Perspective)	3
Elective or MAPS	3
Elective or MAPS	3
Credit Hours	15

Spring Semester

JWST 2350	Introduction to Jewish Culture	3
JWST Fundamental Jewish Studies course		3
Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: QRMS)		3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences with Lab)		4
Elective or MAPS (If needed)		3
Credit Hours		16

Year Two

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
JWST History, Politics, and Religion course	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Social Sciences)	3
Free Elective	2
Free Elective	3
Credit Hours	14

Spring Semester

JWST Literature, Culture, and the Arts course	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Social Sciences)	1
Free Elective	2
Free Elective	3
Free Elective	3
Credit Hours	15

Year Three

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
JWST Upper-division Elective	3
Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: Upper-division Written Communication)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Credit Hours	15

Spring Semester

JWST 3930	Internship in Jewish Studies (optional but encouraged)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Social Sciences)		3
Upper-Division Elective		3
Upper-Division Elective		3
Free Elective		3
Credit Hours		15

Year Four

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
JWST Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Elective	3
Credit Hours	15

Spring Semester

JWST 4000	Capstone in Jewish Studies	3
JWST Upper-Division Elective		3
Upper-Division Elective		3
Upper-Division Elective		3
Upper-Division Elective		3
Credit Hours		15
Total Credit Hours		120

Foreign Language Intensive Concentration

Through the required coursework for this track of the major, students will complete all 12 credit hours of the Arts & Humanities area of the Gen Ed Distribution Requirement as well as one category of the Gen Ed Diversity Requirement and may complete some of the Social Sciences area of the Gen Ed Distribution Requirement.

Year One

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
Fundamental Jewish Studies course	3
Beginning Foreign Language 1 (If needed; does not count toward JWST language required. Choices are Hebrew, Russian, German, French, Arabic, or Spanish)	3
Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: Lower-division Written Communication)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Social Sciences)	3
Elective or MAPS	3
Credit Hours	15

Spring Semester

JWST 2350	Introduction to Jewish Culture	3
Beginning Foreign Language 2 (If needed; does not count towards JWST language requirement. Choices are: Hebrew, Russian, German, French, Arabic, or Spanish)		3
Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: QRMS)		3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences with Lab)		4
Elective or MAPS (If needed)		3
Credit Hours		16

Year Two

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
Fundamental Jewish Studies course	3
Intermediate Foreign Language 1 (If needed; does not count towards JWST language requirement. Choices are: Hebrew, Russian, German, French, Arabic, or Spanish)	3-5
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution/Diversity course (example: Social Sciences/Global Perspective)	3

Free Elective	2
Credit Hours	14-16

Spring Semester

JWST Literature, Culture, and the Arts course	3
Intermediate Foreign Language 2	3-5
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Social Sciences)	1
Free Elective	2
Free Elective	3
Credit Hours	15-17

Year Three

Fall Semester

JWST Elective Upper Division	3
Advanced Foreign Language 1	3
Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: Upper-division Written Communication)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Credit Hours	15

Spring Semester

JWST 3930	Internship in Jewish Studies (optional but encouraged)	3
Advanced Foreign Language 2		3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Social Sciences)		3
Upper-Division Elective		3
Elective or Upper-division Elective (if needed)		3
Credit Hours		15

Year Four

Fall Semester

JWST Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Elective	3
Credit Hours	15

Spring Semester

JWST 4000	Capstone in Jewish Studies	3
JWST Upper-Division Elective		3
Upper-Division Elective		3
Upper-Division Elective		3
Elective		3
Credit Hours		15

Total Credit Hours	120-124
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- Dimensions of Jewish culture across variant Jewish communities, including differences in Jewish cultural practices, Jewish music and film, and Jewish philosophies, religious practices, mysticisms and thought.
- Jewish literature from the biblical period to the present, including Israeli literature, the Hebrew origins of western civilization and contemporary Jewish literature.
- Global languages of the Jewish people, including Hebrew, Arabic, Spanish, French, Italian, Russian, German, Ladino and others (for students pursuing the foreign language intensive concentration).

In addition, it is expected that through a degree in Jewish Studies:

- Students will think critically about the historical and global diversity of Jewish cultures, religion, practice and thought.
- Students will analyze a wide range of contemporary and historical events, structures and movements using perspectives drawn from fields including (among others) history, women and gender studies, religious studies, literary studies and the arts.
- Students will communicate complex ideas from the field of Jewish studies to academic and general audiences.
- Students will analyze how power and privilege function in Jewish history, cultures, religion, practice and thought, exploring the intersection of gender, sexuality, race, class, ability, nationality and colonialism.
- Students will work collaboratively to implement, and organize around, a range of theoretical and methodological perspectives used in Jewish studies.

Learning Outcomes

An undergraduate degree in Jewish Studies emphasizes knowledge and awareness of:

- The history of global Jewish communities over time, including the history of Israel and Palestine, biblical and medieval Jewish history, history of Jewish communities in the Mediterranean, the history of the Holocaust and post-Holocaust American Judaism.