

M.A. in Jewish Studies

Learning Goals

Students completing the M.A. in Jewish Studies will be able to a) conceptualize the development of Jewish culture and history over time (from the era of the Bible until the present) and space (comparing the variety of Jewish cultural production in a given historical moment); b) recognize and analyze classical, pre-modern Jewish sources (Bible, Mishna, Talmud, Maimonides, etc.); c) understand the variety of methodologies (historical, literary, philological, anthropological, philosophical, and sociological) used to study Jewish culture; d) demonstrate language proficiency (two years) in Hebrew or another Jewish language; e) investigate Jewish culture through its literature, mainly in the original language, though if necessary in translation; and f) critically read, think and write on the Jewish experience, at the appropriate graduate level.

Assessment

Assessment during the early stages of a student's M.A. program will be via:

- Grades in graduate-level courses.
- Review by faculty of student progress with close advising and mentoring.
- Language exam, proctored by the Hebrew language staff (or appropriate faculty member if a language other than Hebrew is chosen).

Assessment during the later stages of a student's M.A. program will be via:

- Comprehensive exam (judging the breadth of one's knowledge).
- M.A. thesis (evaluating the student's ability to do in-depth research and analysis).