

M.A. in Jewish Studies

Degree Requirements (30 credits) – with one of two options:

M.A. with Thesis

- Eight (8) 3-credit courses (as delineated below)
- 6-credit M.A. thesis (see below)
- Comprehensive examination (see below)
- Language examination (see below)

M.A. without Thesis

- Ten (10) 3-credit courses (as delineated below)
- Comprehensive examination (see below)
- Language examination (see below)
- Note: Students pursuing this track have the option of a 3-credit “M.A. paper,” which may count as one of their ten courses, to serve as a capstone project during the last semester of the program.

Courses:

- Jewish History I (16:563:501) and Jewish History II (16:563:502)
- At least one course must be taken in each of the two time periods: pre-modern (i.e., ancient and medieval) and modern.
- At least two additional courses must be taken in two different disciplines from among the following: history, literature, religious text study, cultural studies, social science.
- No more than two courses may be taken at other universities, subject to the approval of the Graduate Director.

- No more than two graduate-level courses may be taken in other Rutgers departments, also subject to the approval of the Graduate Director.
- No more than two 300- and 400-level (i.e., upper-level undergraduate) courses taught at Rutgers by professorial-level department faculty may be counted, with the expectation that additional work will be required in order to receive graduate credit. Enrollment in these courses must be approved in advance by the Graduate Director.

M.A. Thesis:

The 6-credit thesis, comprised of original scholarly research, will examine a particular subject in depth. The topic will be selected in consultation with the Graduate Director. The thesis will be supervised by three faculty members, a primary advisor and two secondary readers.

Comprehensive Examination:

Students will be required to take a comprehensive written exam, in both a major area and a minor area, with the specific fields to be determined based on the individual student's interests and coursework. The exam will be designed and read by three faculty members, shared in some way between the major and minor areas.

Language Examination:

Students will be required to take a language examination to demonstrate proficiency in either Hebrew or another Jewish language. Fellowship awards toward summer language study may be available to eligible students.