JUDAIC STUDIES

General Courses:
JS 78 Jewish Women
JS 91-01 Ladino Language & Culture
JS 136 The Story of King David
JS 142 Jewish Experience on Film
JS 150 Music and Prayer in the Jewish Tradition
JS 162 Philip Roth & Company

Special courses:
JS 94/194 Directed Study/Adv Directed Study
JS 99 Internship
JS 199 Senior Honors Thesis

General courses
JS 78 Jewish Women
Ascher J+ TR 3:00-4:15
Images, experiences, and accomplishments of Jewish women in life, literature, and tradition from Biblical times to the present. Focus on individual women from various times and cultures. Discussion of basic issues, present conditions, and prospects. Cross-listed as ILVS 62 and REL 78. In English. This course satisfies an IR requirement. Please see their website for more details.

JS 91-01 Ladino Language & Culture
Ascher F+ TR 12:00-1:15
Introduction to the language known as Ladino and the culture of the Sephardic Jews who have spoken it for over 500 years. When they were expelled from Spain in 1492, Jews took this language with them, and it has been enriched through contact with languages encountered in their various lands of resettlement. Emphasis on the living language: understanding, speaking, and writing (including creatively). Texts will include proverbs, stories, and songs from the folk tradition as well as contemporary poems and songs, and basic language materials. Some background in Spanish (or Ladino!) is helpful, but not essential. Cross-listed as SPN 92-A. This course satisfies an IR requirement. Please see their website for more details.

JS 136 The Story of King David
Rosenberg ARR W 4:30-7:15
King David was ancient Israel's most pivotal leader, who transformed Israel from a loose confederation of tribes to a dynastic monarchy with a capital in Jerusalem, fashioning a people into a nation in a more complex sense. The story of his acquisition and use of power is told in the biblical books 1 and 2 Samuel and the first two chapters of 1 Kings, which present a critique of kingly power and an examination of both the strengths and failings of Israel's first dynastic king. The course explores these and related biblical narratives, viewed in the light of modern historical and literary study, and cultural theory. Cross-listed as REL 137, ILVS 92-04 and WL 136. This course satisfies an IR requirement. Please see their website for more details.
JS 142 Jewish Experience on Film  
Rosenberg          ARR          T 4:30-7:30, R 4:30-5:45  
Selected classic and contemporary films dealing with aspects of Jewish experience in America, Europe, and Israel, combined with reading on the cultural and philosophical problems illuminated by each film. One weekly session will be devoted to screenings, the other to discussion of the films and readings. In English. Cross-listed as REL 142, FMS 84, ILVS 103, and WL 142.

JS 150 Music & Prayer in Jewish Tradition  
Summit          H+          TR 1:30-2:45  
This course will examine the role and function of music in Jewish worship. We will consider the ways that music is used strategically by men and women as they define, present and maintain their religious and cultural identity. The course will focus on the Kabbalat Shabbat (Friday evening) service and consider such topics as participation vs. performance in worship, music and historical authenticity in prayer, music and religious experience, the invention and preservation of tradition and how liturgical music is used to negotiate issues of dual culturalism in the American Jewish community. Cross-listed as MUS 54 and REL 158. In English.

JS 162 Philip Roth and Company  
Freedman-Bellow  F+         TR 12:00-1:15  
Philip Roth’s fiction alongside that of a number of writers, including Saul Bellow, Henry James, and Franz Kafka, whom Roth has either parodied, refracted, obsessed about or appropriated. Texts include Portnoy’s Complaint, The Ghost Writer, The Breast and The Professor of Desire. Recommendations: ENG 1/2 REQUIRED or Fulfillment of College Writing Requirement. Recommended that the student already have taken either ENG 20, 21, 22, or 23. Cross-listed as ENG 162.