Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures is an academic department, unique in North America, in which Jewish Studies and Islamic Studies are integrated. It is an interdisciplinary department whose purpose is to explore the historical experience; literary, religious and cultural expression; and political and material life of the Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern civilizations. Whether students favor the study of language, literature, religion, history or politics, they will find in our courses a way to deepen their appreciation of these complex and diverse societies and cultures. Students will also be encouraged to explore the interaction of Jews and Muslims with neighboring societies and cultures in the Middle East, Europe, North Africa, and other parts of the world.

Our majors and minors have gone on to do many things after graduation. Many have entered professional schools in such fields as law, journalism, education, the rabbinate or ministry, government, and communal or social work. Others have gone on to do graduate work in either Jewish or Islamic studies or in related disciplines. Still others have combined their interest in Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern languages and cultures with careers in business, medicine or scientific research. All have found the major to have been an intellectually and emotionally rewarding experience and an important component of their overall development.

Our goals are to:

1. Convey an appreciation for the complexities, depth, diversity and cultural richness of Jewish and Islamic civilizations in their historical context from antiquity to the present.
2. Explore the interaction of Jewish, Islamic and other Near Eastern societies and cultures with neighboring peoples both within and outside the Middle East.
3. Encourage mastery of the primary languages and literatures in which Jews and Muslims have expressed their cultures.
4. Prepare students for graduate or professional studies in these or related fields.

Phone:  (314) 935-5110 or (314) 935-8567
E-mail:  artsci-jinelc@wustl.edu
Departmental website:  http://jinelc.wustl.edu

Chair
Nancy Berg
Professor of Hebrew Language and Literature
PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Endowed Professor
Hillel J. Kieval
Gloria M. Goldstein Professor of Jewish History and Thought
PhD, Harvard University

Associate Professors
Pamela Barmash
Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible and Biblical Hebrew
PhD, Harvard University

Martin Jacobs
Associate Professor of Rabbinic Studies
PhD and Habilitation, Free University of Berlin

Erin McGlothlin
Associate Professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures
PhD, University of Virginia

Nancy Reynolds
Associate Professor of Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures
PhD, Stanford University

Hayrettin Yucesoy
Associate Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies
PhD, University of Chicago

Assistant Professors
Anne-Marie McManus
Assistant Professor of Modern Arabic Literature
PhD, Yale University

Aria Nakissa
Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies
PhD, Harvard University

Senior Lecturers
Housni Bennis
Senior Lecturer in Arabic
PhD candidate, Washington University

Giore Etzion
Senior Lecturer in Modern Hebrew
MA, University of Michigan

Rami Pinsberg
Senior Lecturer in Modern Hebrew
MEd, University of Missouri–St. Louis
Younasse Tarbouni
Senior Lecturer in Arabic
PhD Candidate, L'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS)

Mohammad J. Warsi
Senior Lecturer in South Asian Languages and Cultures
PhD, Aligarh Muslim University

Sara Jay
Lecturer in Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures
PhD, Washington University

Postdoctoral Fellow
Saul Zaritt
Friedman Postdoctoral Fellow in Jewish Studies
PhD, The Jewish Theological Seminary

Endowed Professor — Affiliated
John R. Bowen
Dunbar–Van Cleve Professor in Arts & Sciences
PhD, University of Chicago
(Anthropology)

Professors — Affiliated
Lois Beck
Professor of Sociocultural Anthropology
PhD, University of Chicago

Robert Canfield
Professor of Sociocultural Anthropology
PhD, University of Michigan

Joseph Schraibman
Professor of Romance Languages
PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Campaign

Itai Sened
Professor of Political Science
PhD, University of Rochester

Associate Professors — Affiliated
Michael Frachetti
Associate Professor of Anthropology
PhD, University of Pennsylvania

Seth Graebner
Associate Professor of French and International and Area Studies
PhD, Harvard University

Tabea Alexa Linhard
Associate Professor of Spanish and Comparative Literature
PhD, Duke University

Assistant Professor — Affiliated
Denise Gill
Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology
PhD, University of California, Santa Barbara

Majors
As majors in one of the Near Eastern languages and literatures (Arabic; Hebrew; or Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern studies), students can expect to gain proficiency in one or more Near Eastern languages, study the area's literary and cultural landmarks, and gain familiarity with Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern history and civilizations.

The Majors
For information on the major in Arabic, visit the Arabic page of this Bulletin.

For information on the major in Hebrew, visit the Hebrew page of this Bulletin.

For information on the major in Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern studies, visit the Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies page of this Bulletin.

Minors
The Minors
For information on the minor in Arabic, visit the Arabic page of this Bulletin.

For information on the minor in Hebrew, visit the Hebrew page of this Bulletin.

For information on the minor in Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern studies, visit the Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies page of this Bulletin.

For information on the minor in South Asian languages and culture (Hindi), visit the Hindi page of this Bulletin.

Courses
For Arabic courses, visit the Arabic page of this Bulletin.

For Hebrew courses, visit the Hebrew page of this Bulletin.

For Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies courses, visit the Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Studies page of this Bulletin.