

Jewish Studies

Program Description

The Department of Jewish History at the University of Haifa offers an International Master's program in Jewish Studies. The program is a unique combination of Judaic Studies that weaves together Biblical and Talmudic Studies, Jewish History, Philosophy, and Mysticism. The program's focus extends from the Biblical to early Modern Era, and is taught by experts in Biblical Studies, the Dead Sea Scrolls, early and late Antiquity, the Middle Ages, early Modern, and Modern Jewish History and Thought.

The English-language MA program is aimed at students who seek to expand their knowledge of the Jewish tradition, and for those who would like to gain a foundation from which to specialize in post-graduate studies in the field.

The courses are divided into three chronological cohorts: Biblical; Antiquity (Rabbinics); and Medieval through the Modern period. Additionally, the program allows students to participate in other programs within the International School at the University of Haifa, for example Israel Studies, Holocaust Studies, or Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies. Those who wish may also learn Hebrew and/or Arabic.

The one-year program is taught over three consecutive semesters from October through September. Students wishing to pursue the thesis track will need to submit a research thesis within one year of completing their coursework, which may require remaining at the university for one or two additional semesters. Upon completion of the program, students will be awarded a Master of Arts in Jewish Studies.

Highlighted Courses*

The Bible in its historical context

Story and History in the Jewish Middle Ages

Jews and Christians in Late Antiquity

The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Bible

Jewish Philosophy from Philo to Luzzati

Kabbalah: A Magical-Mystery Tour

What is Hasidism? Early Jewish Apocalypse

Israeli Museums (with excursions)

The Christian-Jewish debate in the Middle Ages

* The curriculum is subject to change without notice.



University of Haifa
— International School —

Program Highlights

- Provide students with a methodological basis for engaging in Jewish Studies, and seeks to emphasize the relations between local and global Jewish cultures throughout history.
- Acquaint students with a variety of academic perspectives in the field of Jewish Studies and sharpen their analytical abilities in dealing with the questions, problems, challenges, and dilemmas of modern scholarship.
- Over the course of the program, students will participate in educational excursions and will visit some of Israel's most important historical sites, giving them first-hand
- Expose students to a variety of firsthand historical sources ranging from the Biblical to early Modern Judaism.

