

## Why Jewish Studies?

Jewish Studies curricula and programs encourage appreciation of diversity by highlighting the many contributions, perspectives, and experiences of Jews around the world. The study of Judaism provides deeper understanding of both Christianity and Islam, and Jewish heritage is deeply interwoven across the larger arc of human history. On all levels, learning about the Jewish story illuminates the human condition as it relates to all peoples.



historicfresno.org

## A Key to Diversity Training

Earning a Jewish Studies Certificate or Minor signals potential employers that you are educated about diversity issues, appreciate multiple ethnic and religious heritages, and are trained in the history and legacy of discriminatory practices.

## Events and Lecture Series

The Jewish Studies Program sponsors events and lectures open to the public every semester, engaging the campus and wider community with experts and authors sharing their research on the vibrant history and resilient culture of the Jewish people have included talks on poetry in the Warsaw Ghetto, Jewish Americans in 1930s Los Angeles, global Jewish food cultures, and Jews in North Africa. The Program also regularly sponsors films and had a tree planting for the Jewish holiday of Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish New Year of the Trees.



## Jewish Studies Minor

The Minor in Jewish Studies augments students' major course work, and prepares students for graduate education, especially in history, Jewish Studies, international relations, religious studies, and philosophy, and professional training and careers in teaching, law, public sector administration, service and advocacy, foreign service and diplomacy, museums, religious organizations, business, human resources, and creative fields.



Dr. Melissa Jordine with Holocaust students

Students earn a Minor in Jewish Studies by taking courses in Jewish history, religion, culture, politics and/or Hebrew language and completing all courses with a grade of C or better. The Minor requires a total of 15 units from at least two disciplines, with a minimum of one lower division course (3 units) and two upper division courses (6 units). The remaining courses (6 units) may be selected from any lower- or upper-division electives.

## Jewish Studies Certificate

Another option for students is to earn a Certificate in Jewish Studies, which requires four upper division classes. By taking five upper division courses, and maintaining a 3.5 GPA in eligible courses, students can earn a Certificate with Honors.



The Program brings experts to campus each semester to share their research on a range of topics, such as the Jews of France, Jews and American comic books, and hidden Jewish children in Holland. (Pictured: Professor Diane Wolf, UC Davis)

## Course Offerings

As an interdisciplinary program, the Jewish Studies Program encourages conversations across departments, colleges, and programs campus-wide. Courses are offered on a range of topics and include those focused solely on the Jewish experience and others that consider Jewish ethnicity and difference within wider frameworks.

Courses include:

- JS10: Jewish Civilization
- JSIOOW: Writing about the Jewish Experience
- English 116/Philosophy 134: Literature of the Old Testament
- Hebrew IA: Basic Hebrew
- History 140: Holocaust
- History 154: Jewish American Popular Culture
- History 181: Anti-Semitism
- Philosophy 154: Judaism.

Special topics courses are also offered, such as History 179T: Jews and American Film. Internships with local Jewish organizations are available and can be taken for course credit.

## Affiliated Faculty

Our inspiring and dedicated faculty can be found across campus in many departments and programs, including English, German Studies, History, Humanities, Philosophy, Peace & Conflict Studies, Political Science, and Sociology. The Program welcomes proposals for new courses.



Dr. Jill Fields

## Program Coordinator

Jill Fields, Ph.D., is Professor of History and Founding Coordinator of Jewish Studies.

## Jewish Studies Association

The Jewish Studies Program is affiliated with the Fresno State student club, the Jewish Studies Association. To join, find the link on the program website, [www.fresnostate.edu/jewishstudies](http://www.fresnostate.edu/jewishstudies) or email [jewishstudies@csufresno.edu](mailto:jewishstudies@csufresno.edu). Or visit Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/130132653723038](https://www.facebook.com/groups/130132653723038).

## Get Involved with Jewish Studies at Fresno State!

The Jewish Studies Program welcomes all students interested in taking courses or pursuing the Minor or Certificate. Community members not officially admitted to the University can enroll in classes through Open University, and can also earn Certificates. In addition, everyone is welcome to attend Jewish Studies guest lectures and extracurricular activities.



*Henry Madden Library exhibit*

## Giving

Gifts to Jewish Studies support student scholarships, guest speakers, and the many other activities that enrich and enhance the program for students and the community. Your gift will ensure the program continues to grow and flourish at Fresno State for years to come.

There are many ways to provide a gift to the Jewish Studies Program. For online giving, visit [www.FresnoState.edu/advancement/giving/givenow.html](http://www.FresnoState.edu/advancement/giving/givenow.html) — click on Giving Opportunities, then scroll down, check the box marked Other, and write in Jewish Studies Program when prompted.

Contact Director of Development Micheline Golden to discuss details for gifts of stocks, bonds, or IRA rollovers, or to remember the program in your will. All gifts are tax deductible. Email Micheline at [michelineg@csufresno.edu](mailto:michelineg@csufresno.edu) or call her at 559.278.5992.

Department of History  
Jewish Studies Program  
5340 N. Campus Drive M/S SS21  
Fresno, CA 93740-8019

web: [FresnoState.edu/jewishstudies](http://FresnoState.edu/jewishstudies)  
email: [jewishstudies@csufresno.edu](mailto:jewishstudies@csufresno.edu)  
phone: 559.278.2153 or 559.278.5414  
fax: 559.278.5321

**FRESNO STATE**  
Jewish Studies Program

# Jewish Studies Program

The Jewish Studies Program encourages Fresno State students from all backgrounds to study the many dimensions of Jewish heritage and its contemporary contexts.

Course offerings explore the diverse experiences, contributions and challenges of the Jewish people, from ancient to modern times in Israel and across the global locations of the Jewish diaspora, including the wider Middle East, Europe, North Africa, and the Americas.

The Program offers students options to complete a Minor, a Certificate, or a Certificate with Honors.

שלום  
shalom  
welcome

**FRESNO STATE**  
Jewish Studies Program