Jewish Studies (JWST)

JWST 200 Introduction to Jewish Studies (3)
Introduction to Jewish Studies is an interdisciplinary survey course that introduces students to the culture, literature, history, philosophy, religion, and academic traditions of Jewish people from antiquity to the present. In this course, we will analyze how Jewish people have deployed a wide range of intellectual discourse to gain an understanding of the meaning of their identity as Jews. The course will also provide a historical overview of the Jewish Diaspora, from the Middle East to Africa to Europe to the Americas. The readings and class discussions will divide into three parts covering the ancient, medieval, and modern periods.

JWST 250 Introduction to Judaism (4)
A survey of Jewish religious traditions from the Bible through the present day. Evolution of major religious ideas through classical texts.

JWST 251 Topics in Jewish Biblical Studies (3-4)
Introduction to the academic study of the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) through a variety of scholarly approaches to the Bible, including historical and literary analysis. Emphasis is on developing skills in critical thinking, reading, and writing about the Bible. Students can repeat course for credit; topics will vary per semester.

JWST 341 Topics in Jewish History: Judaism and Christianity of the Greco-Roman Period (4)
Course will explore various topics in Jewish History. Content will vary per semester. Topics may include: History of Anti-Semitism, History of Judaism and Christianity, and Jewish World Cultural History.

JWST 350 Jewish Religion and Biblical Values (3)
This course explores the ideas—religious and political—and texts that have shaped Jewish thought and practice from its formation to the present.