

JEWISH STUDIES (THESIS) (M.A.) (45 CREDITS)

Offered by: Jewish Studies (Faculty of Arts)

Degree: Master of Arts

Program credit weight: 45

Program Description

An M.A. in Jewish Studies (thesis option) is offered in the following areas: History of the Jewish Interpretation of the Bible, Eastern European Jewish History, Jewish Thought, Hebrew Literature, and Modern Jewish Literatures. These areas of specialization are broadly construed to accommodate the range of research interests in the Department. The M.A. can be completed in one year, though most students spend two years in the program.

Note: Students can choose from either the Jewish Studies Stream or History of the Jewish Interpretation of the Bible Stream.

Note: For information about Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 course offerings, please check back on May 8, 2025. Until then, the "Terms offered" field will appear blank for most courses while the class schedule is being finalized.

Jewish Studies Stream (45 credits)

Thesis Courses (30 credits)

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
JWST 695	M.A. Thesis 1.	9
JWST 696	M.A. Thesis 2.	9
JWST 697	M.A. Thesis 3.	12

Required Course (3 credits)

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
JWST 699	Research in Jewish Studies.	3

Complementary Courses (12 credits)

12 credits of courses at the 500, 600, or 700 level, chosen according to each student's specialization in consultation with the student's thesis adviser.

Language Requirement

Students choosing Eastern European studies, Jewish thought, or Hebrew literature must demonstrate fluency in either Hebrew or Yiddish according to their field of specialization. Mastery is normally determined by an examination administered by the Department.

History of the Jewish Interpretation of the Bible Stream (45 credits)

Thesis Courses (24 credits)

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
JWST 690	M.A. Thesis 1.	3
JWST 691	M.A. Thesis 2.	6
JWST 692	M.A. Thesis 3.	12
JWST 694	M.A. Thesis 4.	3

Required Courses (9 credits)

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
JWST 510	Jewish Bible Interpretation 1.	3
JWST 511	Jewish Bible Interpretation 2.	3
JWST 699	Research in Jewish Studies.	3

Complementary Courses (12 credits)

12 credits of courses at the 500, 600, or 700 level, chosen in consultation with the student's thesis adviser.

Language Requirement

In addition to Hebrew, students in the History of the Jewish Interpretation of the Bible stream must master another language in which primary documents in this field have been written; in most cases, this will be Aramaic, but classical Arabic and Greek are also accepted. Mastery is normally determined by an examination administered by the Department.