JEWISH AMERICAN STUDIES
(JAST)

JAST 201  Introduction to Jewish American Studies  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 105 or HONP 100 may be taken as prerequisite or corequisite. This class explores the Jewish experience in America. Topics in education, family human services, immigration, acculturation, multiple religious expressions, Jewish history in the U.S., gender, performing arts, politics, organizations and institutions, will be studied as they relate to Jewish American individuals and communities. This class serves as a core in the Jewish American Studies Minor. Meets World Cultures Requirement.

JAST 219  The Holocaust and the American Press: Before, During and After  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 106 or HONP 101. This seminar explores the central questions of what did the American public know of the Holocaust from 1933 to 1945, and when did it know it? More troubling still, if the public and thus the government knew of the assembly-line murder of 6 million Jews, and Sinti/Roma peoples, homosexuals, Communists, Jehovah’s Witnesses and others, then why was nothing done? A thorough examination of radio, newsreel and especially newspaper coverage of the Holocaust - particularly from 1941-1945 - will be combined with a study of the historical events that made the Holocaust possible. The Holocaust and the free world’s burden to ‘do something’ also will be related to other genocides including Armenia, Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, Darfur and others. Mutually Exclusive with JOUR 219.

JAST 220  The Synagogue School in the American Sunday School Movement  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 105 or WRIT 106 or HONP 100 or HONP 101. This course explores the historical and sociocultural foundations of the Jewish American synagogue movement as part of the Sunday school movement in the United States. Topics in education, curriculum, materials and assessment development as well as pedagogical approaches to second/foreign language and languages for specific purposes will be studied as they relate to multiple models of the Jewish American K-12 supplementary education. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits.

JAST 325  Nazi Cinema and Propaganda  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): JAST 201, HUMN 201, HUMN 202 or departmental approval. A discussion and analysis of films made during the Third Reich, against the background of the history and politics of National Socialist Germany, this course examines the special role film played for the propagandistic apparatus of the Nazis. It discusses fascist aesthetics, representations of the Holocaust, and the fascination for the Nazis and their imagery in contemporary pop culture. Mutually Exclusive with GRIN 325 and HUMN 325.

JAST 351  Comparative Legal Perspectives: Israel and the United States  (3 credits)
Prerequisite(s): POLS 201 or POLS 202 or LAWS 200 or JURI 210 or JAST 201 or departmental approval. This seminar explores the legal and political traditions giving rise to contemporary Israeli and American legal systems. This encompasses such aspects as democratic process with its origins and influences, governmental institutions within each legal system, the role of religion and the protection of minority rights. Comparative perspectives provide an understanding of each legal system within its national context. Mutually Exclusive with POLS 351.