## **Jewish Studies**

# Course Offerings SPRING 2024

#### JST/HIST 031

# Empire, War, and Resistance in the Middle East (4) Prof. Ugur Pece (TR, 10:45AM-12:00PM)

SS BUG

Over the past 200 years, empires have fought over the control of strategic trade routes and natural resources in the Middle East. Conflicts in Israel-Palestine, Iraq, and Syria emerged with the redrawing of borders. These geo-political changes shed light on how national identities changed but also on how Middle Eastern men and women resisted foreign occupation and domestic dictators alike. Through diverse media such as fiction, photography, and film, this course introduces students to the region's rich history and legacy.

#### JST/HIST/REL 154

Holocaust: History and Meaning (4)
Prof. Nitzan Lebovic (MW 10:45AM-12:00PM)

HU BUG

The Nazi Holocaust in its historical, political and religious setting. Emphasis upon the moral, cultural and theological issues raised by the Holocaust.

JST/REL 121 Sources for the Life of Jesus:

HU

The Jewish and Christian Context (4)
Prof. Ben Wright (TR, 10:45AM-12:00PM)

Ancient sources that claim to provide information about Jesus of Nazareth. Approaches taken to Jesus' life and career; early Christian interpretations of the significance of Jesus; methodology in assessing evidence for the historical Jesus and his message.

#### JST/REL/PHIL/HMS 151

### Judaism, Medicine, and Bioethics (4) Prof. Hartley Lachter (MW, 1:35-2:50PM)

HU

This class traces the relationship between Jews and medicine from 1100 to 2020. How does Jewish religion and culture cultivate an affinity for the healing arts? How does Jewish law, ethics, and culture inform contemporary bioethics?

#### *JST/REL 152*

### American Judaism (4) Prof. Jodi Eichler-Levine (MW, 10:45-12:00)

HU

Diverse cultural and social forms through which American Jews express their distinct identity. Is American Jewry an example of assimilation and decline or creative transformation? What, if anything, do American Jews share in common? Compatibility of Judaism with individualism, pluralism, and voluntarism. How have the Holocaust and the State of Israel shaped the self-

understanding of American Jewry?

## JST/REL 197 Messiah: Judaism and the End of History (4) Prof. Hartley Lachter (MW, 3:00-4:15PM)

HU

The Jewish concept of a Messiah, or a divinely designated redeemer who will restore the lost kingdom of Israel, has played an outsized role in western culture. Since the rise of Christianity in the ancient world, the question of who the messiah is has been hotly contested. This course will explore the roots of this idea, and consider how Jewish approaches to the Messiah have evolved and changed over time, up to and including contemporary American culture. We will also consider how the Jewish notion of a messianic redeemer has informed ideas about the course - and destiny - of human history in western societies.