



JEWISH LIFE AND JUDAIC STUDIES

Jewish life at Carleton is rich, active and varied. We celebrate the entire Jewish liturgical year, from Rosh Hashanah to Shavuot and everything in between. The college employs Rabbi Shoshana Dworsky, supports an active Jewish student organization, and provides a house with a kosher kitchen to serve as the Jewish student center. Shabbat is celebrated weekly with Friday night services and student-cooked dinners. Throughout the year there are study sessions, lectures, and social and community events, including those that take advantage of our proximity to the Twin Cities and its vibrant Jewish community.

Holiday Observances

High Holidays: Our services draw 100 to 150 new and returning students, faculty and staff members, and Northfield residents to the campus's Great Hall. Carleton's own Torah, dressed in holiday whites, is read by students and faculty members. Delicious catered meals are provided. For *Sukkot*, students erect a *sukkah* and host a range of festivities, including a Friday night 'Open *Sukkah*' to which students of all faiths are especially welcomed.

Shabbat: Friday night services are held weekly in the Jewish student house. Students take turns cooking Shabbat dinner and baking *challah*. The rabbi and students alternate leading services, assuring that services reflect a variety of religious sensibilities.

Passover: For *Pesah* we hold two *seders*, the first led by the rabbi, with seating for more than 150; the second a smaller but equally joyous student-led event. Catered meals are carefully prepared and served by the dining services under the rabbi's supervision.

Students clean the Jewish house and prepare and serve meals for the entire week of Passover.

Other Holidays: *Tu B'Shvat* is celebrated with a "seder" of all kinds of fruits of trees. Student environmental activists are invited to lead a discussion. For *Purim* Jewish students have teamed up with Hindus and Muslims to create an extravaganza complete with *Purim shpiel*, Klezmer music and Bollywood dancing! *Yom HaShoah* is typically observed with a vigil, service, and speaker; some students also choose to drive to the Twin Cities (about 50 minutes) to attend the community observance there. Students have organized *Yom Ha'Atzma'ut* celebrations, and even as finals approach a *Shavuot* dinner with faculty-led blintz making draws a crowd.

Study, Enrichment, and Social Opportunities

We have weekly informal Torah study led by the rabbi, a Jewish member of the faculty, or a trained student, at which pizza is always served. The Jewish Thought Reading Group has met several times a term, bringing together students with faculty and staff members for in-depth discussions of selected readings. The students and rabbi work together to plan a variety of educational events during the year, frequently bringing in speakers on topics of Jewish interest.

The student organization Jewish Students of Carleton (JSC) receives funding from the Carleton Student Association, and plans informal gatherings throughout the year, including game nights, movie nights, and sporting events (the current name of the volleyball team is The All-Stars of David.) Carleton Jewish students have travelled together to Israel on *Taglit*-Birthright.

Funding is made available to students pursuing internships or study opportunities in Israel, and professors have led a student trip to Israel (see Off Campus Study on reverse side). At Carleton, students, faculty and staff members explore their relationship with Israel in a variety of settings.

Beyond Carleton

Students are invited to apply for funding for summer work or study—we call it Jewish Summer Initiative (JSI). Carleton students have spent summers doing a variety of excellent projects, from studying in Israel to interning at a variety of Jewish organizations in the United States and around the world. Jewish graduates of Carleton have consistently been among the interns at such programs as *Avodah*: The Jewish Service Corps, and Jewish Organizing Initiative (JOI), Urban Adamah, and others.

A Jewish 'Carl' will find many ways to nurture his/her Jewish identity on campus, working through the Jewish student organization and/or with the rabbi to initiate programming that addresses their interests and needs.

For more information, please contact Rabbi Shosh Dworsky at 507-222-4005 or sdworsky@carleton.edu.

***B'ruchim ha'ba'im!* Welcome!**

JUDAIC STUDIES

Judaic studies at Carleton invites students to explore historical and contemporary manifestations of Jewish civilization in diverse cultural contexts from the perspectives of many different modern academic disciplines. These include the study of Jewish history, thought, religion, literature, and socio-cultural

experience. Courses in Judaic studies are offered regularly in the Departments of Religion and Middle Eastern Languages (in English). They are offered periodically in the Department of History.

In addition, students may fulfill their Carleton language requirement with the four-term modern Hebrew sequence offered through the Department of Middle Eastern Languages. Working with the *Brandeis Modern Hebrew* system and Israeli media, students continually integrate listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Hebrew. Term-long student projects include karaoke singing, publishing in-class magazines, and completing independent research with a poster and talk in Hebrew. Beyond the language sequence, group independent studies are offered periodically in advanced Hebrew reading and Hebrew for Holocaust research.

FACULTY

Stacy Beckwith, professor of Hebrew and director of Judaic studies (University of Toronto BA; University of Minnesota MA, PhD), specializes in national history and collective memory in contemporary Israeli and Spanish literature, particularly in literary representations of historical Sephardic, or Spanish Jewish characters. Her edited volume, *Charting Memory: Recalling Medieval Spain* examines a range of modern Jewish, Arab, and Hispanic memories of Iberian coexistence as expressed in ongoing traditions of literature, music, prayer, architecture, and name giving.

Louis Newman, John M. and Elizabeth W. Musser Professor of Religious Studies (University of Minnesota BA and MA; Brown University, PhD), specializes in the study of Jewish ethics and contemporary Jewish thought. He is the author of *Past Imperatives: Studies in the History and Theory of Jewish Ethics*, *An Introduction to Jewish Ethics*, and *Repentance: The Meaning and Practice of Teshuvah*, as well as co-editor (with Elliot Dorff) of *Contemporary Jewish Ethics and Morality* and *Contemporary Jewish Theology*. He currently serves as associate dean of the

college and director of advising and is not actively teaching this year.

Mira Reinberg, visiting assistant professor of Hebrew (Tel Aviv University, BA; University of Minnesota, PhD), specializes in the interrelation of European and Middle Eastern literature and culture. She focuses on the legacy of Enlightenment concepts and their role in the constitution of modern identity in the Middle East. Her current project explores the representation of the political in Israeli, Palestinian, and Iranian cinema.

Shana Sippy, visiting instructor in religious studies (Barnard College, AB; Harvard University, MTS; Columbia, PhD candidate), specializes in articulations and representations of identity. She focuses on the making of Jewish and Hindu selves and communities, particularly in modern globalized contexts. She combines textual analysis with anthropological work on ritual, education, nationalism, and gender. Her current project focuses on the religious, cultural, and political alliances between Jews and Hindus, Israel and India.

RECENT COURSES

Department of Religion

Approaching the Jewish Body
Genesis
Hebrew Bible
Introduction to Judaism
Jewish Ethics
Judaism and Gender
Religious and Moral Issues of the Holocaust
Research on Israel
The State of Judaism in the State of Israel

Department of Middle Eastern Languages (in English)

Discovering Literary Tel Aviv and Jerusalem
Israel in A.B. Yehoshua's Literature
Israeli Literature in the Middle East
Jewish Collective Memory
Personal and National Identity in Israeli and Palestinian Literature

Department of Middle Eastern Languages (in Hebrew)

Group Independent Studies: Advanced Hebrew Reading, Hebrew for Holocaust Research
Modern Hebrew Language Sequence

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY

Carleton twice offered a "Faith and Fiction: Exploring Israeli Identity" winter break program in Israel (conducted in English) focusing on Judaism in contemporary Israel and Hebrew fiction in dialogue with Israeli urban spaces and society. A follow-up term of supervised research on aspects of Israeli identity culminated in a public symposium of students' work. This program is no longer offered, but the Judaic Studies and Hebrew programs are working toward a term-long Carleton in Israel program.

In addition to Carleton's off-campus study programs, students can receive full academic credit for several consortia programs. Carleton's retired Hebrew instructor Elie Alyeshmerni established the Jonathan Paradise Israel Experience Fund to provide a foundation of support for two to three Carleton students per year to explore Israel through study, structured volunteer work or an internship, and travel. Carleton is committed to making off-campus study easy and rewarding. Learn more at go.carleton.edu/ocs.

MAJORING IN JUDAIC STUDIES

No major or concentration is offered in Judaic studies alone; however, students may petition for a special major in Judaic studies or take a concentrated program within a major in religion.