NEWS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Renewed Focus on Jewish Studies Program at KU

LAWRENCE, KS – The current 2012-2013 academic year has found a renewed focus on the Jewish Studies program at the University of Kansas. Along with new offices, the Program also has a new home within the Center for Global and International Studies and new leadership under Professor John Younger. “We have new, improved offices, I'm designing a new website, the faculty and I are consulting about program revisions, especially to the minor, and we're making plans for study abroad opportunities in Israel to begin in Spring 2014 with an archaeological tour slated for May-June 2014,” stated Dr. Younger, who comes to the program with extensive experience in program development.

In addition to the revision of requirements for the Jewish Studies minor, there have also been additional courses added to the curriculum to allow for a broad range of study areas within the program. Faculty are nationally and internationally known scholars that offer such courses as Jewish folklore, contemporary Jewish identities, Jewish mysticism, as well as courses in Jewish thought, history and narrative. There is also collaboration with other departments on campus, allowing for courses on Jewish and Israeli cinema, theatre, literature, and culture. In addition, the Hebrew language program offers courses in modern Israeli Hebrew and biblical Hebrew, and Yiddish is taught at the introductory and intermediate levels.

The Jewish Studies website is up-to-date (jewishstudies.ku.edu), but a new website is expected to launch this summer. The website lists all events that are being scheduled to introduce both the KU community and surrounding communities to all that is happening. Check out the upcoming events and program news at jewishstudies.ku.edu.

Program Mission Statement
The Jewish Studies Program explores the culture, history, languages, and religion of the Jewish people and their global role in the shaping of human experience.

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