

News for Fall 2017

The JS faculty has been working very hard to keep Jewish Studies constantly developing.

We now step into our second year of offering BOTH a Jewish Studies **minor** and a **major**. See our websites on the two programs: the [JS Minor](#) and the [JS Major](#). And this year we should be adding an undergraduate certificate in Holocaust Studies; check out our Academics website for details!

And to make sure that our students are receiving the best advice, JS now has its first dedicated Director of Undergraduate Studies, Professor Renee Perelmutter. Check out the sidebox at the right!

With the major, Jewish Studies is now an independent, stand-alone program.

We also continue to sponsor study abroad programs in Israel (Haifa University, Tel Aviv University, and Hebrew University in Jerusalem) and at Jewish Studies programs in other countries: check out the Office of Study Abroad: <http://studyabroad.ku.edu>.

This past summer, KU JS continued to excavate in southern Israel at Tell es-Safi, the site of ancient Gath, led by Professors Aren Maeir of Bar Ilan University and our own Eric Welch. Check out their [video](#)!

The Program has received several donations of books on Jewish subjects; we're beginning to amass quite a library! And more books may be on the way. We and the development staff of KU Libraries have been in negotiation with several prominent donors in the area to receive their libraries on Jewish topics from art to history.

This year, Professor Emeritus David Katzman has been engaged in academic research on the Jews and Jewish communities of the Midwest. This Fall, on Nov 12 (Sun), 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, we sponsor a one-day symposium about this work with 5 speakers drawn from around the US.

And we're bringing back Gal Levy of the Open University of Israel to return in Aug 23 (W) to give a lecture, "Citizenship in Crisis in Contemporary Israel," 4-5:30 in the English Room, KS Union; Gal taught for us in 2015-2016. We look forward to seeing him again.

And we are planning other special activities this Spring; check out our [calendar page](#) for more details.

We're getting better all the time!

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