

PALOMAR COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD FOR
DEGREE CREDIT COURSE

Transfer course A.A. degree applicable course

(check all that apply)

COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE: JS 105 Introduction to Judaism II - Culture

UNIT VALUE: 3

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER HOURS: 48

BASIC SKILLS REQUIREMENTS: Appropriate language skills

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

PREREQUISITE: None

COREQUISITE: None

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION: None

SCOPE OF COURSE:

A survey of the cultural and historical roots of the Jewish people from 2000 B.C. to the present; their role in the ancient Near East; relationships in the Western World from the Greco-Roman period to the post-World War II era; creation and development of the state of Israel; cultural, religious and political impact on American and the world community.

SPECIFIC COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Students will:

1. Recognize factors important in the development of Judaism throughout the ages.
2. Interpret the unique contributions of Jews to Western civilization.
3. Compare the religious, philosophical and literary works transmitted by Judaism with those developed by parallel cultures.
4. Analyze contemporary Jewish life in the light of former trends.

CONTENT IN TERMS OF SPECIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE:

- I. THE BIBLICAL PERIOD
 - A. The influence of Near Eastern Culture.
 - B. A brief analysis of the Old Testament literature.

C. The impact of the Old Testament on Western civilization.

II. THE INTER-TESTAMENTAL PERIOD

- A. The Apocrypha and the Pseudepigrapha.
- B. The historical works of Josephus.
- C. The birth of Christianity.

III. THE TALMUDIC PERIOD

- A. Legal adaptation to the Western world.
- B. Recording minority life in Palestine and in Babylonia.
- C. Homiletical interpretations of the Bible.

IV. JEWISH LITURGY

- A. Its development after the destruction of the Second Temple.
- B. Daily and holy day prayers.
- C. Specific forms of worship in contemporary homes and synagogues.

V. THE LITERATURE OF THE MIDDLE AGES

- A. Biblical and talmudic interpretations.
- B. Travelogues and memoirs.
- C. The revival of Hebrew literature in Spain at the crossroads of Moslem and Christian civilizations.
- C. Philosophical, ethical and mystical writings.

VI. JEWISH LAW

- A. Its development from biblical days through the publication of the Code of Jewish Law in the 16th century.
- B. The responsa literature.
- C. Adjudication in contemporary Judaism.

VII. AT THE DAWN OF THE MODERN AGE

- A. Hasidism responds to suffering and to disappointments in Eastern Europe.
- B. Western European Jewry attempts assimilation.
- C. Jewish contributions to early American culture.
- D. A second resurrection of Hebrew literature.

VIII. THE PAST CENTURY

- A. The Zionist settlement in the ancient homeland heralds new vitality.
- B. American Jews influence Western civilization.
- C. Responses to the Holocaust and to the new State of Israel.
- D. Contemporary cultural and religious concerns.

REQUIRED READING:

Selections from the Bible

Selections from contemporary literature.

Curt Leviant, ed. Masterpieces of Hebrew Literature. New York:

KTAV Publishing House, 1969.

SUGGESTED READING:

Supplemental reading are listed in the bibliography distributed at the opening session. Examples:

Appel, Rabbi Gersion, ed. The Concise Code of Jewish Law. Vols. I-II. New York: KTAV, 1977, 1989.

Buber, Martin. The Penguin Book of Hebrew Verse. New York: Viking, 1981

Carmi, T., ed. The Penguin Book of Hebrew Verse. New York: Viking, 1981.

Holtz, Barry W., ed. Back to the Sources. Reading the Classic Jewish Texts. New York: Summit, 1984

Martinez, Florentine Garcia. The Dead Sea Scrolls Translated. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1996

Munk, Dr. Elie. The World of Prayer. Vols I-II. (New York: Feldheim, n.d.

Wiesel, Elie. Night. New York: Avon, 1969

REQUIRED WRITING:

A midterm and an end of term examination are required. In addition, the student is required to write a research paper on a topic of his/her choice, approved by the instructor. The paper shall be typed, a minimum of 4 pages, with end notes and a bibliography attached.

OUTSIDE ASSIGNMENTS:

Students are expected to spend a minimum of three hours per unit per week in class and on outside assignments, prorated for short term classes.

Nine hours per week must be spent on reading textbook, material distributed in class, supplementary reading provided at the opening session, and preparation of the term paper. Share information with class.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY:

Check all that apply:

- lecture
- laboratory
- lecture-laboratory combination
- directed study

This course may be offered as a distance education course and meets Title 5 regulations 55370, 55372, 55374, 55376, 55378, and 55380.

Yes No

If yes, check all that apply. (See guidelines for preparation for definitions.)

- telecourse
- mediated instruction
- computer assisted instruction

GRADING POLICY AND STANDARDS (include methods of determining whether the stated objectives have been met by students):

- Midterm Examination – 30%
- Research Paper – 30%
- Final Examination – 30%
- Participation in classroom work - 10%

IS COURSE REPEATABLE FOR REASON(S) OTHER THAN DEFICIENT GRADE?

Yes No Number of times course may be taken for credit:

1.

If yes, identify specific provision of Title 5 Division 2 section(s) 55761-55763 and 58161 which qualifies course as repeatable:

CONTACT PERSON: Yehuda Shabatay