

Certificate Program Application Form

Name of Proposed Certificate Program: __Jewish Studies _____

Sponsoring Department or Unit Name: __Department of Religious Studies _____

First Term the Certificate Would be Offered: __fall 2012 _____

Primary Contact Name: __Jonathan M. Hess (or current Director)_____

Address, CB #: Carolina Center for Jewish Studies, # 3152

Phone Number: _919-962-1509_____ **Email:** _jmhess@email.unc.edu_____

1. Describe the certificate program and provide a statement of educational objectives.

This program is designed to offer graduate students a deeper understanding of Jewish history, culture, and thought. It recognizes existing graduate student research and coursework relating to Jewish Studies, with the intention of building up greater expertise in the field. It aims to enable students to obtain the familiarity with the languages, culture, literature, and history they need to navigate through the complexities entailed by any research within the field, to appreciate and participate in its inherently interdisciplinary nature, and to prepare themselves for teaching in the increasing number of positions in the academy that define themselves as part of Jewish Studies.

2. Include a statement about the need for such a certificate program, and specifically why there is a need to offer this certificate at UNC-Chapel Hill. Is the certificate offered at other universities or community colleges?

No such graduate degree exists in any college or university in North Carolina. Yet Jewish Studies has come to be at the fore of interdisciplinary research and academic discussions across American campuses today. Many major research universities in the United States offer some means of recognizing and focusing graduate research in Jewish Studies.

Due to the influx of new faculty members and the corresponding increase in undergraduate and graduate interest in the field, there is a particular need to develop such a program at UNC-Chapel Hill. Several graduate students have already begun de facto programs in the field, and their work needs to be recognized. The Carolina Center for Jewish Studies has already initiated an informal network of graduate students interested in Jewish Studies, and in addition to its public lecture series, holds monthly luncheon seminars devoted to the research of advanced students, faculty, and visiting scholars. Additionally, UNC participates in the Duke-UNC Jewish Studies Colloquium, which meets several times each semester, generally featuring work in progress by scholars from outside the Triangle. An official certificate would provide additional incentives, greater rigor, and increased opportunities for funding. It would provide a more sustained and clearer framework for uniting faculty from a wide range of departments: Religious Studies, History, Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures, English and Comparative Literature, American Studies, Asian Studies. We now have the critical mass of faculty necessary to sustain such a program, especially with the cooperation we anticipate from Duke.

3. Why is the certificate program necessary beyond offering the program as a minor, supporting area, specialization/concentration, or track?

No such graduate minor or specialization currently exists at UNC. The interdisciplinary approach to Jewish Studies offered by this certificate would be a new opportunity to focus the work of graduate students from multiple programs across the university. Collective experience in the field of Jewish Studies has shown that most graduate students prefer (and the most effective instruction occurs) when they enter into regular departments and develop their expertise in Jewish Studies through additional interdisciplinary work. Moreover, limiting graduate level research in Jewish Studies to individual departments is likely to narrow its scope in problematic ways.

4. Provide a statement on the relationship of the certificate program to degree programs within the unit. To what extent will requirements for the certificate program overlap with requirements for master's or doctoral degrees?

The Carolina Center for Jewish Studies currently does not offer any degrees. The undergraduate B.A. in Jewish Studies is housed in the Department of Religious Studies, as a separate interdisciplinary track in the major in Religious Studies.

5. Describe the demographics of the target student population for the certificate program. Is it intended for: only UNC degree students? Only for non-degree students? Both degree and non-degree students? College-age? Adult?

This certificate program is aimed at degree-seeking graduate students at UNC and Duke in the humanities and social sciences.

6. Will the certificate program be offered jointly with another university? If yes, describe the relationship with the joint unit.

This certificate will be offered jointly with Duke University, where it will be administered by our collaborative partner, the Duke Center for Jewish Studies. Each university will technically administer and advise its own certificate on its own campus, under the direction of its respective Director of the Certificate (see paragraph 11, below). A parallel joint certificate proposal is being submitted to the Graduate School at Duke.

7. Will the certificate program be offered on campus, as a distance education program, or a combination? Describe any distance education components in detail.

This certificate program will only be offered through courses available on campus at Duke and UNC.

8. Describe the admissions criteria and process.

Students applying to the certificate program will need to do the following:

- Be matriculated in an M.A., Ph.D. or other graduate program at UNC-Chapel Hill. Design a plan for meeting the course requirement in consultation with the Director. The course plan must demonstrate thematic integrity and intellectual coherence. Students can consult the online list of suggested courses to help design their plan.

- Complete the application form and submit it prior to the end of the first year of study.
- Submit a major research paper upon its completion, which may be upon completing the workshop or later in the academic program (see paragraph 10).
- Submit a letter of endorsement from their principal advisor.

The application will be reviewed by the Director (who may be, but will not necessarily remain, the current Director of the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies). Those applicants whose proposed course of study reveals that they will gain a depth of knowledge about Jewish Studies through their graduate studies will be admitted to the program.

9. Provide a three-year projection of the certificate program's financial plan. Include the impact on campus resources, such as classrooms and instructional personnel, and plans for tuition and fees.

We do not anticipate any new direct financial costs attached to this certificate program. Since it takes advantage of existing curricular resources and involves a minimum of administrative oversight and advising, this should not impact tuition and fees at all. It is anticipated that the administrative load for this program will be light and will consist primarily of meetings with prospective students and biannual meetings to review applications. As we anticipate only a few applicants to the program during a given year, the additional work this will present will be minimal.

10. Provide specific course and other requirements for the certificate program.

Students need to accomplish the following tasks in order to receive the certificate:

- Complete three graduate courses on a topic related to Jewish Studies; students must show that work for comparative and theoretical courses will contain at least 40% Jewish Studies content. At least two of these courses must be taken outside of the student's home department. One course may be an advanced course in a Jewish language. Students must receive at least a 'P' or equivalent grade in these three classes. The selection of courses to fulfill this requirement must adhere to the course transfer credit policy for certificate programs that limits the number of academic credits transferred to 40% of the total credits required for this certificate.
- Students will be strongly encouraged to participate actively in both the monthly luncheon seminars held by the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies and monthly meetings of the Duke-UNC Jewish Studies Seminar.
- Submit to the Jewish Studies certificate program a section of a thesis or dissertation, or a major seminar paper on a topic related to Jewish studies. Students who are in programs that do not require a master's thesis must submit an equivalent independent research project that is appropriate to their discipline. Doctoral students, for example, might complete this requirement with a dissertation, chapters of a dissertation, a 4th semester paper, or a suitable publishable paper. It is expected that students will meet this requirement through the completion of one of the requirements for the student's primary degree (such as a master's thesis). This requirement must be completed while the student is enrolled as a graduate student. All projects designed to satisfy this requirement must be approved by the program Director.
- Demonstrate relevant language skills. Language competence in a Jewish language may be demonstrated by taking an advanced language class or by using primary language texts in the major research project.

11. List all faculty members who will be responsible for planning the certificate program and for teaching the courses. Will these courses be offered on-line, in the classroom, or both?

The Faculty Steering Committee responsible for planning the certificate will be comprised of the Executive Committee of the Jewish Studies Certificate at Duke University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a total of two from each campus.

The Director of Jewish Studies at each institution either will serve or will appoint a colleague to serve as principal advisor for the certificate.

Additional courses will be taught by: Yaakov Ariel (Religious Studies), Jonathan Boyarin (Religious Studies), Christopher Browning (History), Erin G. Carlston (English), Flora Cassen (History), Marcie Ferris (Curriculum in American Studies), Jonathan M. Hess (Germanic Languages), David Lambert (Religious Studies), Jodi Magness (Religious Studies), Evyatar Marienberg (Religious Studies), Yaron Shemer (Asian Studies), and Ruth von Bernuth (Germanic Languages).

12. Provide a three-year, semester-by-semester projection of enrollments and course offerings.

See below the list of current course offerings focused on Jewish Studies. In terms of enrollments, we conservatively anticipate that from three to five students will be enrolled in the certificate program at any given time, with probably 1-2 students declaring the certificate each year.

American Studies

- 486 Shalom Y'all: The Jewish Experience in the American South

Germanic and Slavic

- 875 Topics in German Jewish Studies
- 464 Imagined Jews: Jewish Themes in Polish and Russian Literature
- 465 Literature of Atrocity: The Gulag and the Holocaust in Russia and Eastern Europe
- 469 Coming to America: The Slavic Immigrant Experience in Literature
- Duke: 247S Contested Memories in German Culture since 1945
- Duke: 272S Fin-De-Siècle and Interwar Vienna: Politics, Society, and Culture

History

- 432 The Crusades
- 436 Medieval Theology, Gender, and the Body
- 453 Mediterranean Societies and Economics in the Renaissance World
- 458 Europe and the World Wars, 1914–1945
- 460 Late Medieval and Reformation Germany
- 461 Early Modern Germany, 1600–1815
- 463 History of Germany since 1918
- 469 European Social History, 1815–1970
- 477 Revolution in Russia, 1900–1930
- 478 Stalin and After: The USSR, 1929–Present
- 481 Eastern Europe since World War II
- 502 Myths and Epics of the Ancient Near East
- 514 Monuments and Memory
- 517 Military, War, and Gender in Comparative Perspective, 18th to the 20th Century
- 536 Revolution in the Modern Middle East
- 538 The Middle East and the West
- 711 Introductory Colloquium on Early Modern Europe
- 712 Introductory Colloquium on Modern Europe
- 761 Readings in Early Modern European History
- 774 Readings in Modern European History, 1918–1945

- 781 Readings in Russian History, 1796–1917
- 782 Readings in Soviet History
- 783 Special Topics in Russian and East European History
- 784 Readings in East European History
- 924 Seminar in Modern European History
- 925 Seminar in Russian and East European History

Jewish Studies

- 697 Research Seminar in Jewish Studies

Political Science

- 449 Human Rights and International Criminal Law

Religious Studies

- 401 Biblical Hebrew
- 402 Biblical Hebrew
- 403 Intermediate Classical Hebrew
- 404 Intermediate Classical Hebrew
- 409 Greek New Testament
- 410 Aramaic/Rabbinic Hebrew
- 444 Gender and Sexuality in Contemporary Judaism
- 446 Christian-Jewish Relations throughout the Ages
- 450 Sexuality and Marriage in Jewish Tradition and History
- 481 Religion, Fundamentalism, and Nationalism
- 502 Myths and Epics of the Ancient Near East
- 503 Exploring the Dead Sea Scrolls
- 512 Ancient Synagogues
- 565 Medieval Jews and the Bible
- 566 Jewish Legal Literature
- 602 What Are the Holy Scriptures? The Formation of the Hebrew Canon
- 605 Joseph—King of Dreams: Joseph in Bible and Tradition
- 608 The Messiah and the Apocalypse
- 617 Death and Afterlife in the Ancient World
- 702 Religion and Literature of Israel
- 703 Critical Approaches to the Study of the Hebrew Bible and its History of Interpretation
- 704 Readings in Religions of the Ancient Near East
- 712 Early Jewish History and Literature
- 743 Current Trends in American Judaism
- 746 The Christian-Jewish Encounter in America
- 760 Approaches to Medieval and Early Modern Studies
- 785 Critical Genealogies of Middle East Studies
- 801 Seminar in Biblical Studies
- 807 Hellenistic Religious Texts in Greek
- 810 Readings in Early Jewish and Christian Apocalyptic
- 812 Diaspora Judaism
- 813 Readings in Talmud
- 814 Problems in Rabbinic Historiography

13. Describe the evaluation plan for the certificate program.

Students who have completed the program will fill out an exit survey and be interviewed by the Director of the program. This interview will provide us with an understanding of the extent to

which the student has mastered some of the key issues in Jewish Studies. This will allow us to evaluate the extent to which the academic outcome goals of the program are being met. We will also track the future activities of students to determine the impact of this program on their professional development. The Faculty Steering Committee will meet once a year to discuss the results of the exit surveys and interviews to determine if the program will need to be changed to better meet the needs of the students.

14. A letter of support from the Director/Chair of the unit sponsoring the certificate program must be included. In the case of certificates that involve multiple units or joint programs with other institutions, all participants should provide an authorizing signature on the main letter or individual support letters.

See the attached letters from the chair of the Department of Religious Studies and the director of the Duke Center for Jewish Studies.

Completed applications should be addressed to the Dean of the Graduate School. Submit to:

Stephanie Schmitt, Associate Dean of Academics in The Graduate School, sschmitt@email.unc.edu
or CB # 4010



UNC
COLLEGE OF
ARTS & SCIENCES

THE UNIVERSITY
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125 SAUNDERS HALL
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T 919.962.5666
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December 14, 2011

The Graduate School
UNC-Chapel Hill

Re: Graduate Certificate in Jewish Studies

Dear Dean Matson:

I am writing in my capacity as acting chair of the Department of Religious Studies to confirm my department's enthusiastic support for the proposal to establish a new graduate certificate in Jewish Studies submitted to the Graduate School by Prof. Jonathan Boyarin on behalf of the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies on December 9, 2011.

The faculty in the Religious Studies Department has reviewed the proposal, and at our regular faculty meeting on December 7, we voted unanimously to endorse the proposal and to sponsor the certificate program within our department.

If I can provide any further information, please contact me at the address indicated above, by telephone at (919) 962-3938, or by e-mail at rstyers@unc.edu.

Sincerely,

Randall Styers
Acting Chair
Department of Religious Studies



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Dr. Erika Lindemann
Associate Dean for Undergraduate Curricula
CB 3504
CAMPUS

February 8, 2012

Dear Erika,

I am happy to register my support for the proposed graduate certificate in Jewish Studies, proposed by the Center for Jewish Studies and endorsed by the Department of Religious Studies. The certificate is consonant with the evolution of Jewish Studies curricula at the undergraduate level in the College and will burnish the luster of our many programs in Jewish Studies at Carolina.

Sincerely,

William L. Andrews
E. Maynard Adams Professor of English & Comparative Literature
Senior Associate Dean for the Fine Arts and Humanities