



University Council

March 15, 2019

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2018-2019

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Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences for a new minor in Hebrew Language and Literature will be an agenda item for the March 22, 2019, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

John Maerz, Chair

University Curriculum Committee

cc: Interim Provost Libby V. Morris
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav

A PROPOSAL FOR THE MINOR IN HEBREW LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

The Department of Religion herewith proposes a minor in Hebrew Language and Literature.

In the early 20th century the Hebrew language, with its long written history and rich associations, stirred from a two thousand-year slumber. The *academic* field of Hebrew first emerged in the Renaissance, and its marriage with literature started with the analysis of Biblical poetics in the late 17th century. A number of professional journals (such as *Leshonenu* or *Hebrew Studies*) are devoted to the subject; there is a National Association of Professors of Hebrew; and, the Academy of the Hebrew Language, the Jerusalem equivalent to the French language academy, issues a stream of publications, increasingly digital, on the language alone. The number of journals publishing in the fields of Hebrew language or literature is vast. The study of the Hebrew language warrants recognition as a distinct disciplinary endeavor.

This minor offers a comprehensive program for a lifetime of learning. It gives students the proficiency for one-on-one interactions with other Hebrew speakers. Modern Israel's cultural *mélange* has drawn vibrancy from the Diaspora and cultures with which it is in contact. The minor allows students access to primary texts of three world religions and related literatures emerging from other cultures. Hebrew is above all valuable for those who love literature and history on a broad canvas. The very language is a natural gateway to the structure and vocabulary of related languages (including Arabic, Ethiopic, Aramaic, Syriac, Phoenician/Punic and others), as well as a linguistic study in itself. It satisfies a litany of intellectual aspirations, some inescapably resonant, such as canon, others more particular, such as liturgy, some specialized, such as linguistics and technology (and associated business). Its constituency of students embraces elements across the Humanities and Social Sciences, but especially cultural anthropology, history, linguistics, religion, sociology, philosophy, and comparative literature. A full-time lecturer will offer all courses necessary for the minor.

Minor— Hebrew Language and Literature

- *A minor must contain at least 9 hours of upper division course work.*
- *Courses taken to satisfy Core Areas I through V may not be counted as course work in the minor.*
- *Courses taken in Core Area VI may be counted as course work in the minor.*

The minor in Hebrew Language and Literature gives students the training and skills to access unconventional worlds. By offering courses ranging from basic grammar and literacy to immersive classes in spoken and digital Hebrew, the minor prepares them to explore and evaluate the intricacies and many valences of Judaism, modern Israel, and the history and culture of each. The preparation extends to the Bible and its legacies, literature, and language itself.

Undergraduates minoring in Hebrew Language and Literature are expected to satisfy the requirements for the prerequisite courses and complete the required course and four electives.

Prerequisite Courses

HEBR 1001, Elementary Hebrew I (4 hours) and HEBR 1002, Elementary Hebrew II (4 hours) and HEBR 2003, Intermediate Grammar I (3 hours)

Required Course – 3 hours

HEBR 2004, Intermediate Grammar II (3 hours)

Elective Courses – 12 hours

Choose two courses (6 hours) from the following list:

HEBR 3000, Contemporary Hebrew Conversation and Composition (3 hours)
HEBR 3001, Digital Hebrew (3 hours)
HEBR 3005, Modern Hebrew (3 hours)
HEBR 3006, Advanced Hebrew Language: Literary Translation (3 hours)
HEBR 4100/6100, Reading and Research in Hebrew Literature (3 hours)
HEBR 4101I/6010I, Advanced Hebrew (3 hours)
HEBR 4960H, Directed Reading and/or Projects (Honors) (3 hours)
HEBR 4970H, Directed Reading and/or Projects (Honors) (3 hours)
HEBR 4980H, Directed Reading and/or Projects (Honors) (3 hours)
HEBR 4990H, Honors Thesis (3 hours)
SEMI 4001/6001, Studies in Semitic Linguistics I (3 hours)
SEMI 4002/6002, Studies in Semitic Linguistics II (3 hours)

Choose two courses (6 hours) from the following list:

CMLT 4040/6040, Jewish Literature (3 hours)
CMLT 4170/6170, Israel or Palestine? Culture and Conflict in the Middle East (3 hours)
CMLT 4630/6630, Holocaust Literature and Film (3 hours)
FCID 3500, The Holocaust from the Victims' Perspective (3 hours)
GRMN 3840, The Jewish Experience in German Culture (3 hours)
HEBR 3000, Contemporary Hebrew Conversation and Composition (3 hours)
HEBR 3001, Digital Hebrew (3 hours)
HEBR 3005, Modern Hebrew (3 hours)
HEBR 3006, Advanced Hebrew Language: Literary Translation (3 hours)
HEBR 4100/6100, Reading and Research in Hebrew Literature (3 hours)
HEBR 4101I/6010I, Advanced Hebrew (3 hours)
HEBR 4960H, Directed Reading and/or Projects (Honors) (3 hours)
HEBR 4970H, Directed Reading and/or Projects (Honors) (3 hours)
HEBR 4980H, Directed Reading and/or Projects (Honors) (3 hours)
HEBR 4990H, Honors Thesis (3 hours)
PHIL 3500, Jewish Philosophy (3 hours)
RELI 4001/6001, Old Testament/Hebrew Bible Literature (3 hours)
RELI 4002/6002, Prophetic Literature of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible (3 hours)

RELI 4003/6003, Ancient Israelite Religion (3 hours)
RELI 4004/6004, Old Testament/Hebrew Bible: The Writings (3 hours)
RELI 4070/6070, Judaism (3 hours)
RELI 4071/6071, The Holocaust (3 hours)
RELI 4071H, The Holocaust (Honors) (3 hours)
RELI 4072/6072, American Judaism (3 hours)
RELI 4073/6073, Law and Religion in Israel (3 hours)
RELI 4075/6075, The Jewish Experience (3 hours)
SEMI 4001/6001, Studies in Semitic Linguistics I (3 hours)
SEMI 4002/6002, Studies in Semitic Linguistics II (3 hours)

All courses used to satisfy the minor requirement must be passed with a grade of "C" (2.0) or better. At least two upper-division courses must be taken in residence.

TOTAL HOURS: 15

To declare the Hebrew minor, go to [Athena](#). For additional information, See <https://osas.franklin.uga.edu/changing-your-major-minor-or-area-emphasis>

**Institutional Comparison
(comparanda with minor)**

SEC and other regional institutions:

- Emory (minor, within Department of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies)
- Florida State (minor with two tracks, Biblical and Modern, within Department of Modern Languages and Linguistics)
- UNC (minor very similar in quantity and design to this one, within Department of Asian Studies)
- Duke (concentration within Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Program major)

Comparator Peer institutions:

- Indiana University (minor within Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Jewish Studies Program)
- Ohio State (major/minor within Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures)
- University of Florida (minor within Center for Jewish Studies, through Foreign Languages and Literatures Program major)
- University of Maryland (minor within Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center and Program for Jewish Studies)

Aspirational Peer institutions:

- Penn State (minor within Jewish Studies Program)
- University of Texas (minor within Department of Middle Eastern Studies)

- UCLA Berkeley (minor with two tracks, Biblical and Modern, within Department of Near Eastern Studies)
- UCLA Los Angeles (in combination with Jewish Studies minor, within Department of Near Eastern Languages and Cultures)
- University of Minnesota (minor within Department of Classical & Near Eastern Studies)
- University of Wisconsin (track within Jewish Studies major through Mosse/Weinstein Center for Jewish Studies)

Approvals on File

Proposal: Minor in Hebrew Language and Literature

College: Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Department: Religion

Proposed Effective Term: Fall 2019

School/College:

- Department of Religion Department Head, Dr. Sandy Martin, 3/7/2019
- Franklin College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean, Dr. Jean Martin-Williams, 3/7/2019