



**Faculty of Arts
Dept. of Religious Studies
Course Outline**

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Religious Studies 369 L01

Introduction to Judaism

Instructor:

Office:

Office Hours:

Telephone:

Internet:

Course Outline, Fall 2011

MWF 11:00 - 11:50 a.m.

Eliezer Segal

SS 1314

F 11:50 a.m. - 12:50 p.m. or by appointment

(403) 220-3279 or

(403) 220-5886 (Department office)

email:

eliezer.segal@ucalgary.ca

Course Web Site:

<http://people.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/ReIS369/>

Textbook:

E. Segal, *Introducing Judaism* (Routledge)

or:

E. Segal, *Judaism: the e-Book* (may be purchased from:

<<http://www.jbeonlinebooks.org/eBooks/judaism/>>)

Course Description:

This course will present a survey of developments in Jewish practice, belief and institutions from the close of the biblical era to the present day.

Students will be introduced to the distinctive features associated with Judaism in various eras, and the major works of Jewish religious literature. Attention will be devoted to the values, beliefs and rituals that developed within the diverse historical and cultural settings in which Judaism took root.

Students will be assumed to have prepared the assigned readings for each class session (see the Preliminary Timetable below). The lectures will not repeat the contents of the textbooks. Rather, they will provide opportunities to discuss the assigned readings, to focus on specific issues, and to supplement the information contained in the textbooks. Every member of the class will have an opportunity to lead a discussion about an issue that arises from one of the class topics.

Note that this is a course on the Jewish *religion*. It will not deal directly with the national or political history of the Jewish people, nor with the attitudes of other religions towards Jews and Judaism.

Course Requirements:

	Item	Date Due	% Weight
1	Mid-term test, based on assigned readings and lectures.	October 26, 2011	30%
2	One-page research outline. Should include: topic, research question and preliminary bibliography.	November 25, 2011 [Feel free to submit it earlier!]	5%
3	Research essay, approximately 2000 words (seven double-spaced pages).	December 9, 2011	25%
4	Discussion question: Each student will come prepared to lead a ten-minute discussion on a question of their choice at one of the class sessions.	[Students will be assigned their dates during the first two weeks of classes]	5%
5	Final Examination	To be scheduled by the Registrar	35%

There will be a Registrar's office scheduled final examination in this course.

Suggestions for paper topics, bibliographies and other guidelines may be found on the course web site.

Grading System:

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. At the conclusion of the course, a letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme (standardized within the Department of Religious Studies).

A+	100 - 96	A	95 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Less than 50

Plagiarism:

Students should be familiar with University regulations regarding academic integrity, as set down in the University Calendar.

Academic Accommodation

It is a student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Your academic accommodation letters should be provided to your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the commencement of this course. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation.

(DRC web address is: www.ucalgary.ca/UofC/Others/DRC/.)

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 4th Floor of MacEwan Student Centre.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Topic	Chapters in: E. Segal, <i>Introducing Judaism</i> or: <i>Judaism: the eBook</i>	Dates
Introduction to the Course		Sep 12, 2011
The Biblical Legacy	1	Sep 14, 2011
The Second Temple Era 1	2	Sep 16, 2011
The Second Temple Era 2	2	Sep 19, 2011
Judaism of the Talmud and Midrash 1	3	Sep 21, 2011
Judaism of the Talmud and Midrash 2	3	Sep 23, 2011
Medieval Judaism	4	Sep 26, 2011
Medieval Jewish philosophy	5	Sept 28, 2011
Film: The Shaping of Traditions		Sep 30, 2011
Kabbalah	6	Oct 3, 2011
The Modern Era 1: Emancipation and Enlightenment	7	Oct 5, 2011
The Modern Era 2: Religious Reform	7	Oct 7, 2011
Thanksgiving – No Class		Oct 10, 2011
The Modern Era 3: Positive-Historical Judaism	7	Oct 12, 2011
The Modern Era 4: Orthodoxy	7	Oct 14, 2011
Film: The Crucible of Europe		Oct 17, 2011
The Modern Era 5: Judaism in the New World	7	Oct 19, 2011
Film: Roads from the Ghetto		Oct 21, 2011
Devotion to One God	8	Oct 24, 2011
God and the World	9	Oct 26, 2011
Review	1-7	Oct 28, 2011
Mid-term Test	1-7	Oct 31, 2011
Israel's Sacred History	10	Nov 2, 2011
Guide to Research		Nov 4, 2011

Life after Death	11	Nov 7, 2011
The Mystic path 1	12	Nov 9, 2011
Remembrance Day – No Class		Nov 11, 2011
The Mystic path 2	12	Nov 14, 2011
Wisdom and Scholarship 1	13	Nov 16, 2011
Wisdom and Scholarship 2	13	Nov 18, 2011
Justice and Morality	14	Nov 21, 2011
Jewish Education	15	Nov 23, 2011
Places of Worship	16	Nov 25, 2011
Judaism and Daily Life 1	17	Nov 28, 2011
Judaism and Daily Life 2	17	Nov 30, 2011
The Sacred Calendar 1	17	Dec 2, 2011
The Sacred Calendar 2	18	Dec 5, 2011
The Sacred Calendar 3	18	Dec 7, 2011
Life Cycle Observances	19	Dec 9, 2011