



Faculty of Arts
Dept. of Religious Studies
Course Outline

Prof. E. Segal
Department of Religious
Studies
University of Calgary
2500 University Drive N. W.
Calgary, Alberta
Canada T2N 1N4

Office: SS 1314
Phone: (403) 220-5886
Fax: (403) 210-9191
email:
eliezer.segal@ucalgary.ca

Religious Studies 369 L01

Introduction to Judaism

Instructor:

Office:

Office Hours:

Telephone:

Internet:

Course Outline, Fall 2013

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

Eliezer Segal

SS 1314

M 11:50 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.

or by appointment

(403) 220-3279 or Main office (403) 220-5886

email:

eliezer.segal@ucalgary.ca

Course Web Site:

<http://people.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/RelS369/>

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 28, 2013	30%
2	One-page research outline. Should include: topic, research question and preliminary bibliography.	November 25, 2013 [Feel free to submit it earlier!]	5%

	Item	Date Due	% Weight
3	Research essay, approximately 2,000 words (seven double-spaced pages).	December 9, 2013	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 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+	96-100	A	90-95	A-	85-89
B+	80-84	B	75-79	B-	70-74
C+	65-69	C	60-64	C-	55-59
D+	53-54	D	50-52	F	Less than 50

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar. If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than **fourteen (14) days** after the start of the course.

Preliminary Timetable

Topic	Chapters in: <i>E. Segal, Introducing Judaism or: Judaism: the eBook</i>	Dates
Introduction to the Course		Sep 9, 2013
The Biblical Legacy	1	Sep 11, 2013
The Second Temple Era 1	2	Sep 13, 2013
The Second Temple Era 2	2	Sep 16, 2013
Judaism of the Talmud and Midrash 1	3	Sep 18, 2013
Film: The Shaping of Traditions		Sep 20, 2013
Judaism of the Talmud and Midrash 2	3	Sep 23, 2013
Medieval Judaism	4	Sep 25, 2013
Film: The Crucible of Europe		Sep 27 2013
Medieval Jewish philosophy 1	5	Sep 30, 2013
Medieval Jewish philosophy 2	5	Oct 2, 2013
Kabbalah	6	Oct 4, 2013
The Modern Era 1: Emancipation and Enlightenment	7	Oct 7, 2013
The Modern Era 2: Religious Reform	7	Oct 9 2013
The Modern Era 3: Positive-Historical Judaism	7	Oct 11, 2013
The Modern Era 4: Orthodoxy	7	Oct 16, 2013
The Modern Era 5: Judaism in the New World	7	Oct 18, 2013
Devotion to One God	8	Oct 21, 2013
God and the World	9	Oct 23, 2013
Review	1-7	Oct 25, 2013
Mid-term Test	1-7	Oct 28, 2013
Israel's Sacred History	10	Oct 30 2013
Guide to Research		Nov 1, 2013
Life after Death	11	Nov 4 2013
The Mystic path 1	12	Nov 6, 2013
The Mystic path 2	12	Nov 8, 2013
Wisdom and Scholarship 1	13	Nov 13, 2013
Wisdom and Scholarship 2	13	Nov 15, 2013
Justice and Morality	14	Nov 18, 2013
Jewish Education	15	Nov 20, 2013
Places of Worship	16	Nov 22, 2013
Judaism and Daily Life 1	17	Nov 25 2013
Judaism and Daily Life 2	17	Nov 27, 2013
The Sacred Calendar 1	17	Nov 29, 2013
The Sacred Calendar 2	18	Dec 2 2013
The Sacred Calendar 3	18	Dec 4, 2013
Life Cycle Observances	19	Dec 6, 2013

Blackboard Help

Go to <http://www.ucalgary.ca/computersupport/onlineservices/blackboard> for Student Help and FAQs about Blackboard. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are available at <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/blackboard/students>. Instructions for using the Digital Drop Box are available here: http://library.blackboard.com/docs/r6/6_1/student/bbls_r6_1_student/digital_drop_box.htm.

Gnosis

Gnosis is the Religious Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: gnosis@ucalgary.ca or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~gnosis>.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The 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 at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3rd floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- 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.

Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at arts1@ucalgary.ca.

Emergency Evacuation Assembly Point

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints. Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

Safewalk

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.