JEWISH STUDIES (JWST)

Graduate Degree Program
College: Arts and Humanities

Abstract

The Jewish Studies Program offers both a Masters Degree in Jewish Studies, and a Graduate Certificate in Jewish Studies.

The Masters Program in Jewish Studies is designed to offer students broad, interdisciplinary, graduate-level training in Jewish Studies, as well as in-depth focus on some aspect of the Jewish experience. The curriculum draws on the strengths of the Jewish Studies Program at Maryland, especially Jewish History, Bible, Jewish Literature and Cultural Studies (particularly in the ancient and modern periods), Yiddish, Philosophy, Religious Studies, and Israel Studies. In addition, students take courses in cognate fields outside of Jewish Studies in consultation with their advisors. The extremely strong, and still growing, library collection (rivaled in the mid-Atlantic region only by the Library of Congress), and our proximity to the National Archives, the Library of Congress, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and other museums and institutions make the University a prime location for graduate Jewish Studies.

The Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Jewish Studies offers students already enrolled in graduate programs at the University to receive training in Jewish Studies. The program draws on faculty in History, English, Philosophy, Hebrew, and other departments and programs.

Financial Assistance

MA applicants are eligible for University-wide fellowships. In addition, the Jewish Studies program may award up to two fellowships per year to outstanding Masters students.

Limited funds may be available for outstanding certificate students.

For more information, please contact Dr. Maxine Grossman, Director of the Meyerhoff Program and Center for Jewish Studies at mgrossma@umd.edu (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/jewish-studies-jwst/mgrossma@umd.edu).

Contact

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Website: http://www.jewishstudies.umd.edu

Courses: JWST **(**https://umd-curr.courseleaf.com/graduate/courses/jwst/**)**

ADMISSIONS

General Requirements

- Statement of Purpose
- Transcript(s)
- TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements/))

Program-Specific Requirements

- Letters of Recommendation (3)
- CV/Resume (optional)
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) (optional)
- Publications/Presentations
- Writing Sample

For more admissions information or to apply to the program, please visit our Graduate School website: www.gradschool.umd.edu/admissions (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/)

Application Deadlines

Type of Applicant	Fall Deadline	Spring Deadline	Summer Deadline
Domestic Applicants			
US Citizens and Permanent Residents	April 9, 2026	November 14, 2025	N/A
International Applicants			
F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A, E, G, H, I and L visas and immigrants	March 13, 2026	September 30, 2025	N/A

Other Deadlines: Please visit the program website at http://www.jewishstudies.umd.edu

REQUIREMENTS

- Jewish Studies, Master of Arts (M.A.) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/jewish-studies-jwst/jewish-studies-ma/)

FACILITIES AND SPECIAL RESOURCES

The University's libraries hold over 3,000,000 volumes and house among the strongest holdings in Judaic Studies in the Mid-Atlantic region. In addition to the outstanding holdings of the Library of Congress, the area also offers the specialized resources of the Dumbarton Oaks, the National Archives, the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and numerous other scholarly, cultural, and political resources. Through the Consortium of Institutions in the Washington D.C. area, University of Maryland graduate students may enroll in courses at other universities for graduate credit.