PARSHANUT: PENTATEUCH WITH RASHI  
(BIB 5013)  
Walter Herzberg  
W 2:45-5:25  
The course is methodologically oriented, designed to help students acquire and refine skills of close reading of the biblical text by integrating a modern literary approach with the study of Rashi and other traditional Jewish commentaries. Students will learn to identify the questions that have been asked for centuries, creating an ongoing dialogue with ancient, medieval, and contemporary close readers. The course will be geared specifically to the needs of the students of the William Davidson Graduate School of Jewish Education. Prerequisite: HEB 2103 or the equivalent.

MONSTER HEAVEN (BIB 5294)  
Esther Hamori  
T 2:45-5:25  
The Bible is filled with monsters—hybrid creatures in heaven, giants on earth, sea monsters out in the deep, and a battery of divine hitmen. This course explores the theological and social functions of God’s monsters. Our thinking will be informed by biblical scholarship, philosophy, anthropology, and monster theory. Prerequisites: BIB 5011 and completion of HEB 1101 (or the equivalents).

BIBLICAL ARAMAIC (BIB 5421)  
David Marcus  
W 2:45-5:25  
An introduction to the morphology and syntax of biblical Aramaic. Readings from the Aramaic passages of the Books of Daniel and Ezra. No previous knowledge of Aramaic is assumed.
BIBLICAL GRAMMAR (BIB 5560)
David Marcus
T & TH 8:40-9:55
A review of the morphology, syntax, and lexicon of biblical Hebrew. An inductive survey of selected biblical texts with special attention given to Masoretic notations.

INTRODUCTION TO MEDIEVAL BIBLICAL EXEGESIS II (BIB 6071)
Alan Cooper
W 2:45-5:25
Designed for students who are new to the use of rabbinic bible commentaries, this course is an introduction to medieval Jewish biblical exegesis. Students will learn to identify the questions that have been asked for centuries, creating an ongoing dialogue with ancient, medieval, and contemporary close readers. During the semester students will concentrate on: a) developing skills in reading medieval commentaries (comprehension and recitation will be stressed); b) understanding the methodologies and exegetical goals of each exegete; c) gaining an appreciation for the commentators in their own historical context. We will also explore “the religious significance of the peshat.”

ADVANCED EXEGESIS: THE SONG OF SONGS IN MEDIEVAL EXEGESIS (BIB 7524)
Robert Harris
TH 2:45-5:25
A hands-on demonstration of all the pertinent tools necessary for advanced Masoretic study. This course is restricted to doctoral students and others with permission of the instructor.

ELEMENTARY HEBREW I (HEB 1101)
Nina Nesher
M-TH 10:10-11:25 / 6 CREDITS
This course, a direct continuation of HEB 1001, brings students near the end of the first volume of Hebrew from Scratch A (Ivrit min ha-Hathala Alef) with the same emphasis on reading comprehension as well as the development of communication skills. Students will continue to expand their vocabulary and learn—among other basic language forms—the past tense. Additional readings will be assigned from the folktale anthology “Sipur ve-Id Sipur.”

ELEMENTARY HEBREW II (HEB 2103)
Sarah Hochfeld
M-TH 10:10-11:25 / 6 CREDITS
Using the second volume of Hebrew from Scratch (Ivrit min ha-Hathala Bet) as textbook, supplemented by additional readings, this course is designed to seamlessly follow HEB 1101 by building on the comprehension and oral-aural skills previously acquired, and continuing to develop vocabulary and grammar knowledge (including the future tense); special attention will be given to dictionary look-up skills.

INTERMEDIATE HEBREW I (HEB 2201)
Ilona Ben-Moshe
M, T, & TH 8:40-9:55
This course continues with the second volume of Hebrew from Scratch (Ivrit min ha-Hathala Bet), complemented with online listening comprehension modules. Students will continue to expand their vocabulary and advance their aural-oral skills. In grammar, the study of the future tense and major prepositions begun in the previous semester will be concluded, and new topics in syntax and the verb system will be introduced.

INTERMEDIATE HEBREW II (HEB 5203)
Hanna Garti-Bar
M, T, & TH 8:40-9:55
This intermediate-level course will bring students to the end of Hebrew from Scratch II (Ivrit min ha-Hathala Bet), supplementing the textbook with materials from level gimel books and other readings in Hebrew from various periods (e.g. adapted stories, poems, selections from parashat ha-shavua, midrash and Biblical commentary). Students will learn new grammar topics, develop strategies for reading comprehension and word recognition, and practice conveying ideas and opinions in both speech and writing.
ADVANCED HEBREW II (HEB 5303)
Miriam Meir
M-TH 11:40-12:55
The goals of this course are to prepare students for participation in Hebrew-instructed content courses during their year in Israel, and to familiarize them with the cultural and political discourse of Israel. A direct continuation of HEB 5301, this course provides further practice in reading advanced materials as well as training in lecture comprehension and listening strategies through authentic video lectures. Students will read unabridged sources relevant to the culture and history of Zionism and the State of Israel.

BETWEEN IDENTITY & IDEOLOGY:
VARIED NATIONS OF JEWISH NATIONALISM
(HIS 5312)
Brian Smollett
T & TH 1:05-2:20
This course examines the development of several different Jewish national movements and ideologies against the backdrop of the rise of nationalism. Topics include: Zionism, diaspora nationalism, liberalism and nationalism, and debates regarding statehood.

JEWS, GENDER AND ITALIAN RENAISSANCE
(HIS 5339)
Stefanie Siegmund
TBD
This is a course on Jewish culture and history in the era of the Italian Renaissance, c.1350-c.1650, in which we explore social creativity, adaptation, and relationships of power: Jews and Christians; men and women; Jewish elites and ordinary Jews. We will work to draw links between main themes and developments of the Italian Renaissance and those larger developments and the history of Italian Jews. Students who can read Italian or Hebrew well (with a dictionary) are urged to take advantage of opportunities to use their skills, but all required texts are in English. There is a strong emphasis in understanding the variety of primary source types used by historians.

THE CHANGING AMERICAN SYNAGOGUE:
HOUSE OF PRAYER, EDUCATION & ASSEMBLY (HIS 5414)
Jack Wertheimer
W 2:45-5:25
This course will examine how the focus of synagogue life has evolved from the Colonial era to the present in response to internal Jewish needs and broader American patterns; how these shifts have affected the religious, liturgical, and educational programs of congregations; and the altered roles played by rabbis, cantors, educators and lay leaders. It will conclude with an examination of contemporary trends.

JEWISH LIFE IN THE EARLY MODERN WORLD
(HIS 5452)
Stefanie Siegmund
M-TH 4:10-5:25
This course treats the period known to historians as “Early Modern,” c. 1450-1700. Previous undergraduate or graduate study of Jewish history is assumed and recommended. This course introduces the main areas and approaches of recent scholarly interest in the field.

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY UNTIL WWII
(HIS 5531)
Jack Wertheimer
T 10:10-12:55
An examination of the social structure, communal organization, and institutional development of American Jewry from the colonial era until the end of World War II. Central themes include the conflict between traditional Jewish needs and the demands of the American environment, imported versus indigenous structures and ideologies, regional variations, and centripetal and centrifugal forces affecting Jewish unity.

JEWISH-CHRISTIAN RELATIONS (HIS 5546)
Shuly Rubin Schwartz
M 2:45-5:25
This course focuses on the ways Christians and Jews relate to the Other. Together with students from Union Theological Seminary, we will explore both connections between the millennia of Christian relations with Jews and
contemporary issues in relating to others who differ from "us" in some significant way, whether on the basis of class, culture, ethnicity, race, or religion. Together we will deepen our understanding of the particularities of the Jewish-Christian relationship—including antisemitism—alongside the larger question of religious and racial/cultural/ethnic identity vis-à-vis the Other.

JEWS AND THE LEFT (HIS 5624)
David Fishman
TH 2:45-5:25
This course will focus on the relationship between Jews and left-wing politics on three continents: Europe, the Land of Israel, and the United States. The political left is usually defined as those movements and ideologies that strive for greater social and economic equality. Jews have often supported such movements, to a large part because they championed equal rights for religious and ethnic minorities. But on other occasions, Jews have been targeted by left-wing political movements, when they have perceived Jews as embodying power, wealth, and nationalism. Topics will include: the Jewish question in the French revolution; Jewish radicalism in Russia; Socialist Zionism and the labor movement in pre-state Israel; American Jews in the far left (the Communist Party), and moderate left (the civil rights movement); leftist attacks on Zionism and Israel.

HASIDISM AND ITS OPPONENTS (HIS 6106)
David Fishman
T 2:45-5:25
The rise of Hasidism and the ensuing religious conflict between Hasidism and Mitnagdim. The focus will be on the interplay between theological, philosophic, and halakhic points of contention and social, political, and historical factors.

UNDER CROSS AND CRESCENT: JEWS AND JUDAISM IN THE MIDDLE AGES (HIS 6313)
Benjamin Gampel
M 10:10-12:55
An advanced survey of Jewish life in Christian and Muslim domains from the fourth century through the fifteenth century. Political, social, religious, cultural, and economic trends are discussed. Texts will be studied in Hebrew.

LITERATURE OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE: JEWISH AND NON-JEWISH (JTH 5013)
Eitan Fishbane
M 10:10-12:55
A course reading and discussing literature of the spiritual life. With attention to literary genres ranging from poetry and fiction to theology and the first-person essay, the course will explore diverse expressions of the spiritual life in the work of modern Jewish and non-Jewish writers from R. W. Emerson to A. J. Heschel, John Muir to Rav Kook, Nahman of Bratzlav to Hermann Hesse, and many others.

SACRED TIME IN HASIDIC MYSTICAL THOUGHT: SHABBAT AND HOLIDAYS (JTH 5631)
Eitan Fishbane
W 10:10-12:55
Through a close reading of original Hebrew sources, we will study a range of hasidic mystical reflections on the meaning of Shabbat and the holidays of the Jewish year. With a comparative eye to the larger question of sacred time in the study of religion, students will explore representative passages from classic and inspirational hasidic homiletics.

FROM PURIM SHPIEL TO AVANT GARDE: YIDDISH PLAYS IN TRANSLATION (LIT 5163)
Edna Nahshon
T 2:45-5:25
The Yiddish theater was one of the most cherished and influential institutions in modern Jewish culture. Thematically devoted to Jewish subject-matters, its dramatists were also at home with contemporaneous dramatic trends in their respective host cultures, and fused the two. In their plays we will encounter the major themes of their day: Maskilic ideals vis-à-vis fossilized religiosity, social and class tensions, labor relations, women's rights, crime and prostitution, messianic dreams, antisemitism, and acculturation. In discussing the transfer from page to stage we will also watch several Yiddish films and will discuss issue concerning cinematic adaptations.
LANGUAGE OF THE PRAYER BOOK (LTG 5032)
Boaz Tarsi
M 2:45-5:25
A word-by-word examination of selected sections from the prayer book, seeking an understanding of the true and multidimensional meaning of the words and their intertextual resonance in the liturgy and the Tanakh. Some of the tools include the analysis of morphology, syntax, elements, the binyanim and their meaning, and other grammatical factors. Prerequisites: HEB 2201 or permission of the instructor.

INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH EXEGESIS (MID 6101)
Burton Visotzky
T 8:40-11:25
A rapid reading course in Rabbinic exegetical literature. Recitation/discussion class will concentrate on reading and translation into English, along with text background.

TANNAITIC MIDRASH—AN INTRODUCTION (MID 7163)
Burton Visotzky
M 2:45-5:25
An Introduction to the earliest forms of midrash edited into collections by the rabbis: the so-called Halakhic or Tannaitic Midrashim.

INTRODUCTION TO RABBINIC LITERATURE (TAL 5025)
Rachel Rosenthal
M 2:45-5:25
An introductory course designed for graduate students not majoring in Talmud. Students are introduced to the methodology, structure and terminology of the Babylonian Talmud, as well as to the skills necessary for reading Rashi’s commentary. Prerequisites: HEB 2201 and BIB 5011 or permission of the instructor.

RAPID READING: POPULAR CUSTOM AND FOLK PRACTICE IN THE BAVLI (TAL 7614)
Mordecai Schwartz
W 10:10-12:55
In this course we will read rapidly through the seven folio pages of the fourth chapter of Bavli Pesahim, the classical location of the Talmud’s discussion of Jewish custom. We will focus on the gross structure of the chapter’s major literary units and examine the great thematic sweep of the chapter. Through a macro-analysis of the chapter, we will interrogate the Talmud’s understanding of “law” (din) and “custom” (minhag) as categories of Rabbinic religion, and attempt to come to terms with our own understandings of them in this age.

THE STRUCTURE & FORMATION OF THE BABYLONIAN TALMUD (TAL 7689)
Richard Kalmin
TH 10:10-12:55
An examination of the major theories of the structure and development of the Babylonian Talmud, from the geonic period to the present, including editorial activity during the amoraic period, authorship of the anonymous passages, and the relationship between the Bavli and Yerushalmi. Permission of the instructor required, and this permission must be obtained prior to the first class session.