

ATTACHMENT 2B-1
LETTER OF NOTIFICATION – 3
NEW OPTION, CONCENTRATION, EMPHASIS

(Maximum 18 semester credit hours of theory courses and 6 credit hours of practicum courses)

1. Institution submitting request: University of Arkansas Fayetteville

2. Contact person/title: Dr. Sharon Gaber/Provost

3. Phone number/e-mail address: 479-575-5459; sgaber@uark.edu

4. Proposed effective date: Fall Semester 2015

5. Title of existing degree program:

(Indicate if the degree listed above is approved for distance delivery)

6. CIP Code: 38.0206

7. Degree Code: JWST-M

8. Proposed name of new option/concentration/emphasis: Minor in Jewish Studies

9. Reason for proposed action: To consolidate courses already being offered in the proposed area and provide a cohesive program introducing students to Jewish thought and history; to provide an interdisciplinary minor to students across the college interested in different aspects of Jewish religion or culture; to enhance existing majors in any disciplines, enhance majors or minors in area studies (especially RLST and MEST).

10. Provide the following:

a. Curriculum outline - List of courses in new option/concentration/emphasis – Underline required courses

JWST 2003 Introduction to Judaism

JWST 3103 Introduction to Jewish Languages

JWST 4003 Modern Jewish Thought

JWST 4013 Contemporary Jewish Thought

ENGL 3843 Topics in Modern American Literature and Culture: Jewish-American Writing

MRST 3013 Special Topics in Medieval Studies: Representations of Jews in Medieval English Literature

GERM 4013 Germany and the Holocaust

GERM 470V Special Topics: German-Jewish Writers

HIST 4143 European Intellectual History

HIST 3473 Modern Palestine/Israel

HIST 3043 Modern Middle East

HIST 4493 Religion in America

GREK 2003 Plato Greek/New Testament

GREK 4093 Biblical and Patristic Greek

HUMN 425V Colloquium: The Land of Israel in Jewish Thought

HUMN 425V Colloquium: Jewish-Christian Relations

HUMN 425V Colloquium: Intensive Biblical Hebrew

Other courses with significant Jewish Studies-related content (for example, Religious Studies courses, Middle East Studies courses, or appropriate literature or cinema courses), subject to approval by the chair of the Jewish Studies program, will also be considered.

b. Total semester credit hours required for option/concentration/emphasis 15 semester credit hours

(Option range: 9–24 semester credit hours)

c. New courses and new course descriptions

JWST 2003 Introduction to Judaism

An introduction to the practices, teachings, and scriptures of Judaism, focusing on the post-Biblical period up to the present.

JWST 3103 Introduction to Jewish Languages

An introduction to the alphabet, grammar, syntax, and basic vocabulary of Hebrew, Jewish Aramaic and Yiddish.

JWST 4003 Modern Jewish Thought

A survey of the main trends in Jewish thought from the seventeenth through the nineteenth century.

JWST 4013 Contemporary Jewish Thought

A survey of trends in Jewish Thought in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, focusing on the ways in which Jewish thinkers have responded to the events affecting Jews and the conditions of Jewish life in from approximately 1900 to the present.

d. Goals and objectives of program option:

To expose students to religious, philosophical, historical, and cultural approaches to Judaism and Jewish thought, and the role of Judaism and Jewish thought in the current, multicultural world; to prepare students for thoughtful engagement with important problems and academic questions regarding history, international politics, cultural studies, law, business, literature, and the arts involving both Israeli and diaspora Jewish life and experience; to prepare students for the critical and culturally savvy thinking needed for careers in business, law, education, the arts, humanities, or sciences; to prepare students for post-graduate work in politics, philosophy, religion, literature, languages, history, arts, sociology, or anthropology that engages with the complex questions of multiculturalism, minority literatures, religion, identity, genocide, hermeneutics, and time that emerge in the study of Judaism and Jewish cultures.

e. Expected student learning outcomes:

Students acquire the intellectual tools to engage in more advanced study of Judaism after completing the minor. Students have a firm grasp of the basic tenets of Judaism, the facts of Jewish life, and the key questions and debates in Jewish history and thought, and can apply them in historical, literary, political, sociological, philosophical, legal, business, and educational contexts. Students have a nuanced understanding of new perspectives Jewish thought can bring. Students have the tools to develop informed positions on wide-ranging issues in history and in the modern world. Students are better prepared to navigate a diverse, multicultural world.

f. Documentation that program option meets employer needs

g. Student demand (projected enrollment) for program option
15 minors over the next 4 years

h. Name of institutions offering similar program or program option and the institution(s) used as a model to develop the proposed program option

The University of Alabama <http://rel.as.ua.edu/jacobs.html>
LSU <http://uiswemsweb.prod.lsu.edu/ArtSci/jewishstudies/>
University of Florida <http://web.jst.ufl.edu/>
University of Georgia <http://religion.uga.edu/people.htm>
Georgia State University <http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwjst/>
University of Kentucky <http://jewishstudies.as.uky.edu>
University of South Carolina <http://artsandsciences.sc.edu/jstp/>
University of Tennessee <http://web.utk.edu/~judaic/>
Vanderbilt University <http://as.vanderbilt.edu/jewishstudies/>
University of Texas at Austin <https://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/scjs/>

11. Institutional curriculum committee review/approval date:

12. Will the new option be offered via distance delivery? Indicate mode of distance delivery: No.

13. Explain in detail the distance delivery methods/procedures to be used: N/A

14. Specify the amount of additional costs required for program implementation, the source of funds, and how funds will be used.

\$5,000/semester to allow Jacob Adler to teach JWST courses on load. In the short term, funding tentatively provided by the Jewish Federation of Arkansas.

15. Provide additional program information if requested by ADHE staff.

President/Chancellor Approval Date:

Board of Trustees Notification Date:

Chief Academic Officer Date: