



STUDENT LIFE

THE CAREER CENTER

Judaic Studies

FROM STUDY TO SKILLS

All academic programs offered at the UM help students develop valuable transferable skills. The Frankel Center for Judaic Studies offers students an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Jewish civilization and thought, drawing on the expertise of faculty in multiple related disciplines. As a student of Judaic Studies, you will learn to engage multiple worlds, speak several languages,

obtain a broad-based liberal arts education, and develop excellent critical thinking and communication skills.

Related fields include Anthropology, Archaeology, History, Political Science, Near Eastern Studies, Middle Eastern and North African Studies, International Studies, Museum Studies, Sociology, and Social Work.

SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Language Skills

- Reading for understanding
- Interpreting complex languages
- Translating ideas/language
- Evaluating translations against original text
- Perceiving word patterns and structures
- Communicating cross-culturally

Interpersonal/ Cross-Cultural Skills

- Developing appreciation for other cultural perspectives
- Examining the relationship of historical, economic, religious, and political forces
- Understanding the dynamics of culture in society
- Working with competing notions and ideas

Research/Analytical/ Project Skills

- Identifying research topics
- Generating and developing ideas
- Incorporating interdisciplinary approaches
- Comparing/contrasting ideas and concepts
- Crafting hypotheses
- Critically analyzing results
- Working with original sources
- Applying methodologies from many disciplines

Communication Skills

- Writing clearly
- Presenting to an audience
- Editing/proofreading materials
- Listening critically
- Evaluating ideas
- Reading for context and tone
- Synthesizing information
- Explaining complex concepts

BUILDING YOUR SKILLS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Employers seek out individuals who can demonstrate excellent verbal and written communication skills, teamwork and interpersonal skills, initiative, and a strong work ethic. Most concentrations sponsor specific student groups like an undergraduate organization or an honor society. Student organizations and campus employment offer valuable opportunities to add to the skills you are

developing in your classes. Other options include off-campus employment or volunteering in the community. Study abroad experiences are particularly helpful to improve language proficiency and gain intercultural skills. Finally, a summer internship may be the best way of all to test out a career field and develop marketable skills.

FROM SKILLS TO CAREER

Judaic Studies concentrators develop both general and specific skills applicable to a wide range of careers. For example, cross-cultural communication skills may be equally useful whether working as a foreign-service officer, a consultant, or a freelance journalist.

Language Skills

Interpreter
Foreign correspondent
Language teacher
Manager, language school
Jewish communal administrator/educator
Special collections librarian 

 = Further Study Required

Interpersonal/ Cross-Cultural Skills

Immigration officer
Student exchange program coordinator
Public relations specialist
Corporate travel planner
Consultant, cross-cultural relations
Foreign service officer 
Social services assistant
Physician 
Psychologist/Psychiatrist 

Many concentrators go on to graduate or professional school. The list below is a sample of careers undertaken by Judaic Studies graduates.

Research/Analytical/ Project Skills

Lawyer 
Special events coordinator
Museum/Gallery curator 
Market researcher
Research assistant
Legislative staff person
Director of development
Arts Center director

Communication Skills

Editor
College instructor 
Foreign affairs journalist
Corporate communications director 
Import/Export trade negotiator 
Lobbyist

For more career information, see O*Net at online.onetcenter.org

CONCENTRATION REQUIREMENTS

Prerequisites: Judaic 205 (Intro to Jewish Civilizations and Cultures) and second semester proficiency in Modern Hebrew (HJCS 102) or Yiddish (Judaic 102), achieved through coursework or placement exam.

In addition, Judaic Studies concentrators are required to complete a minimum of 24 credits in approved courses, including two courses each in Classical and Modern Judaism, Jewish Literature and Culture, and Jewish History and Social Science. At least two of the courses must include materials from before 1750.

The Center offers an honors concentration to qualified students, as well as a 15 credit minor. Prospective concentrators and minors should consult with the Center's concentration advisors and refer to the Center's website for more information.

The Jean and Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies

2111 Thayer Building
734-763-9047
lsa.umich.edu/judaic

Newnan Advising Center

1255 Angell Hall
734-764-0332
lsa.umich.edu/advising

NEXT STEPS/RESOURCES

To begin connecting to professionals in fields that interest you, create your own LinkedIn account: careercenter.umich.edu/article/getting-started-linkedin

To identify internships or job opportunities, visit Career Center Connector: careercenter.umich.edu/article/c3

The Maize Pages list hundreds of organizations for students to get involved in: maizepages.umich.edu

To explore opportunities for overseas study and work, go to: lsa.umich.edu/cgis or global.umich.edu

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On-campus jobs (work-study and non work-study jobs) are listed at: studentemployment.umich.edu/JobX_Home.aspx

Connect to Community lists volunteer opportunities in local organizations: connect2community.umich.edu

The Career Center

3200 Student Activities Building
734-764-7460
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