

Jewish, Islamic, and Middle Eastern Studies

Jewish, Islamic, and Middle Eastern Studies is an academic department, unique in North America, in which Jewish Studies and Islamic Studies are integrated. It is an interdisciplinary department with the purpose of allowing students to explore the historical experience; the literary, religious, and cultural expression; and the political and material life of the Jewish, Islamic, and Middle Eastern civilizations. Whether students favor the study of language, literature, religion, history, or politics, they will find a way to deepen their appreciation of these complex and diverse societies and cultures in our courses. Students will also be encouraged to explore the interaction of Jews and Muslims with neighboring societies and cultures in the Middle East, Europe, North Africa, and other parts of the world.

The department offers both a **Master of Arts in Jewish Studies** and a **Master of Arts in Islamic and Near Eastern Studies**.

The department does not currently offer a home-based PhD program. Students who would like to pursue a PhD in one of the fields of Jewish Studies or Islamic and Near Eastern Studies may do so under the auspices of a PhD-granting department or program (e.g., History, Anthropology, Comparative Literature and Thought) in cooperation with participating faculty from Jewish, Islamic, and Middle Eastern Studies. In such instances, the prospective student should apply directly to the appropriate disciplinary department or program at Washington University.

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