

News for Spring 2017

The JS faculty has been working very hard to keep Jewish Studies constantly developing.

We are well into our second year of offering BOTH a Jewish Studies **minor** and a **major**. See our websites on the two programs: the [JS Minor](#) and the [JS Major](#).

And with the major, Jewish Studies is now an independent, stand-alone program.

We are also into our third year of sponsoring study abroad programs in Israel (Haifa University, Tel Aviv University, and Hebrew University in Jerusalem) and at Jewish Studies programs in other countries: check out the Office of Study Abroad: <http://studyabroad.ku.edu>.

In the summers, KU JS is excavating in southern Israel at Tell es-Safi, the site of ancient Gath, led by Professors Aren Maeir of Bar Ilan University and our own Eric Welch. Check out their [video](#)!

The Program has received several donations of books on Jewish subjects; we're beginning to amass quite a library! And more books may be on the way. We and the development staff of KU Libraries have been in negotiation with several prominent donors in the area to receive their libraries on Jewish topics from art to history.

This year, Professor Emeritus David Katzman has been engaged in academic research on the Jews and Jewish communities of the Midwest. In Fall 2017 we will sponsor a one-day symposium about this work with speakers and events.

And we're bringing back Gal Levy of the Open University of Israel to return in early Fall 2017 to give a lecture; Gal taught for us in 2015-2016. We look forward to seeing him again.

And we are planning other special activities this Spring; check out our [calendar page](#) for more details.

We're getting better all the time!

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