May 15, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: James Harris
    Dean, College of Arts & Humanities

FROM: Phyllis Peres
      Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to establish a Minor in Israel Studies (PCC log no. 08075)

At its meeting on today, the Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula and Courses approved your proposal to establish a Minor in Israel Studies. A copy of the approved proposal is attached.

The Minor is effective Fall 2009. The College should ensure that the Minor is fully described in the Undergraduate Catalog and all relevant descriptive materials, and that all advisors are informed.

CWR/

Enclosure

cc: Carmen Balthrop, Chair, Senate PCC Committee
    Sarah Bauder, Office of Student Financial Aid
    Reka Montfort, University Senate
    Barbara Hope, Data Administration
    Denise Nadasen, Institutional Research & Planning
    Anne Turkos, Archives
    Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar
    Scott Wolpert, Undergraduate Studies
    Elizabeth Bergmann Loizeaux, College of Arts & Humanities
    Hayim Lapin, Meyerhoff Program and Center for Jewish Studies
    Paul Scham, Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

DIRECTIONS:
- Provide one form with original approval signatures in lines 1-4 for each proposed action. Keep this form to one page in length.
- Early consultation with the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs is strongly recommended if there are questions or concerns, particularly with new programs.
- Please submit the signed form to Claudia Rector, Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.
- Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

DATE SUBMITTED_ April 8, 2009
COLLEGE/SCHOOL__ARHU
DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM__JWST

PROPOSED ACTION (A separate form for each) ADD X__DELETE_____CHANGE____

DESCRIPTION (Provide a succinct account of the proposed action. Details should be provided in an attachment. Provide old and new sample programs for curriculum changes.)
This is a proposal a new Minor in Israel Studies. This Minor will be coordinated by Jewish Studies and Middle East Studies, so that Israel Studies will form an integral part of both fields.

JUSTIFICATION/REASONS/RESOURCES (Briefly explain the reason for the proposed action. Identify the source of new resources that may be required. Details should be provided in an attachment.)
The subject matter of Israel Studies is distinct from Jewish Studies, where it is currently housed. This minor will enable all students with an interest in Israel or in Middle East Studies to get Minor credit for our significant offerings in the field. There already exists a critical mass of faculty, including a new Kay Chair in Israeli Studies, as well as sufficient courses and ample student interest to justify a Minor. Needed resources are provided through the endowed Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies.

APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date
1. Department Committee Chair Hayim Lapin 4/8/09
2. Department Chair Hayim Lapin 4/8/09
3. College/School PCC Chair
4. Dean
5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)
6. Chair, Senate PCC
7. Chair of Senate
8. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost Phyllis Heers

PCC LOG NO. 08075

VPAAP 8-05
MINOR IN ISRAEL STUDIES

I. Overview and Rationale

In late 2005, the Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Center for Jewish Studies, with substantial support from the College of Arts and Humanities and external funders, initiated the activities that have now become the Joseph and Alma Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies. Part of its core mission is to develop and coordinate inter-disciplinary programs in Israel Studies.

Israel’s prominent role in international affairs, technology, American policy, and the continually surprising developments within its society make Israel an appropriate subject for academic study. The degree of interest in Israel on the part of American society in general, among academics and policy makers, and on this campus itself is also high.

Establishment of this Minor will be facilitated by the fact that many of the courses comprising it are already well established at the University. Israel Studies is also associated, both substantively and administratively, with the long-established Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Program and Center for Jewish Studies, which will house the Minor. It is also, of course, related to Middle East Studies, which is a Minor in itself, housed in the Department of History. However, Israel Studies is conceptually distinct from both. Unlike Jewish Studies, it focuses on a particular state and its distinct history, politics, population and culture, and thus currently and potentially addresses fields not relevant to a Jewish Studies curriculum, such as political science, hydrology, economics, or the study of Israel’s non-Jewish population. On the other hand, our proposed Minor is much more chronologically and geographically focused than Middle East Studies could or should be. Current offerings thus do not meet the programmatic needs of a developing Israel Studies Program. We believe this proposed Minor will be attractive as well to students who are not Jewish Studies majors but who would be interested in enough in the field to pursue the Minor.

The establishment of the Gildenhorn Institute has enabled the advancement of programmatic coherence among courses in the field of Israel Studies. These include courses in Israeli history, Hebrew language, literature, and society, as well as on Israeli politics and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Many of these existing courses are oversubscribed; student interest is not a problem. The results of an informal survey on student attitudes towards a Minor is summarized and attached.

It should be emphasized that the Gildenhorn Institute is dedicated to teaching and research focusing on Israel as a part of the Middle East. In keeping with this philosophy, the proposed Minor will require and allow as electives courses that make clear the connection between Israel Studies and the region in which Israel is located. While this may seem self-evident, there have been some highly publicized disputes involving Middle Eastern Studies and Israel advocates on other campuses, and the faculty is committed to preventing anything of the sort occurring here.
The Gildenhorn Institute was initiated at the time that the campus attained a critical mass of seven full-time faculty members whose primary research and teaching is on the Middle East\(^1\), and Persian and Arabic language offerings had been developed. The Gildenhorn Institute is working closely with these faculty members to coordinate the development of their respective programs. However, at this point, we believe that a stand-alone Minor in Israel Studies would be desirable and attainable, both from the perspective of faculty resources, but also of student interest.

The goal of the Minor is to allow the student to study the essential aspects of Israel in the Middle East and to be familiar with the important historical, political, and cultural markers of the country, as well as acquiring some knowledge of the “neighborhood” in which Israel resides. In keeping with this focus, students are required to take at least one course in Middle East studies. Language study is encouraged but not required.

Concurrent with this proposal we are requesting of the Associate Provost for Academic Affairs the creation of a course rubric for Israel Studies (ISRL). Should that request be granted, we will shift some of the JWST courses discussed below to the ISRL rubric.

Letters of support from the Director of the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, the Chair of the History Department, the Associate Chair of the Government and Politics Department, and the coordinator of the Middle East Studies Minor are appended.

The general outline of the Minor requirements is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application requirements</th>
<th>• 30 credits completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Credits:</td>
<td>• Application upon successful completion of JWST342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Required courses:</td>
<td>• 18 (9 at upper level)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East Studies Requirement:</td>
<td>• JWST342/HIST376: History of Zionism and Modern Israel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>• JWST488: Seminar in Israel Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(See sample list below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Three courses, see below)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Resources

The Minor draws on considerable expertise and existing courses in two broad areas that are already present in Jewish Studies: (a) Hebrew Language, Literature and Culture; (b) Israeli History and Politics.

Language and Culture

---

\(^1\) In ARHU: Algibali (ARAB), Borrut (HIST), Karimi-Hakkak (PERS), Khamis (COMM), Wien (HIST), Zilfi (HIST); in BSOS: Corstange (GVPT), Telhami (GVPT).
The University already has a comprehensive program of Hebrew language instruction, extending through the third year of study, after which these upper-level courses take on literary, linguistic and cultural topics (generally connected with Israeli culture).

Depending on the instructor, subject matter, and course, the language of instruction may be Hebrew or English. During the 2007-2008 academic year, 315 seats were offered; in 2008-2009, as a result of budget cuts, approximately 240 seats were offered. Language instruction courses are generally full; advanced Hebrew classes or specialized readings classes for JWST majors have room for additional students. We expect the former courses to be a “feeder” for the Minor; and will encourage Minors to make use of the latter as electives if appropriate.

Faculty for Hebrew include:

- Eric Zakim (Assoc. Prof., SLLC): Hebrew Language, Cultural Studies
- Sheila Jelen (Assoc. Prof., ENGL & JWST): Modern Hebrew Literature
- Nili Levy (Instructor, SLLC, with job security): Hebrew Language
- Avital Feuer (Visiting Assist. Prof., JWST): Hebrew Language; Language Pedagogy
- Einat Gonen (Visiting Assist. Prof., JWST): Hebrew Language, Contemporary Hebrew Linguistics

To meet demand and maintain small class size in Hebrew Language Instruction, the Meyerhoff Program and Center for Jewish Studies regularly supplements Hebrew offerings through adjunct instructors as well.

History and Social Sciences
As part of its support for the Minor, the Meyerhoff Program and Center for Jewish Studies has committed, at a minimum, to continue offering basic courses in Israeli History (HIST 376/JWST 342 and also courses listed below that have been offered as Special Topics). For several years, the Meyerhoff Program and Center for Jewish Studies has hosted visiting faculty in Israel studies. The Meyerhoff Program and Center for Jewish Studies has recently hired as the new Kay Professor of Israel Studies a full-time tenured faculty member in Political Science and Communication, who will start in the Fall of 2009. In addition, the Minor will incorporate:

- Paul Scham, Executive Director of the Gildenhorn Institute, who teaches one to two courses yearly.
- Expertise from the deep resources of the Washington region’s think tanks and research institutions, who are often very willing to teach as highly-qualified Adjunct Professors. (For example, Dr. Scott Lasensky of the US Institute of Peace is teaching a course on Israeli Politics and Society in the Spring of 2009.)
- General offerings in Middle East offered in HIST and GVPT.
- A new Introduction to Israel Studies and a new Seminar and Independent study (both described in “Curriculum”, below)
Other resources include:

Courses in Israel
Until the 1990’s the University offered a semester-long study abroad program in Israel. There was a hiatus after the beginning of the violence in 2000 but we, along with other universities, are planning new programs (one was already successful in the summer of 2008), which we expect to continue and expand. Currently planned or in development are:

- Course on the Historical Geography of Jerusalem (Summer 2009).  
- Course on Intercultural Communications and Religious Conflicts in the Middle East (in Egypt & Israel). (Summer 2009, in conjunction with the Center for International Development and Conflict Management – CIDCM).
- A semester program at the University of Haifa in development for 2010-2011.
- A winter term course on Israeli cultural studies is under development.
- Students have been and will continue to be able to take courses at universities or other programs in Israel and can transfer credits to UMD.

Library
The library has a rich collection of books on Israel in Hebrew and English, as well as film, recorded plays, and music. The Judaic Studies Librarian is an important resource for research on Israel.

The School of Languages Literatures and Cultures
SLLC offers multiple levels of both Arabic and Persian. Each offers both Majors and Minors as well as a Masters of Professional Studies (MPS) in its respective Flagship program. Arabic offers an extensive series of language courses; Persian offers language as well as literature and culture courses. A new hire in Arabic language (Professor Valerie Anishchenkova, who will start in Fall 2009) rounds out Arabic offerings as well.

Middle East studies
Currently, the University has seven faculty members whose primary field of study is the Middle East, and it offers a Minor in Middle East Studies. Offerings are coordinated by Professor Madeline Zilfi (HIST), and may be viewed at: 

Other Existing Resources
The Minor relies on courses and funding that are already in place. New courses proposed in conjunction with this Minor Proposal are largely administrative adjustments to give structure and visibility to existing offerings in the area of Israel Studies. The Meyerhoff Program and Center for Jewish Studies believes that a Minor capped at 50 students is within the current advising capacity.

---

2 This course was withdrawn in April because of insufficient registration, a problem which has affected many Study Abroad courses, presumably because of the economic crisis. We plan to offer it again in the summer of 2010.
III. Curriculum
A. Transcript Title:  Minor in Israel Studies.

B. Catalog Description
Study of the history, culture and political structure of Israel and its place in the Middle East, including Hebrew and/or Arabic language The Minor in Israel studies consists of a total of 18 credits (generally 6 courses). Coursework must be distributed to meet the overlapping requirements below.

Required courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JWST 342/HIST 376</td>
<td>History of Zionism and Israel</td>
<td>Yearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST 448: Seminar in Israel Studies (Proposed). Prerequisite: JWST 342/HIST 376</td>
<td>Every other year, accelerated to yearly as demand grows.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One course in the area of Middle East studies (listed below)

Elective Courses (at least 9 credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JWST 142</td>
<td>Introduction to Israel Studies (Proposed).</td>
<td>Yearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEBR 111, 112, 211, 212</td>
<td>First/second-year Hebrew language.</td>
<td>Each yearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB 104, 105, 107, 204, 205, 207, 304, 305</td>
<td>(subject to the same credit limits).</td>
<td>Normally given in many sections yearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST 304</td>
<td>Critical Approaches to Israeli Culture</td>
<td>Approximately every other year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEBR 313, 314</td>
<td>Third-year Hebrew language.</td>
<td>Each yearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEBR 381, 382</td>
<td>Fourth-year Hebrew. Hebrew Cultural Studies/Israeli Media (in Hebrew)</td>
<td>Each yearly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST 478</td>
<td>Readings in Modern Hebrew (if topic appropriate: must be approved)</td>
<td>Occasional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST 471</td>
<td>Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation</td>
<td>Occasional</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special Topics in Israel Studies:³

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JWST 249</td>
<td>Special Topics in Israel Studies (Proposed)</td>
<td>Project approximately four courses per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST349</td>
<td>Special Topics in Israel Studies (Proposed)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST449</td>
<td>Advanced Special Topics in Israel Studies (Proposed)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special topics offerings in recent years have included:

- Israeli Cinema
- Immigration and Ethnicity in Israel
- Israel, Politics and Society

³ We have chosen new numbers for “Special Topics in Israel Studies”; formerly mixed in with Special Topics in Jewish Studies”. The new numbers will be the only ones used for special topics in Israel studies.
Elective Courses (at least 9 credits)

Women and Gender in Israel
Public Culture in Israel
The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict in Historical and Comparative Perspective
Museums, Memory and Interpretation of History: America and Israel

JWST488 Independent Study in Israel Studies (Proposed)  
Occasional

Other courses as appropriate and approved by the advisor

Middle East studies Requirement
Students must take one of the following. Other courses may be substituted in consultation with the advisor. Students may also take one additional course from this list as an elective for credit toward the Minor.

Course Prerequisite
ARAB 221 The Arab World Today through Readings in Translation
HIST 120 Islamic Civilization
HIST 314 Crisis and Change in the Middle East  One prior course in History
HIST 392 History of the Contemporary Middle East
HIST491 History of the Ottoman Empire
GVPT 455 Contemporary Middle Eastern Politics  GVPT 280 or 282

HIST, COMM, GVPT, and SLLC all regularly offer special topics courses on the Middle East, and will continue to do so.

Restrictions
- Coursework must include least 9-upper division credits, of which six must be taken at the University. These would include credits earned in UM study abroad programs as applicable.
- A student may use a maximum of six credits (or two courses) to satisfy the requirements of both a major and a minor. Courses completed in one minor may not be used to satisfy the requirements in another minor.
- Up to two courses may be taken at another university if the courses are approved in advance by the Minor Advisor as substantially similar in quality to these and the subject matter is relevant. These would include credits earned in non-UM study abroad programs as applicable.
- No courses with an earned grade below “C” (2.0) may count towards a minor.

IV. Faculty and Organization

1. Faculty
The Minor in Israel Studies will be guided by an inter-departmental faculty committee drawn from the faculty members listed below. It will meet once each semester to offer
advice and feedback to the Director/Executive Director of the Joseph and Alma Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies.

Faculty with expertise in the area of Israel studies currently include:

a) Tenured and tenure-track faculty
   The new Kay Professor of Israel Studies (beginning Fall 2009) (JWST)
   Bernard D. Cooperman (HIST)
   Sheila Jelen (ENGL & JWST)
   Nili Levi (Instructor, job secured) (SLLC)
   Shibley Telhami (GVPT)
   Eric Zakim (SLLC)

b) Non-tenure-track faculty
   Avital Feuer (JWST)
   Einat Gonen (JWST)
   Edy Kaufman (CIDCM)
   Paul Scham (JWST)
   Nina Spiegel (HIST)

The Advisor for the Minor will be Paul Scham, Executive Director of the Joseph and Alma Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies.

2. Advising
   The Advisor will meet with students each semester.

Each semester the Advisor, in consultation with the interdepartmental faculty advisory committee, will produce a list of courses currently offered, with particular attention to special topics and other exceptional courses. Other courses may be applied to the Minor with the approval of the Advisor.

V. Recruitment and Enrollment Management
1. Prospective Minors must submit applications to the Executive Director. Applications to the Minor will be accepted from October 1 in the Fall Semester and March 1 in the Spring Semester for enrollment in the following Semester.
2. Students must have:
   a. Completed JWST342/HIST376 with a grade of C (2.0) or higher.
   b. Completed at least 30 credits hours of undergraduate study prior to application.
   c. Been admitted into the Minor prior to the completion of the final six credits of the Minor.
3. Up to 25 students will be enrolled annually as Minors on a first-come, first-served basis.
4. Enrolled minors will be required to meet with the advisor annually during the Fall or Spring registration periods. Students who fail to meet with their advisor or who fail to pursue their course of study may be unenrolled.
VI. Oversight and Record Keeping
The Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Program and Center for Jewish Studies will serve as the administrative/academic unit with responsibility for the Minor in Israel Studies. The faculty member who will serve as the program coordinator and will assure that students are properly advised and records are appropriately processed and kept confidential will be Paul Scham, Executive Director of the Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies. (See the Minor Advising Work Sheet attached).

Advising duties will include:
• Informing students about the Minor.
• Collecting applications twice a year and informing students of their admission to the program.
• Advising students of Minor requirements.
• Ensuring consistency and compliance of the Minor with University requirements.
• Keeping and maintaining the Minor Advising Worksheet.
• Processing paperwork required for the minor and updating student records through the Student Information System (SIS).
• Issuing final program approval to confirm completion of requirements. This includes forwarding information regarding completed Minor requirements (transcript, Minor Advising Form, etc.) to the Office of the Dean of the college in which the student is majoring and to the Dean of the College in which the Program is housed through the SIS.

VI. Assessment of Student Interest
1. Enrollments in JWST 342/HIST 376 and other Israel Studies Courses
Since Fall 2006 we have been offering the JWST 342/HIST376 at least yearly. Capped at 40, the course has always enrolled (an average of 38 seats occupied). Another marker of student interest is special topics courses since Fall 2005, when our Israel Studies initiative began:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Seats Offered</th>
<th>Seats Occupied</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JWST419Z Special Topics in Jewish Studies: The Zionist Arab Conflict 1881-1948</td>
<td>F05</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST719I Readings in Jewish Studies: Aspects of the Arab Israeli Conflict 1947-1949</td>
<td>S06</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST419R Special Topics in Jewish Studies: Readings in Israeli Society and Culture (Hebrew Language text course)</td>
<td>F06</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST419I Special Topics in Jewish Studies: Immigration and Ethnicity in Israel</td>
<td>S07</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST419E Special Topics in Jewish Studies: Public Culture in Israel</td>
<td>F07</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST419C Special Topics in Jewish Studies: Israeli Cinema</td>
<td>F07</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
<td>Term</td>
<td>Seats Offered</td>
<td>Seats Occupied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST319R Special Topics in Jewish Studies: Reading in Israeli Media</td>
<td>S08</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST419P Special Topics in Jewish Studies: Culture of Israeli-Palestine Conflict</td>
<td>S08</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST409Z Research Seminar in Jewish Studies: Museums, Memory and Interpretation of History: America and Israel</td>
<td>S08</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST409F Research Seminar in Jewish Studies: Performing Israeli Identity</td>
<td>F08</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST419K Special Topics in Jewish Studies: Women and Gender in Israel</td>
<td>S09</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST419W Special Topics in Jewish Studies: Public Culture in Israel</td>
<td>S09</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST419Y Special Topics in Jewish Studies: The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict</td>
<td>S09</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST419X Special Topics in Jewish Studies: Israel, Politics and Society</td>
<td>S09</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student interest is clearly robust—although it is lower for seminars—as is especially indicated by the ability to sustain four independent courses on Israel during the current (Spring 09) semester, in addition to Hebrew classes.

2. Student Survey.
In January 2009, we sent a short questionnaire to several hundred students who had taken a Jewish Studies course in the last year. We received 33 responses. While we recognize that this is anything but scientific, it still provides a measure of student interest.

In response to the question “If the Israel Studies Minor existed today, would you consider enrolling in it?”, we received 18 “yes” responses (some quite enthusiastic) and 6 “no” answers. (Most of the rest said they were graduating and it wouldn’t matter.) The utility of these responses is enhanced by the fact that responses were not limited to those who liked the idea.

We also asked, “If the Minor is ready by Fall, 2009, would you wish to be contacted?” To this we received 11 “yes” and 8 “no” responses.

We believe that this supports our belief that a Minor in Israel Studies would generate significant student interest.
Minor in Israel Studies  
University of Maryland  
Advising Sheet

Initial Date: 

Student Name:_______________________________  UID_______________________

Email:_____________________ Phone: (Local)____________ (Perm)_____________

Local address__________________________________________________________

Permanent address_____________________________________________________

Major_____________________________

Semester Enrolled: ____________________ Semester requirements completed?____

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JWST 342/HIST 376</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JWST 488</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East Requirement:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective I</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective II</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective III</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

__ Eighteen credits completed?

__ No more than three credits of lower-level language?

__ At least 9 credits upper-level?

   ___ If yes, at least six of these at Maryland?

__ No more than six credits taken at a University other than Maryland?

Student has completed requirements of the Israel Studies Minor.

_______________________________  _____________________
Signature of Advisor  Date
Dr. Paul L. Scham  
Executive Director &  
Visiting Assistant Professor  
Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies  
0140 Holzapfel Hall  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD 20742

Feb. 23, 2009

Dear Paul,

As Director of the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures and Professor in SLA, I am pleased to write a letter supporting your proposal for a Minor in Israel Studies. As you know, several of SLLC’s faculty members are deeply involved in Hebrew Studies, and they would welcome the establishment of an instructional and intellectual center for this discipline on campus. This proposal would also strengthen the University’s newly created Arabic Studies major. The Minor is well conceived with respect to the strategic deployment of existing curricular resources, and will provide a valuable educational opportunity for University of Maryland undergraduates.

Best wishes,

Michael H. Long  
Professor and Director  
School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures  
mlong5@umd.edu
April 2, 2009

Mr. Paul Scham  
Executive Director  
Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies  
0140 Hoizapfel Hall  
Campus  

Dear Mr. Scham:  

I am writing in support of the proposed Minor in Israel Studies that will be coordinated by the Gildenhorn Institute and housed within Jewish Studies. The Department of History (HIST) believes that this is a valuable addition to the undergraduate curriculum, and we expect it to be of interest and service to our majors.  

The Department has made a strong investment into Middle East Studies in recent years and we will continue to offer courses in the modern and contemporary Middle East on a regular. Students in the Israel Studies Minor are welcome to take these courses to complete the “Middle East Studies” component of the Minor, space permitting.  

We expect, also, that the History of Israel and Zionism will continue to be offered, and I note here that that course has in recent years been offered through a collaborative arrangement with the Jewish Studies Program (and now with Israel Studies) that we hope will continue.  

Sincerely,  

[Signature]  

Richard N. Price  
Professor and Chair
April 6, 2009

Mr. Paul Scham
Executive Director
Gildenhorn Institute for Israel Studies
0140 Holzapfel Hall
Campus

Dear Mr. Scham:

I am writing in support of the proposed Minor in Israel Studies that will be coordinated by the Gildenhorn Institute and housed within Jewish Studies. The Department of Government and Politics believes that this is a valuable addition to the undergraduate curriculum, and we expect it to be of interest and service to our majors.

We note that the Minor encourages students to take courses in Middle East Politics through GVPT. We have every expectation that such courses will continue to be offered on a regular basis. However, I must state that we cannot guarantee seats to Minors who are not also majors in GVPT. As a limited enrollment program with considerable pressure on our courses we restrict access by non-majors to our courses.

In addition, we foresee some overlap in students. In particular GVPT majors may wish to use courses in Israel Studies to support their GVPT Major, while also pursuing the Minor. It is important the advisor of Israel Studies work with our advisors to make sure that no more than the six overlapping credits allowed by the University are counted toward both the Minor and our Major.

That said, we are pleased to endorse the new Minor and look forward to working together with faculty and advisors in Israel Studies.

Sincerely

Wayne McIntosh
Associate Chair &
Director of Undergraduate Studies
TO: Director, Israel Studies  
FROM: Madeline Zilfi, Coordinator, Middle East Studies  
RE: Pending Israel Studies Minor  

April 22, 2009  

Dear Colleagues:

I am happy to register my support for the establishment of a Minor in Israel Studies. I have reviewed the proposed curriculum and find it to be intellectually coherent and interesting in its focus and premises. It adds to our offerings in Middle East studies as a whole by providing a special focus which capitalizes on a faculty strength and student interest and which cannot be accommodated by the present Middle East Studies Minor.

I am especially pleased by the contextual conceptualization of the program. The inclusion of courses on the wider Middle East will help students literally to situate the political and cultural challenges and possibilities inherent in Israel’s Middle Eastern environment.

I know I speak for my colleagues in Middle East history in the History Department in wishing you success in gaining approval for the Minor. More than that, though, we look forward to continuing the kind of cooperative program-building that has happily been our experience in working with Israel Studies and Jewish Studies. We have benefited by your inclusiveness and support. We like to think that you can say the same of us and will continue to do so. Please let me know if you require additional information.

Madeline Zilfi