The broad, interdisciplinary field of Jewish Studies examines the civilization of the Jewish people from its beginning in biblical antiquity to the present. The diverse quality of Jewish civilization and the unifying forces of its religion and language offer ample material for the study of continuity, adaptation, and change. The undergraduate program offers courses in the Bible, Jewish history, Jewish literature, midrash, Jewish philosophy, medieval and modern Jewish studies, Talmud, and rabbinics. The program has links with the Departments of American Studies, Sociology, History, English, German, Music, and Political Science. The University's Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies offers courses related to the Nazi Holocaust and its aftermath.

The College of Liberal Arts Advantage: More Than a Major
When you study Jewish Studies at the University of Minnesota, you gain the added advantage of a College of Liberal Arts education. At CLA, the liberal arts mean you get more than just a degree in one major or another; it means you will be exposed to different areas of study, to different ways of thinking and learning. In fact, the liberal arts teach you how to learn—how to ask the right questions, how to problem solve, and how to innovate. The liberal arts prepare students for the complexities of our world, because here at CLA you will study not just, say, politics or art but also where politics and art intersect, where science and ethics intersect, where economics and the environment intersect.
Student Experiences

Internships: Gain Valuable Experience in the Twin Cities and Beyond

Did you know? CLA Career Services has its very own internship reflection course! Students taking an internship can use this course to reflect on ways that their work experience is preparing them for successful careers - and receive credit for the work.

Learning Abroad: Prepare to Lead in a Global Economy

Learn more about study abroad for Jewish Studies majors.

Undergraduate Research: Turn Curiosity into New Knowledge

The Center for Jewish Studies, as a premier center for scholarship, education, and dialogue about Jewish history and culture, serves as the intellectual hub for scholars from diverse fields conducting research in Jewish studies. From the biblical era until today, from the historical to the theoretical, our faculty are engaged in ongoing contributions to criticism and scholarship within the field.

Student Organizations: Find Friends and Grow as a Leader

- Chabad at the UofM
- Minnesota Hillel

Meet Our Alumni

CLA Graduates: Successful Careers and Purposeful Lives

CLA graduates succeed in many different careers — law, health care, medicine, business, government, teaching, advertising, arts and entertainment, international relations, and more — precisely because they understand how to navigate a complex and interconnected world. As our alumni explain below, “Being a good employee means being curious, and continuing to evolve, and learn, and educate yourself, and I can think of no stronger foundation for doing that than a liberal arts education.”
“An education in the liberal arts is a springboard to lifelong career success”
-- Dean John Coleman

You might also explore

- Global Studies
- History
- Religious Studies

Associated Careers

Elementary, Middle, and High School Teachers; Imams; Mental Health Counselors; Postsecondary Teachers; Priests; Protestant Ministers; Rabbis

Admission Information

FRESHMAN: Admission information

TRANSFER STUDENTS: Requirements for the College of Liberal Arts
Beyond admission, if you have questions about transferring, the College of Liberal Arts (CLA) has transfer advisors to help. Please feel free to contact them about any of the topics below:

- Course plans before transferring
- Estimated time to graduation
- Career preparation in CLA
- Getting ready for orientation, if admitted
- Connecting with major/minor departments