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Approved by CLASS  
Undergraduate Studies Committee

TO: CLASS Undergraduate Studies Committee  
Sarah Fishman, Associate Dean, CLASS

Dr. David Phillips

2.24.12  
Date

FROM: Marie-Theresa Hernández, Associate Professor, Undergraduate  
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Modern and Classical Languages

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SUBJECT: **Proposal for a Minor in Jewish Studies**

The Jewish Studies Program takes a broad interdisciplinary and multidimensional approach to the global study of Jews, exploring the rich diversity of their cultures, their philosophies, their religious practices, their histories, their roles in politics, and other areas of contemporary life.

This 18-hour interdisciplinary minor offers students the opportunity to study the key elements shaping the Jewish experience (religion, ethnicity, history, culture, nationality, art, and literature) and are essential to understanding today's complex and diverse society. Jewish Studies introduces students not only to the theory behind these concepts but also to how they shape everyday lives.

~~In addition to the minor, the Jewish Studies Program will promote activities such as speakers, conferences, films, and cultural events relating Jewish Studies for students, faculty, and the Houston community as well as encouraging participation in study abroad programs for students and faculty.~~

The minor in Jewish Studies consists of the following 18 hour requirement:

1. Six hours of required courses:

WCL 2380 Introduction to Jewish Studies  
WCL 3380 American Jewish Culture

2. Twelve semester hours taken from

CLAS 3375 Roman, Jew, and Christian: The Politics and Sociology of Religion in the First Century A.D.  
ENG 3366 Jewish-American Literature  
GERM 3364 Writing Holocausts – The Literatures of Genocide  
RELS 2330 Judaism  
RELS 2335 Rabbinic Biblical Interpretation  
HIST 3358 Twentieth Century Germany

HIST 3397 Pictures and Words: Palestine-Israel Conflict through Film  
HIST 3398 Modern Middle East  
~~REL 2330 Judaism~~  
~~REL 2335 Rabbinic Biblical Interpretation~~  
WCL 3383 Eastern European Jewish Culture  
WCL 3384 Jewish Women Through Biography  
WCL 4367 Voices from Exile and Diaspora  
WCL 4380 Expulsion and Aftermath: Spain, 1492 and After

At least 12 of the 18 hours must be taken in residence of which 9 must be advanced.