AJST/AENG 367—The Jewish Literary Imagination
Prof. Barry Trachtenberg btrachtenberg@albany.edu
This course examines Jewish literary responses to the profound changes that have occurred in the Jewish world from the late 19th century to the present. We will discuss the development of modernist forms of Hebrew and Yiddish literature, the mass exodus from the Russian empire, the horror of the Nazi Holocaust, the consequences of founding of a Jewish national homeland, and the encounter with the United States. Authors will include S. Y. Abramovitch, Anzia Yezierska, Isaac Bashevis Singer, Irène Némirovsky, Stefan Zweig, S. Yizhar, Philip Roth, and Shalom Auslander.

AJST/AHEB 308—The Arab in Hebrew Literature
General Education Course: International Perspectives
Dr. Sarit Moskowitz saritandmark@hotmail.com
In this course we will study a wide range of works of Hebrew Literature from the twentieth century to the present, examining the theme of “The Arab”. The Arab has always been the ‘other’ in Hebrew literature from the early years of Zionism to the twenty first century. Various depictions of the Arab will be examined through reading full novels, short stories, and some film screenings. We will read works by Jewish as well as Arab writers who wrote in Hebrew. We will trace the complexity of the relationship between the Arab and the Jew through these works. A class reader will include various articles expending on the topic. Critical readings will focus on historical background as well as differences in styles and approaches among the writers.

AJST/AHIS 275—Antisemitism: Historical Explorations & Contemporary Challenges
General Education Course: Challenges, International Perspectives
Dr. Arthur Brenner abrenner@albany.edu
The course explores various forms and manifestations of anti-Jewish hatred in the ancient world, the Middle Ages, and in modern history. It will also examine several contemporary manifestations of antisemitism. It will consider how antisemitic hatred has been used for various purposes, and how Jews have responded to its challenge. The course explores the ideological, political, and socioeconomic underpinnings of antisemitism, allowing us to see how anti-Jewish intolerance and prejudice became embedded in the worldviews of significant sectors of society.

AJST/AHIS 253—Medieval Jews among Muslims and Christians
General Education Course: International Perspectives
Dr. Arthur Brenner abrenner@albany.edu
This class explores Jewish history from the rise of Christianity until the middle of the seventeenth century. We examine the various ways that Jews endeavored to preserve their communal structures and religious obligations in the absence of territorial cohesion. At the center of our investigation is the experience of Jews between and among the major religious and cultural systems under which they lived, Islam and Christianity. The course charts the development of both Sephardi and Ashkenazi Jewry, noting the important social, religious, cultural, and political characteristics of each community, as well as the nature of their interaction with two great world civilizations.
AJST/AHIS/AHEB 244—Zionism, Palestine, and Israel in Historical Perspective
General Education Course: Arts, International Perspectives
Prof. Barry Trachtenberg btrachtenberg@albany.edu
The seemingly intractable conflict between Israel and the Palestinian people is neither, as some have suggested, an ancient struggle between two peoples nor one that began only with the country's founding in 1948. This class will allow students to attain a historical foundation of the current crisis and provide an understanding of the key historical figures, parties, and ideologies involved. Through close reading of primary and secondary source documents (both text and film), this course will first address the causes and varieties of Jewish nationalism among European Jewry at the end of the nineteenth century. It will then discuss the cultural, economic, and political landscape of Palestine under both Ottoman and British imperial rule. It explores the tensions that emerged between Zionists and the local Palestinian population as a result of increased Jewish immigration to Palestine in the decades prior to 1948. Finally, the course examines the controversial events leading up to and during the founding of Israel in 1948 and the subsequent fraught relationships between Jews and Palestinians in the new state.

AHEB 201—Intermediate Hebrew
Dr. Sarit Moskowitz saritandmark@hotmail.com
This course in Modern Hebrew is for students who have successfully completed AHEB 102 or demonstrate comparable proficiency. The class builds upon AHEB 102 to provide opportunities for the review and development of spoken, written Hebrew, and the exposure to Israeli culture through reading material, and Israeli songs. There will be an emphasis placed on expanding grammar concepts that were introduced in the prior two semesters of Hebrew.

AJST 150—Survey of Jewish Civilization
General Education Course: Humanities
Rabbi Nomi Manon nmanon@albany.edu
This class explores the dynamic history of the Jewish people and its interaction with great world cultures. Beginning with the origins of Israelite monotheism, we will first trace the consolidation and subsequent fragmentation of the ancient Israelites. We then explore several dispersed Jewish communities through the Middle Ages, and examine the ways they redefined themselves and Judaism in light of their experiences in several different host societies. Finally, we examine the Jewish encounter with the Modern world, including the Jewish Enlightenment, the nationalization of the Jews, the rise of new Jewish centers on the eve of the Nazi Holocaust, and Judaism as it is expressed in contemporary America and Israel.

AHEB 101—Introductory Hebrew
General Education Course: Language
Dr. Sarit Moskowitz saritandmark@hotmail.com
Acquiring the Hebrew language while being able to function in it, using skills including reading, writing, speaking and comprehending. The methods used in this class will include a wide range of educational techniques including: written and oral exercises, dramatizations and simulations of typical life situations in America and Israel. Via our textbook, the students will be exposed to different elements of modern Israeli culture, while acquiring the tools for understanding it better. The objectives of this course are to develop an understanding of how the Hebrew language is structured, as well as gaining the confidence and skill in becoming proficient in its use.