COURSE DETAIL

WHO IS A JEW: DEFINING JEWS AND OTHERS IN THE ANCIENT WORLD
Country Israel
Host Institution The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Program(s) Hebrew University of Jerusalem
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Religious Studies
UCEAP Course Number 141
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title WHO IS A JEW: DEFINING JEWS AND OTHERS IN THE ANCIENT WORLD
UCEAP Transcript Title DEFINING JEWS
UCEAP Quarter Units 4.50
UCEAP Semester Units

3.00

Course Description

This course explores the shaping of Jewish identity and the formation of border lines between Jews and non-Jews in the rabbinic period. Through critical readings of Talmudic texts from the second to sixth centuries CE, it investigates how rabbinic laws and ideas inform the contemporary understanding of what it means to be Jewish. The course begins by delving into texts which highlight the shift of defining Judaism as a religion rather than an ethnicity. It then focus on the challenge of integrating into a non-Jewish society while protecting Jewish separateness from the other. The course also studies texts which reveal the deep influence that non-Jewish cultural context had on rabbinic practice. The final unit of the course explores the essential question of how the rabbis see the role of Judaism in the world at large.

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
48625

Host Institution Course Title
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Host Institution Course Details
https://overseas.huji.ac.il/academics/course-catalog/undergraduate-course-catal...

Host Institution Campus
Rothberg International School

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department

Jewish Civilization, Religion and History

Course Last Reviewed
2021-2022

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