

BCNM06: Rabbis, Poets, Mystics and Messiahs: Jews in the Medieval and Early Modern Periods

Semester A

This introduction explores Jewish life and thought in Medieval and Early Modern times in both Muslim and Christian contexts through the study of a wide variety of sources including philosophical writings, poetry, memoirs as well as material culture. Issues regarding contemporary political interpretations of the period are explored along with subjects such as minority identity politics (e.g., assimilation, acculturation), gender and representation.

Lecturer: Z. Rodgers

Assessment:

This module is assessed by the submission of a portfolio of four pieces of work worth 25% each that have been reviewed by the lecturer and each student during the semester. These assignments take the following form:

1. An assignment guide for a topic that includes an introductory paragraph, at least five useful books, two databases, and websites appropriate for a university-level paper. Each resource must be annotated.
2. A wikipedia-style entry for an assigned topic (including images and bibliography)
3. A set of notes on an assigned lecture (including a commentary)
4. A 1,500-word critical newspaper article on an assigned topic.