MINOR PROGRAM IN YIDDISH STUDIES

Students in any field may complete a minor in Yiddish Studies. A combination of six language and literature/culture courses are required for the minor, which should be designed in consultation with the program coordinator: Jessica Kirzane, jkirzane@uchicago.edu.

Six courses are required for the minor, typically:

- YDDH 10100-10200-10300 Elementary Yiddish for Beginners I-II-III
- Three additional courses, which may include:
  - YDDH 20100 Intermediate Yiddish I and YDDH 20200 Intermediate Yiddish II: Archival Skills
  - YDDH 21000 Advanced Yiddish I: Readings in Yiddish Literature
  - Yiddish literature/culture courses

Students who elect the minor program in Yiddish Studies must meet with the program administrator before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year to declare their intention to complete the minor and must submit the Consent to Complete a Minor Program form (https://humanities-web.s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/college-prod/s3fs-public/documents/Consent_Minor_Program.pdf) to their College adviser.

Courses in the minor may not be double counted with the student’s major(s) or with other minors and may not be counted toward general education requirements. Courses in the minor must be taken for quality grades, and more than half of the requirements for the minor must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS: MINOR IN YIDDISH STUDIES

Six courses are required for the minor, typically:

Introduction to Yiddish sequence:

YDDH 10100-10200-10300 Elementary Yiddish for Beginners I-II-III 300

Three additional courses which may include:

YDDH 20100 Intermediate Yiddish I
& YDDH 20200 Intermediate Yiddish II: Archival Skills

YDDH 21000 Advanced Yiddish I: Readings in Yiddish Literature

Yiddish literature/culture courses

Total Units 600

YIDDISH COURSES

YDDH 10100-10200-10300. Elementary Yiddish for Beginners I-II-III.
The goal of this sequence is to develop proficiency in Yiddish reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Touchstones of global Yiddish culture are also introduced through song, film, and contemporary Yiddish websites.

YDDH 10100. Elementary Yiddish I. 100 Units.
The goal of this sequence is to develop proficiency in Yiddish reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Touchstones of global Yiddish culture are also introduced through song, film, and contemporary Yiddish websites.

Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Autumn
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 20300

YDDH 10200. Elementary Yiddish for Beginners-II. 100 Units.
In this course, students will extend basic Yiddish speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. By the end of the course, students should have a basic understanding of regional Yiddish variations in pronunciation and spelling, be able to understand and participate in a conversation in an increasingly comfortable and complex way, read simple texts with ease, have experience tackling more complex texts with the aid of a dictionary, and write short compositions with grammatical complexity. In the course of language study, students will also be exposed to key topics in the history of the Yiddish language and culture.

Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): YDDH 10100
Equivalent Course(s): YDDH 37400, JWSC 20400

YDDH 10300. Elementary Yiddish III. 100 Units.
In this course, students will acquire intermediate Yiddish speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. By the end of the course, students should be able to conduct a conversation on a wide range of topics, be comfortable tackling complex texts with the aid of a dictionary, and write short compositions with
grammatical complexity. In the course of language study, students will also be exposed to key topics in the history of the Yiddish language and culture. Students will also be introduced to basic Yiddish research skills.

Equivalent Course(s): YDDH 37500, JWSC 20500

YDDH 20200. Intermediate Yiddish II: Archival Skills. 100 Units.
This course offers students the opportunity to study the Yiddish language at the intermediate level. The focus of this course is learning to navigate and study from a variety of archival materials including newspapers, music archives, and historical texts. The course is designed to further develop listening, speaking, reading comprehension, and writing skills and to give students tools to continue Yiddish reading and research independently.
Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): YDDH 10300 or consent of instructor. No auditors.
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 27401, YDDH 39600

YDDH 21000. Advanced Yiddish I: Readings in Yiddish Literature. 100 Units.
In this class, students will be exposed to essays, short stories, poetry and other writings by some of the great Yiddish writers of the twentieth century, including Abraham Reisin, Bella Chagall, Abraham Sutzkever, Esther Kreitman, and David Bergelson. Students will write critical essays and creative responses, listen to excerpts read aloud, participate in discussions and debates. This course will be conducted entirely in Yiddish.
Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Intermediate Yiddish I, or permission from the instructor.
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 27610, YDDH 31000

YDDH 21001. Advanced Yiddish I: Yiddish One-Acts. 100 Units.
In this course, students will build fluency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking in the Yiddish language through seminar-style conversations and performative read-alouds of works of Yiddish literature. The theme for this course will be short, one-act theatrical pieces and dialogue/centered sketches. Prerequisite: Intermediate Yiddish or its equivalent.
Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Winter
Prerequisite(s): Intermediate Yiddish or its equivalent.
Equivalent Course(s): YDDH 31001, JWSC 27612

YDDH 21002. Advanced Yiddish II: Woman Writing Yiddish. 100 Units.
In this course, we will read from a variety of writing by women - memoirs, prose fiction, and poetry. We will discuss how their gender (and the way they were received as women within the literary marketplace) may have influenced their writing, and will talk about contemporary acts of literary recovery and reinterpretation of their work. Authors in this syllabus include: Kadya Molodovsky, Salomea Perl, Esther Kreitman, Shira Gershman, and Miriam Karpilove, among others. This class is conducted in Yiddish, and all readings will be distributed in Yiddish. Students must have completed two quarters of Intermediate Yiddish or seek permission from the instructor to enroll.
Instructor(s): Jessica Kirzane Terms Offered: Spring
Equivalent Course(s): JWSC 27611, YDDH 31002