

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**REL 224.001  
“JUDAISM”**

**TR 11:00-12:15 MA 207**

**3 CREDIT HOURS**

**PREREQUISITE:**

**1 COURSE IN EITHER RELIGIOUS STUDIES OR JUDAIC STUDIES  
(OR PERMISSION OF INSTRUCTOR)**

**INSTRUCTOR**

**Dr. Steven Leonard Jacobs, D.H.L., D.D. (h.c.)  
Aaron Aronov Endowed Chair of Judaic Studies  
Associate Professor of Religious Studies  
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**OFFICE HOURS**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays  
12:30-1:45; &  
By Appointment**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**“An introduction to the Judaic experience, examining history, philosophy, theology, holiday/festival and life cycles, and contemporary experiences including the Holocaust and the rebirth of the State of Israel.”**

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- (1) To introduce the student to the multi-dimensional experiences of the Jews through a look at the historical experiences of the Jewish people, their thought world (texts, philosophy and theology), and their praxis (holidays and life cycle celebrations).**
- (2) To contemporize the Judaic experience by examining those influences which mark the present moment in Jewish history (the Holocaust and the State of Israel).**

**TEXTS**

Brown, Michael & Lightman, Bernard (Eds.) (1999). *Creating the Jewish Future*. Walnut Creek, CA: AltaMira Press. ISBN 0-7619-9033-X

Holtz, Barry W. (1986). *Back to the Sources: Reading the Classic Jewish Texts*. New York, NY: Summit Books. ISBN 0-6716-0596-8

Wynen, Stephen M. (2000). *Settings of Silver: An Introduction to Judaism*. Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press. ISBN 0-8091-3960-X

### GRADES

- 30% = Reaction Paper to *Creating the Jewish Future* (5-7 Pages; Typed)
- 35% = Research Paper (7-10 Pages; Typed; Minimum of 6 Sources; Any Topic Relevant to Judaism)
- 35% = Final Examination (3/10 Essay-Type Questions)

### ATTENDANCE POLICY

**REQUIRED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED**

### ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY

“All acts of dishonesty in any work constitute academic misconduct. The Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Policy will be followed in the event of academic misconduct.”

### DISABILITY ACCESS STATEMENT

“To request disability accommodations, please contact Disability Services (38-4285). After initial arrangements are made with that office, contact your professor.”