

**Hebrew College
Jewish Music - 1**

**Fall, 2010
MUSIC 505**

Prof. Joshua Jacobson

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Tuesdays, 9:00–11:00 a.m. Room 108. September 21, October 5, 12, 19, 26, November 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, December 7, 14, 21, January 11.

Prerequisite: Ability to read and analyze music.

This course will provide a close look at the musics of the Jewish people. Study will involve modal and phrase analysis (and, where relevant, harmonic analysis) of traditional materials, historical analysis through close reading of primary sources, and functional analysis of attitudes and uses of Jewish music. Topics will include how music is used by Jews, music in ancient Israel, traditional liturgical chant, rabbinic attitudes towards music, secular and paraliturgical folksongs and wedding music, and the beginnings of Jewish polyphony in the Italian Renaissance.

This course is primarily for students in the School of Jewish Music; however, other students who have met the prerequisites may also take the course. There will be extensive musical analysis involved in the assignments.

Required texts:

Jacobson. *Source Readings in Jewish Music*.

Jacobson. *Anthology of Musical Examples for Survey of Jewish Music part 1*.

Available from University Readers < <http://www.universityreaders.com/>>.

Topics:

1. What is “Jewish Music”?
2. Music in ancient Israel
3. Rabbinic Judaism
 - a. Attitudes, halakhot, restrictions
 - b. Liturgy – cantillation, nusah, metrical songs
 - c. Paraliturgical songs and niggunim
 - d. Sources in print and on recordings
 - e. Analysis of liturgical chants and hymns
4. Folk music
 - a. What is it?
 - b. Function
 - c. Sources in print and on recordings
 - d. Analysis
 - e. Focus: Wedding music in Ashkenaz and Yemen
 - f. Focus: Yiddish lullabies
5. The music of Salamone Rossi and its aftermath

More course details and materials are available on the Blackboard web site.