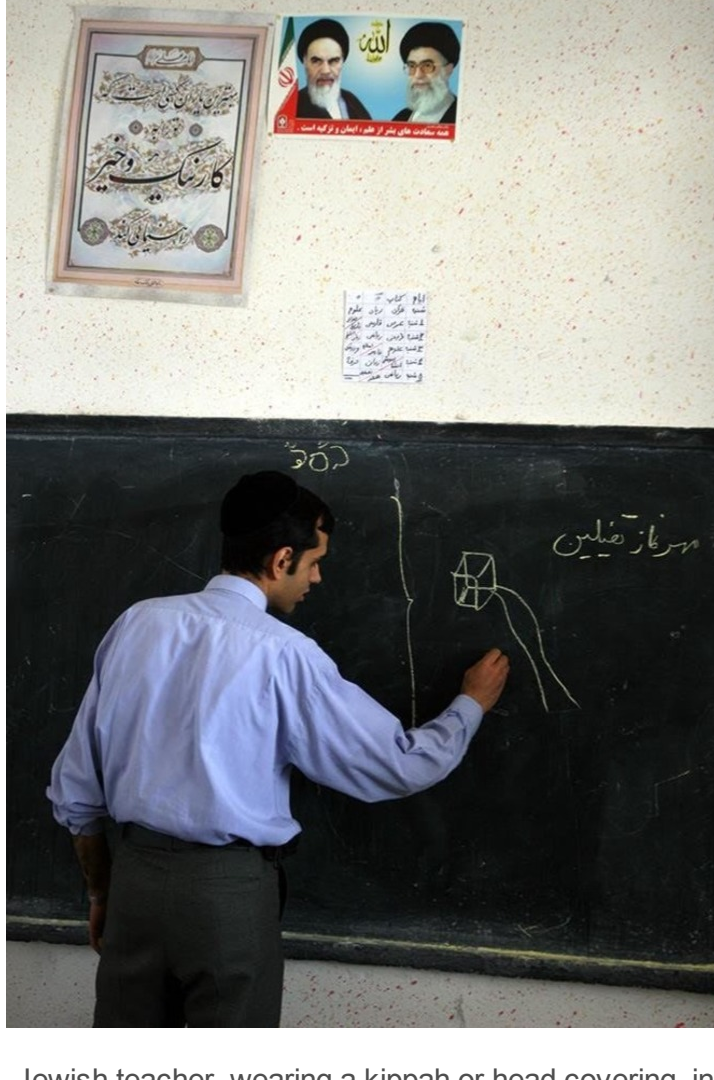




January 2023 Newsletter



Jewish teacher, wearing a kippah or head covering, in a school classroom in Shiraz, Iran (© Hassan Sarbakhshian).

The Jews of Iran

Sunday, March 5 | 6:30–8 p.m. | Fromm Hall, Maraschi Room

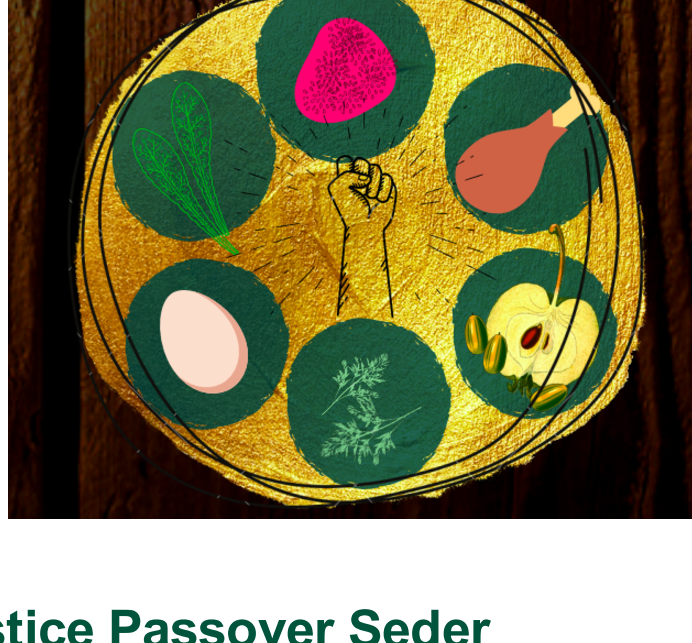
Acclaimed scholar **Lior B. Sternfeld** will offer an interactive presentation on the Jews of contemporary Iran, the largest population of Jews in a Muslim-majority country in the world. A professor of history and Jewish studies at Pennsylvania State University, Sternfeld is the author of the award-winning *Between Iran and Zion: Jewish Histories of Twentieth Century Iran* (2018) and co-author of *Jews of Iran: A Photographic Chronicle* (2022) with Hassan Sarbakhshian and Parvaneh Vahidmanesh.



The Alvin H. Baum, Jr. Memorial Lecture

Sunday, March 26 | 6:30–8 p.m. | Fromm Hall, Maraschi Room

The second annual Alvin H. Baum Jr. Memorial Lecture in honor of an LGBTQIA+ Jewish social justice activist will be delivered by former **California State Senator Mark Leno**. Leno was the first openly gay man elected to the state senate. His tireless efforts on behalf of LGBTQIA+ communities have paved the way for marriage equality in our state.



Social Justice Passover Seder

Tuesday, April 11 | 6:30–8 p.m. | McLaren Hall

The 13th annual social justice Passover Seder will focus on anti-racism. We will tell the Passover story while making connections between the ancient story of moving from slavery to freedom and contemporary anti-racist activism.



Beyond Bridges: Israel-Palestine

May 22 – June 6, 2023

In partnership with the University of San Francisco and the **Center for Transformative Education**, the Swig Program in Jewish Studies and Social Justice is excited to relaunch **Beyond Bridges: Israel-Palestine** (BBIP). This groundbreaking conflict transformation program is designed for students of all backgrounds to explore questions central to international studies, comparative analysis, identity formation, narrative construction, politics, religion, and more.

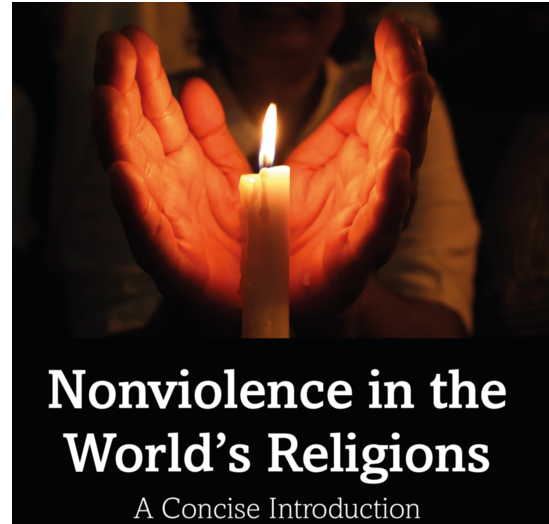
This two-week summer course takes students to the Middle East on a journey that combines rigorous academics and practical hands-on training with the intent to explore questions at the core of all conflicts. Through this process, BBIP aims to create spaces for both personal and collective growth, helping students gain new understandings of the role they play in international conflicts and how this relates to their many political identities. Moving past the stage of practical peace agreements or beyond "building bridges," the program challenges participants to look at long-term solutions to end intercommunal conflict.

Spring 2023 JSSJ Classes

Course Name	Course No.	Days/Times	Instructor	Core Req.
Arabic (Second Semester)	ARAB 102-01	MWF 2:15–3:20 p.m.	Walton-Price	Foreign Lang.
Forgiving the Unforgivable? The Ethics of Apology	THRS 132-01	TR 12:45–2:30 p.m.	Hahn Tapper	D-3; CD
Government and Politics of the Middle East	POLS 349-01	TR 9:55–11:40 a.m.	Zunes	
Hebrew (Second Semester)	HEBR 102-01	MWF 12–1:40 p.m.	Gvirtsman	Foreign Lang.
Israeli-Palestinian Conflict Thru Literature and Film	THRS 238-01	TR 9:55–11:40 a.m.	Kroll-Zeldin	D-3; CD
Jewish-Christian Relations	THRS 230-01	T 6:30–10:10 p.m.	Latteri	D-2
Jews, Judaisms, and Jewish Identities	THRS 130-01	TR 2:40–4:25 p.m.	Bar-Gabai	D-2
Mideast Peoples and Culture	ANTH 270-01	TR 12:45–2:30 p.m.	Kroll-Zeldin	E; CD
Paris-Berlin	GERM 350-01	TR 9:55–11:40 a.m.	Ramos	C-1
Queering Religion	THRS 129-01	TR 4:35–6:20 p.m.	Angel	D-2; CD
Refugees: Justice and Ethics	THRS 236-01	TR 4:35–6:20 p.m.	Bar-Gabai	D-3; CD; CEL

[Learn more about the requirements for the JSSJ minor »](#)

Questions? Email JSSJ Assistant Director **Oren Kroll-Zeldin**.



Recent JSSJ Publications

We are excited to share two **recent faculty publications**, both of which highlight the work of the JSSJ program's focus on marginalized communities, Jewish and otherwise.

Nonviolence in the World's Religions: A Concise Introduction

Swig JSSJ Director Aaron Hahn Tapper co-authored a chapter with activist Ilana Sumka for the book *Nonviolence in the World's Religions: A Concise Introduction* (Routledge, 2022). Titled "Judaisms and Nonviolence," the chapter provides a comprehensive examination of nonviolence in Jewish traditions, from the Hebrew Bible and other ancient sacred texts to contemporary examples of Jews arguing for nonviolence. The authors explain that changes in beliefs and practices as related to nonviolence reflect ways that contemporary Jews have modified ancient Jewish ideas for current situations. [Read the chapter »](#)

AJS Perspectives

Swig JSSJ Director Aaron Hahn Tapper published an article in the justice issue of *AJS Perspectives*, the quarterly magazine of the Association for Jewish Studies. Titled "Indigenous Justice and Jewish Studies," the article points to the significant overlap between Jewish studies and Indigenous studies, and calls on Jewish studies scholars to hold governments accountable for the decimation of Indigenous populations. Grounded in Hahn Tapper's cutting-edge research, the article is an example of how the scholarship produced by faculty in the Swig JSSJ program relates to both Jewish studies and social justice. [Read the article »](#)

Your generous support of the Swig Program in Jewish Studies and Social Justice will help us engage students in both theoretical and practical approaches to social justice and activism rooted in the Jewish traditions.

Thank you to everyone who donated in 2022! We appreciate your support.

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