

# **JEWISH HISTORY**

## **PHD QUALIFYING EXAMINATION GUIDELINES**

### **Expectations and Guidelines for the Oral Exam and Prospectus Defense in Jewish History**

The field will follow the general History Department guidelines and requirements. The requirements for the Jewish History qualifying exam will be as follows:

#### **Expectations for students taking Jewish History as a thematic major**

Two faculty members from the Jewish History field will serve on the exam committee. The major field section of the exam will comprise three sections and will last 1.5 hours. Bibliographies for all sections should be prepared in consultation with the examiners at least three months prior to the exam.

1) The first section will prepare students for teaching modern Jewish history at the university level. Students will be examined on the course of Jewish history from the Haskalah to the present. Students will be expected to demonstrate both textbook knowledge and familiarity with major trends in Jewish historiography.

2 and 3) The second and third sections will prepare the student in two fields of specialization with two different faculty. Specializations may include major movements and events (ie. Haskalah, Holocaust,) or geographic regions (ie. Russian, Ottoman, East European). At least one of these fields should be relevant for the student's proposed dissertation.

#### **Expectations for students taking the oral exam in the minor field**

For students with a minor in Jewish History the examination will consist only of section 1 of the requirements for the major field. Bibliographies should be presented to the examiner at least three months prior to the exam.

#### **Guidelines for the dissertation prospectus**

The student's dissertation prospectus will take the form of a significant grant proposal. The proposal should be 4000-5000 words long, should define a research question and its significance, discuss relevant secondary literatures and methods, and the sources to be consulted. In addition to the proposal, the student should prepare a comprehensive bibliography. All of the materials should be handed in a week in advance of the prospectus defense.