LEADERSHIP IN JEWISH EDUCATION AND COMMUNAL SERVICE M.A.

Degree: Master of Arts
https://www.towson.edu/cla/departments/familystudies/grad/jewisheducation/

Program Director: Dr. Hana Bør
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The Master of Arts in Leadership in Jewish Education and Communal Service program prepares students for careers as professional leaders for the Jewish community with a combination of leadership training, communal service and practical field experience. Through a choice of two concentrations, Education and Communal Professional, the program offers an interdisciplinary curriculum that combines courses in leadership, education, non-profit management, communal service, Judaic studies and an internship experience tailored to each student.

This program emphasizes the development of students' capacities for effective communication, critical analysis and flexible thought. Students train for careers as educators or communal professionals in local, national and global nonprofits, service or educational organizations within the Jewish community. Examples include: the Jewish Federation, Hillel, Jewish Community Centers, social service agencies, Jewish schools, synagogues and others. Core components include five graduate Jewish studies courses, six professional courses, a supervised internship and practicum seminar.

Through the Baltimore Hebrew Institute, students can earn scholarships, fellowships and program enrichment.

Accelerated Bachelor's-Master's Program

Students may also earn the M.A. in Leadership in Jewish Education and Communal Service through the accelerated bachelor's to master's program (http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/family-studies/community-development/combined-bachelors-family-science-masters-jewish-communal-service). This program is designed to allow students to complete both the undergraduate and graduate degrees in five years, including 9 units taken during the summer terms. Students are required to complete the Hebrew Language requirement necessary for both the B.A. and acceptance into the M.A. program.

Master of Social Work and Leadership in Jewish Education & Communal Service

The dual-degree program in Social Work and Leadership in Jewish Education and Communal Service (or Jewish Studies) prepares students for careers in the Jewish community in areas such as Federations (planning, campaign and resource development); community relations councils (Jewish advocacy and community organizations); Jewish community center work (group work, programming, youth work and administration); Jewish educational settings (religious/day schools, camps) and Jewish family services (clinical social work).

The dual degree underscores the need to be skilled in social work, be knowledgeable about Judaism and receive professional experience in the Jewish community. This program emphasizes the development of students' capacities for effective communication, critical analysis and flexible thought. Students may complete the program in two years with summer classes or a minimester; however a three-year program is offered and recommended.

Dual-degree students concurrently obtain their degrees from Towson University (TU) and the University of Maryland (UMD). The UMD School of Social Work accepts 6 units to be transferred from TU, to apply to the Advanced Curriculum requirements. TU accepts 6 units to be transferred from UMD.

Applicants to this dual-degree program must apply separately to each program at TU and UMD. Admission to one program does not guarantee admission to the other.

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university**
- Minimum of a B average: overall GPA of 3.00/4.00
- Towson University graduate school application with required fee
- Official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended
- Statement of Intent: a one page essay describing your academic and professional goals and how this degree program can help you achieve these goals.
- Sample of Work: a written sample of an academic research paper, thesis chapter, lesson plans or another type of field-related writing sample, no more than 20 pages long.
- Two letters of recommendation, at least one from an academic source
- Current resume
- Interview with the director, in person or by phone
- Applicants from other countries are subject to the same requirements for admission as are applicants from the U.S. Applicants from countries where English is not the language of university-level instruction will be required to submit the results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). JCS prefers a minimum score of 223 (computer-based) and 84-85 (internet-based). For information about testing center locations, please visit the TOEFL website.
- Applicants from other countries will be required to demonstrate proof of funding in order to obtain a visa to attend school in the United States. This information is not required for admissions consideration.

Non-immigrant International Students

**See Exceptions to Policy in Graduate Admissions (https://www.towson.edu/academics/graduate/admissions/policies.html)
# Degree Requirements

The M.A. in Leadership in Jewish Education and Communal Service requires successful completion of 38 units with an average GPA of 3.00 or higher. Core Courses: 15 units; Professional Courses: 18 units; Seminar: 2 units; Internship 3 units; Culminating Project; and Hebrew requirement.

## Code | Title | Units
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### Jewish Studies Courses
Select at least one course in each of the following areas: 15

- Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Civilization
  - JDST 600 | BIBLICAL LITERATURE AND CIVILIZATION |
- Rabbinic Literature
  - JDST 680 | INTRODUCTION TO RABBINIC LITERATURE AND HISTORY |
  - JDST 685 | JEWISH LAW AND ETHICS |
- History
  - JDST 630 | MEDIEVAL JEWISH HISTORY |
  - JDST 631 | JEWS IN THE MODERN WORLD |
- Jewish Thought and Mysticism
  - JDST 666 | INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH THOUGHT |

### Jewish Studies Elective
Examples of courses that fulfill this requirement include the following:

- JDST 610 | DIASPORA JEWISH COMMUNITIES |
- JDST 611 | AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY |
- JDST 650 | SPECIAL TOPICS IN JUDAIC STUDIES |
- JDST 663 | CONTEMPORARY JEWISH ETHICS: RESHAPING THE JEWISH IDENTITY IN OUR GENERATION |
- ILPD 650 | EXPLORATION OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATION |

### Leadership Core
Leadership Core: 3

- LJEC 600 | LEADERSHIP IN JEWISH EDUCATION AND COMMUNITIES |

Practicum Seminar: 2

- LJEC 614 | JEWISH COMMUNAL SERVICE PRACTICUM SEMINAR (year-long, 1 unit) |

Supervised Jewish Communal Service Internship: 3

- LJEC 618 | SUPERVISED JEWISH COMMUNAL SERVICE INTERNSHIP |

### Elective - Students may select from courses in Jewish Studies, Jewish Education, Jewish Communal Service, Family Studies or related topic with approval from the advisor/program director: 3

Examples of courses that fulfill this requirement include the following:

- ILPD 650 | EXPLORATION OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATION |
- EDUC 613 | MORAL QUESTIONS IN THE CLASSROOM |
- LJEC 557 | HEBREW LANGUAGE INSTRUCTIONS FOR EDUCATORS |

### Special Topic Courses from JDST, FMST, JCS, EDUC, ELED, ECED or other related discipline, Independent Study: 3

- LJEC 611 | MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES: LEADERSHIP AND SUPERVISION |
- ILPD 650 | EXPLORATION OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATION |
- FMST 550 | FUNDAMENTALS OF LEADERSHIP IN THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR |
- FMST 555 | FUNDRAISING, FRIENDDRAISING AND VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT |

**Total Units**: 38

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1 Students complete a required field placement of a minimum of 400 hours.

## Concentration I: Jewish Education

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<td>LJEC 602</td>
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<td>LJEC 604</td>
<td>CURRICULUM PLANNING AND DECISION MAKING FOR THE JEWISH SCHOOL</td>
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**Group 2**

- FMST 620 | PROJECT IN FAMILY FOCUSED PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT |
- LJEC 606 | FROM VISION TO PRACTICE IN JEWISH EDUCATION |
- LJEC 764 | QUALITATIVE RESEARCH IN JEWISH EDUCATION |

### Teaching Jewish Subject
Select one of the following: 3

- LJEC 557 | HEBREW LANGUAGE INSTRUCTIONS FOR EDUCATORS |
- LJEC 621 | MODELS AND METHODS OF TEACHING JEWISH HOLIDAYS |
- LJEC 647 | TEACHING CLASSICAL JEWISH TEXTS |
- LJEC 655 | TEACHING THE HISTORY, POLITICS AND CULTURE OF ISRAEL |
- ILPD 650 | EXPLORATION OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATION |

### Elective
Select one of the following - courses are approved by the Graduate Program Director. Examples include: 3

- ILPD 650 | EXPLORATION OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATION |
- EDUC 613 | MORAL QUESTIONS IN THE CLASSROOM |
- LJEC 557 | HEBREW LANGUAGE INSTRUCTIONS FOR EDUCATORS |

### Special Topic Courses from JDST, FMST, JCS, EDUC, ELED, ECED or other related discipline, Independent Study: 3

- LJEC 611 | MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES: LEADERSHIP AND SUPERVISION |
- ILPD 650 | EXPLORATION OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATION |
- FMST 550 | FUNDAMENTALS OF LEADERSHIP IN THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR |
- FMST 555 | FUNDRAISING, FRIENDDRAISING AND VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT |

**Total Units**: 12

## Concentration II: Communal Professional

### Professional Core
Select two of the following: 6

- LJEC 610 | PRINCIPLES OF JEWISH COMMUNAL SERVICE |
- LJEC 611 | MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES: LEADERSHIP AND SUPERVISION |
- LJEC 612 | STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS: MATERIAL RESOURCES |

### Elective
Select two of the following - courses are approved by the Graduate Program Director. Examples include: 6

- LJEC 611 | MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES: LEADERSHIP AND SUPERVISION |
- ILPD 650 | EXPLORATION OF HOLOCAUST EDUCATION |
- FMST 550 | FUNDAMENTALS OF LEADERSHIP IN THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR |
- FMST 555 | FUNDRAISING, FRIENDDRAISING AND VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT |
Special Topic Courses from JDST, FMST, JCS, or other related discipline, Independent Study

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Other Requirement for Graduation
All students are required to submit a master’s project or professional portfolio in order to graduate.

Hebrew Requirement
Knowledge of Hebrew is the foundation of Judaic learning. All entering students must take the Hebrew placement examination. In order to receive the degree, students must demonstrate proficiency in Hebrew equivalent to the level of two years of college Hebrew (through Biblical or Modern Hebrew IV). Beginning with their first term of matriculation, students must study Hebrew every term until this proficiency is attained. Students taking Hebrew course work must attain a grade of B or better each term in order to be considered proficient. Courses through Biblical Hebrew IV or Modern Hebrew IV do not count toward the 38 units required for the degree.

1. Students will demonstrate content knowledge in Jewish studies.
2. Students will display Hebrew language and cultural literacy and proficiency in Hebrew reading, writing and speaking.
3. Students will be able to apply best practices in leadership of organizational management, community development or education.
4. Students will demonstrate knowledge of research techniques relevant to organizational management, community development or education.